



Texts II | PIU22062

Year	Senior Freshman
ECTS Credits	10
Contact Hours	22 (11 x 2-hour seminars); no tutorials
Pre-requisite	None
Semester	2
Module Leader & Lecturer	Dr. Samantha Fazekas
Contact Email	sfazekas@tcd.ie

Module Outline:

Component 1 (Kant's Groundwork):

This component will offer a close reading of one of Immanuel Kant's moral writings, the *Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals*. In particular, this component will examine Kant's pure moral philosophy; Kant's concern with grounding morality on experience and his decision to ground morality on practical reason; the distinction between categorical and hypothetical imperatives; autonomy or self-legislation; and criticisms of the formalism and universality of Kantian morality.

Recommended Reading List:

The complete reading list, including primary and secondary literature, will be finalized at the beginning of the term. Our central text for the first component is:

- Immanuel Kant, *Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals: On a Supposed Right to Lie Because of Philanthropic Concerns*, trans. James W. Ellington, Third Edition (Indianapolis/Cambridge: Hackett Publishing Company, Inc.), 1993.

Feel free to consult whichever translation/edition of the *Groundwork* you prefer.

Component 2 (Arendt's The Human Condition):

This component will offer a close reading of one of Hannah Arendt's political texts, *The Human Condition*. In particular, this component will analyse Arendt's conception of the *vita activa* (the active life of labour, work, speech and action); the artificial conditions humans create in order to live on earth and to engage in political activities; and the historical-political problem of world-alienation and earth-alienation. We will question whether current political events reflect a continuation of world- and earth-alienation (i.e., the abolishment of earthly distance through technological advancements and the desire to populate other planets, respectively).



Recommended Reading List:

The complete reading list, including primary and secondary literature, will be finalized at the beginning of the term. Our central text for the second component is:

- Hannah Arendt, *The Human Condition* (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1958).

Feel free to consult whichever translation/edition of *The Human Condition* you prefer.

Assessments:

1 Exam (mid-term) 50% **AND** 1 Essay (end of module) 50%