This course will introduce you to one of the most influential philosophical movements of the twentieth century. We will trace the development of what might be called “early analytic philosophy,” starting with the work of Gottlob Frege (notably *The Foundations of Arithmetic* and three important papers that follow), turning briefly to the writings of Bertrand Russell, and finishing with a close reading of Ludwig Wittgenstein’s *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*. In the process, we will examine such questions as: Are there things that cannot be put into words? What are the limits of language? What is the nature of language? How do logic and language relate? We will see how a focus on language affects our understanding of many traditional philosophical questions, ranging from epistemology and metaphysics to aesthetics and ethics.

**Course Requirements**
1. Attendance/Participation 10%
2. Short Papers (Due 10/16; 10/30) 40%
3. Final Paper (Due 12/11) 50%

**Readings**

**Required Books**
These books can be purchased at the UM bookstore (it may also be worth checking the prices at www.amazon.com or www.bookfinder.com); they are also on two hour reserve in Mansfield Library.


**Recommended**
Additional Readings

PDFs of additional individual readings will be made available in Moodle. If you want to print out all of the required readings, I will also make available a PDF of the entire Course Packet. I suggest that you print this file at Campus Quick Copy and have it bound. Double-sided printing costs $0.13 per page. The file is formatted to be printed double-sided with the pages being flipped on the short edge (landscape).


**Moodle**
This course has a Moodle page (http://umonline.umt.edu). For more information on how to access Moodle, go to http://umonline.umt.edu/Moodle%20Tip%20Sheets/tipsheetandvideosstudents.aspx.

**Email**
Any email that I send to the class will be sent to your university email address via Moodle. If you use another email address (such as Gmail or Yahoo), please forward your university email to this other account. For directions on how to do this see http://umt.custhelp.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/820.

**Accommodation for Disabilities**
Whenever possible, and in accordance with civil rights laws, the University of Montana will attempt to provide reasonable modifications to courses for students with disabilities who request and require them. Please feel free to set up a time with me to discuss any modifications to this course you may require. For more information, contact Disability Services for Students, located in the Lommasson Center, room 154 (http://life.umt.edu/dss/).
Attendance and Participation

Your attendance and participation are crucial for the success of this class and will play a significant role in determining whether or not our time together proves to be intellectually challenging and fulfilling. As many of you probably know, it is a university requirement that you attend all class meetings for courses in which you are enrolled (http://www.umt.edu/catalog/acad/acadpolicy/default.html#attendance). In my experience, students also get the most out of those classes that they regularly attend. In this course I will take attendance. Everyone may miss three classes, no questions asked (and no justifications/explanations required). After that, each absence will reduce your attendance/participation grade by 10% (that is, 1% of your final grade). If you have to miss a class, it is your responsibility to hand in ahead of time any work that is due and to obtain any new assignments that are handed out.

Participation has many facets and might be compared to citizenship. Those who are good classroom citizens are those who do three things: (i) come to class prepared, having read and thought about the assignment; (ii) take an active role in class discussions, sharing their critical insights and raising questions that help to generate further discussion and reflection; (iii) take an active role in learning the names of and respectfully listening to their fellow classmates, and in helping to foster a learning environment where all feel welcome to participate and respected as fellow inquirers regardless of the extent to which we may or may not happen to agree about a given topic under investigation.

Papers

You will be required to write two short papers (each worth 20% of your final grade) and one longer final paper (worth 50% of your final grade). The short papers should each be 4-5 pages (1400-1750 words); the longer final paper should be 10-12 pages (3500-4200 words). The papers may be on any topic of your choice that is covered in the readings and class discussions, as long as the first paper concerns Frege, the second paper concerns Russell, and the third paper concerns Wittgenstein. Papers that are handed in late will normally be penalized one-third of a letter grade for each day that they are late.

Graduate Students

Graduate students will be graded at a higher standard than undergraduates, and will be required to write a longer final paper (about 15-20 pages/5250-7000 words instead of the 10-12 page paper required of undergraduates).

The Art of Reading

Reading, like writing, is an art that can only be acquired through extensive and intensive practice. In general, you should plan to read each assignment for this course two times before you come to class: (i) read it through once to get a sense of the overall shape of the discussion and what the chief issues and questions seem to be; (ii) read it a second time, reading more slowly and with an eye to how the different parts hang together. As Thoreau put it, “To read well, that is, to read true books in a true spirit, is a noble exercise, and one that will task the reader more than any exercise which the customs of the day esteem. It requires a training such as the athletes underwent, the steady intention almost of the whole life to this object. Books must be read as deliberately and reservedly as they were written. […] [T]his only is reading, in a high sense, not that which lulls us as a luxury and suffers the nobler faculties to sleep the while, but
what we have to stand on tip-toe to read and devote our most alert and wakeful hours to” (“Reading,” Walden).

Plagiarism/Academic Dishonesty
I will not tolerate cheating or plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty in this course. In addition to being a violation of the University of Montana Student Conduct Code (http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php), cheating and plagiarizing also harm your fellow students by giving you an unfair advantage, and harm you since you thereby fail to take yourself seriously. While I think it is pretty self-evident what cheating is, people are not always clear about what plagiarism is. To start, plagiarism can be defined as a form of intellectual stealing and cheating. The Latin root means “to kidnap” and vividly captures what is at stake: when you plagiarize you steal someone else’s intellectual child and pretend that you are its true parent. Specific examples of plagiarism include: (i) incorporating material from somewhere else (a book, an article, a website, an encyclopedia entry) without properly documenting this (and thereby giving the true author credit for her or his work); (ii) handing in work that you did not do (e.g., by purchasing a paper on the Internet or downloading text that you simply insert into your own paper or borrowing a paper that another student wrote). In general, the first instance of cheating or plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty will result in a failing grade (“F”) for the course. Any instance of cheating or plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty is also subject to University sanction. If you have any questions about whether or not something might constitute plagiarism, please feel free to contact me; see also http://www.library.ualberta.ca/guides/plagiarism.

Schedule of Readings and Written Assignments
(Subject to change with advance notice)

CP=Course Packet

Week 1
Tue 8/28 Introduction
Thur 8/30 Russell’s Paradox

1. Frege

Week 2
Tue 9/4
Frege, Begriffsschrift, Preface (Beaney, 47-52)
Frege, Foundations, Introduction and §§1-17 (Austin trans., I-XI; 1-24)
Frege, Grundgesetze der Arithmetik, Preface and Introduction (Beaney, 194-211)
Korsgaard, Introduction to Kant, Groundwork (CP #1)

Thur 9/6
Frege, Foundations, §§18-27 (Austin trans., 24-38)
Beaney, Introduction, 1-14
Weiner, Frege Explained, Chapters 1-2
Kenny, “The Legacy of Frege and Russell” (CP #2)
Week 3
Tue 9/11
Frege, *Foundations*, §§45-51; 55-79; 87-91; 105-109 (Austin trans., 58-64; 67-92; 99-104; 115-119)
Frege, “Letter to Russell, 22.6.1902” (Beaney, 253-254)
Frege, Appendix to *Grundgesetze der Arithmetik*, Vol. 2 (Beaney, 279-80)
Weiner, *Frege Explained*, Chapters 3-4
Weiner, “On Equinumerosity” (CP #3)
Ricketts, “Objectivity and Objecthood” (CP #4)

Thur 9/13
Frege, “Function and Concept” (Beaney, 130-148)
Weiner, “Frege, Gottlob” (CP #5)
Weiner, *Frege Explained*, Chapter 5

Week 4
Tue 9/18
Frege, *Begriffsschrift*, §8 (Beaney, 64-65)
Frege, “On Sinn and Bedeutung” (Beaney, 151-171)
Frege, “Comments on Sinn and Bedeutung” (Beaney, 172-180)
Frege, “Various Letters” (Beaney, 149-150; 255-257; 319-321)

Thur 9/20
Frege, “On Sinn and Bedeutung” (continued)
Weiner, *Frege Explained*, Chapter 6 (89-103)
Linsky, “Referring” (CP #6)

Week 5
Tue 9/25
Frege, “On Concept and Object” (Beaney, 181-193)
Weiner, *Frege Explained*, Chapter 6 (103-114)
Jolley, “Frege at Therapy” (CP #7)

Thur 9/27
Review or Catch Up

**Paper #1 Topics Handed Out**
2. Russell

Week 6
Tue 10/2
Russell, “My Mental Development” (CP #9)
Keynes, “My Early Beliefs” (CP #10)

Thur 10/4
Russell, *Principles*, Chapter 5, Chapter 51, and Appendix A (CP #8: 53-65; 449-451; 501-522)
Linsky, “Terms and Propositions in Russell’s *Principles of Mathematics*” (CP #11)

Week 7
Tue 10/9  Workshop Paper #1
Two Copies of Paper Draft Due

Thur 10/11
Russell, *Principles* (continued)
Linsky, “The Unity of the Proposition” (CP #12)

Week 8
Tue 10/16
Russell, “On Denoting” (CP #13)
Russell, “Descriptions” (CP #14)
Paper #1 Due

Thur 10/18
Russell, “On Denoting” and “Descriptions” (continued)
Russell, “The Philosophy of Logical Analysis” (CP #15)
Paper #2 Topics Handed Out

3. Early Wittgenstein

Week 9
Tue 10/23
Wittgenstein, *Tractatus*
Diamond, “Wittgenstein, Ludwig Josef Johann” (CP #16)
Mounce, Wittgenstein’s *Tractatus*, Introduction

Thur 10/25
Wittgenstein, *Tractatus* (continued)
Wittgenstein, “A Lecture on Ethics” (CP #17)
Wittgenstein, “Letter 22 and 23 to Ludwig von Ficker” (CP #18)
Excerpt from *Wittgenstein and the Vienna Circle: Conversations Recorded by Friedrich Waismann* (CP #19)
Mounce, Wittgenstein’s *Tractatus*, Chapters 1-2
Week 10  
Tue 10/30  
Wittgenstein, *Tractatus* (continued)  
Gerrard, “Two Ways of Grounding Meaning” (CP #20)  
Mounce, Wittgenstein’s *Tractatus*, Chapter 3  
**Paper #2 Due**

Thur 11/1  
Wittgenstein, *Tractatus* (continued)  
Mounce, Wittgenstein’s *Tractatus*, Chapters 4-5

Week 11  
Tue 11/6  **No Class (Election Day)**

Thur 11/8  
Wittgenstein, *Tractatus* (continued)  
Hanfling, “The *Tractatus* and the ‘Essence of Human Language’ ” (CP #21)  
Gerrard, “One Wittgenstein?” (CP #22)  
Mounce, Wittgenstein’s *Tractatus*, Chapters 6-7

Week 12  
Tue 11/13  
Wittgenstein, *Tractatus* (continued)  
Diamond, “Throwing Away the Ladder” (CP #23)  
Mounce, Wittgenstein’s *Tractatus*, Chapters 8-9

Thur 11/15  
Wittgenstein, *Tractatus* (continued)  
Thompson, “Wittgenstein, Tolstoy and the Meaning of Life” (CP #25)  
Tolstoy, “God Sees the Truth, but Waits”; “What Men Live By”; “How Much Land Does a Man Need?”; “Alyosha the Pot” (CP #26-29)  
Mounce, Wittgenstein’s *Tractatus*, Chapter 10

Week 13  
Tue 11/20  
Wittgenstein, *Tractatus* (continued)  
Conant, “Must We Show What We Cannot Say?” (CP #30)  
Mounce, Wittgenstein’s *Tractatus*, Chapter 11

Thur 11/22  **No Class (Thanksgiving)**
Week 14
Tue 11/27
Wittgenstein, *Tractatus* (continued)
Proops, “The New Wittgenstein: A Critique” (CP #31)

**Paper #3 Topics Handed Out**

Thur 11/29
Ostrow, “Wittgenstein and the Liberating Word” (CP #32)
Diamond, “Ethics, Imagination and the Method of Wittgenstein’s *Tractatus*” (CP #33)

Week 15
Tue 12/4
Wittgenstein, *Tractatus* (continued)
Conant, “The Search for Logically Alien Thought” (CP #34)

Thur 12/6 **Conclusion:** “Whereof one cannot speak, thereof one must be silent”
Gerrard, “Wittgenstein Looks Out the Window with Hopper” (CP #35)

Week 16
Tue 12/11

**Paper #3 Due**