A close study of the principal writings of John Locke, George Berkeley, and David Hume on topics in epistemology and metaphysics, including: perception and the theory of ideas, skepticism, scientific explanation, causality, identity, personal identity, substance, and natural kinds. Special attention will be paid to the relation between the philosophical views of each of these thinkers and the new mechanistic natural science.

Requirements
1. Regular attendance and participation in discussion.
2. Three 4-5 page papers (each worth 25% of course grade).
3. In-class essay-format final examination (25% of course grade).

Books for the course

Schedule of topics and readings
Week one (Jan. 7, 9, 11) Introduction and overview; Locke on ideas and innateness. Reading: *Essay* Epistle to the Reader, I.1, I.2, I.4, II.1, II.2.


Week four (Jan. 28, 30, Feb. 1) Locke on identity, and personal identity. Reading: *Essay* II.27.

Week six (Feb. 11, 13, 15) Locke on scientific explanation, mechanism, and the mind-body problem. Reading: *Essay IV.3, IV.6, IV.10, IV.12; selections from the Stillingfleet correspondence.*

First paper due February 20

Week seven (Feb. 20, 22) Berkeley on abstract ideas and the meaning of 'exists.' Reading: *Principles*, Intro., I.1-6, 22-4, 86-9; *Three Dialogues*, pp. 192-206 (Luce and Jessop pagination);


Spring recess (Mar. 11-16)

Second paper due March 18

Week ten (Mar. 18, 20, 22) Hume on ideas, knowledge, and probability. Reading: *Treatise*, Introduction; Bk. I, Part I, Secs. i-vii; Bk. I, Part II, Sec. vi; and Bk. I, Part III, Secs. i and ii; *Enquiry* Secs. 2 and 3.

Week eleven (Mar. 25, 27, 29) Hume on causation and induction. Reading: *Treatise*, Bk. I, Part III, Secs. iii-xvi; *Abstract*; *Enquiry* Secs. 4, 5, 6 and 7.

Week twelve (Apr. 1, 3, 5) Hume on personal identity. Reading: *Treatise*, Bk. I, Part IV, Secs. v and vi; Appendix.

Week thirteen (Apr. 8, 10, 12) Hume on skepticism regarding the senses. Reading: *Treatise*, Bk. I, Part IV, Sec. ii.

Week fourteen (Apr. 15, 17, 19) Hume and philosophical skepticism. Reading: *Treatise*, Bk. I, Part IV, secs. i, iii, iv, and vii; Appendix; *Enquiry* Sec.12.

Third paper due April 26

Week fifteen (Apr. 22, 24, 26) Hume and the religious hypothesis. Reading: *Enquiry* Secs. 10-11; *Dialogues concerning Natural Religion*.

Final examination Monday, May 6, 8:00-10:00 a.m.