

The Philosophy of Wilfrid Sellars
Philosophy 2410 (30979)—2019
Wednesday, 1:00pm to 3:30pm—1008B CL

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Syllabus

1. 8/28: Introduction. *FEE* Introduction and 1st half of Ch. 1.
2. 9/4: Earliest Writings I: “Epistemology and the New Way of Words (1947),” “Realism and the New Way of Words” (1948) pp. 53-63 and 69-85.
3. 9/11: Earliest Writings II: “Outlines of a Philosophy of Language” (1950)[unpublished draft], “Pure Pragmatics and Epistemology” (1947) pp. 5-10 and 21-26 [“Acquaintance and Description Again” (1949)].
4. 9/18: Pure Pragmatics: “Language, Rules, and Behavior” (1949), “Some Reflections on Language Games” (1951).
5. 9/25: Inferentialism and Normativity: “Inference and Meaning” (1953), “Mind, Meaning, and Behavior” (1952) [“Is There a Synthetic A Priori?” (1953)]
6. 10/2: Empiricism I: *Empiricism and the Philosophy of Mind* (1956) §§1-38. *FEE* Chs. 2, 3. [Two McDowell essays.]
7. 10/9: Empiricism II: *Empiricism and the Philosophy of Mind* §§39-end. “Phenomenalism” (1962)
8. 10/16: Alethic Modality I: “Counterfactuals, Dispositions, and the Causal Modalities” (1957), *FEE* Ch. 4.
9. 10/23: Alethic Modality II: “Counterfactuals, Dispositions, and the Causal Modalities” (1957). *FEE* Chs. 5,6.
10. 10/30: Nominalism I: “Naming and Saying” (1962), “Grammar and Existence” (1960), “Abstract Entities” (1963), *FEE* Ch. 7.

11. 11/6: Nominalism II: “Naming and Saying”, “Grammar and Existence”, “Abstract Entities,” *FEE* Ch. 7
12. 11/13: Scientific Realism. “Philosophy and the Scientific Image of Man” (1962).
13. 11/20: “Being and Being Known” (1960).
14. 12/4: Conclusion

Texts (All texts will be available online):

Empiricism and the Philosophy of Mind Wilfrid Sellars [Harvard University Press, 1997]
ISBN 10: 0-674-25155-5

In the Space of Reasons: Selected Essays of Wilfrid Sellars Kevin Scharp and Robert Brandom
(eds.) [Harvard University Press, 2007]
ISBN 10: 0-674-02498-2

From Empiricism to Expressivism: Brandom Reads Sellars [Harvard University Press, 2014]
ISBN 10: 0-674-18728-8 (PDF available on the course website.) Abbreviated: *FEE*.

Sellars Archive: <https://digital.library.pitt.edu/islandora/object/pitt%3AUS-PPiU-asp199101>

Sellars Bibliography: <http://www.ditext.com/sellars/bib-s.html>

Chrucky site: <http://www.ditext.com/sellars/index.html>