

CORC 3306 (MW9): Scientific Revolutions

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Class Schedule

M/W 9:30-10:45pm (Room 1141 N)

Required Text

Philosophy of Science: The Central Issues. Editors: Curd & Cover. New York: 1998.

Description

This course is an examination of scientific revolutions. This will include an examination of the nature of scientific theories, the nature of scientific evidence, and the conditions under which it is appropriate to dismiss a scientific theory. Topics will also include the basis of scientific knowledge, the value of prediction and explanation, and a look at some important historical cases of dominant scientific views being replaced.

Objectives

The main objectives of this course are:

- To learn to better identify and evaluate arguments
- To learn to articulate complex philosophical positions and debates
- To learn the relevant terminology and how to use it properly
- To learn to present ideas and engage others in an intellectually rigorous environment

Grades

Grades are based on weekly homework assignments (20%), a midterm (20%), a final (30%), a brief paper (20%), and participation (10%). Details of these will be discussed in class.

Keep in mind that participation is an important factor of your grade, so come prepared to speak. Also, keep in mind that **late work will not be accepted** unless arrangements have been made prior to the assignment's due date, and make-up work will most likely not be available.

Requirements

- Keep your attendance punctual: avoid tardiness and excessive absences
- Participate in class
- Keep up with the readings: if you skip a reading here and there, it becomes increasingly difficult to follow the discussion

University policy on Academic Integrity:

The faculty and administration of Brooklyn College support an environment free from cheating and plagiarism. Each student is responsible for being aware of what constitutes cheating and plagiarism and for avoiding both. The complete text of the CUNY Academic Integrity Policy and the Brooklyn College procedure for implementing that policy can be found at this site:

<http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/bc/policies>.

If a faculty member suspects a violation of academic integrity and, upon investigation, confirms that violation, or if the student admits the violation, the faculty member **MUST** report the violation.

Center for Student Disability Services:

In order to receive disability-related academic accommodations students must first be registered with the Center for Student Disability Services. Students who have a documented disability or suspect they may have a disability are invited to set up an appointment with the Director of the Center for Student Disability Services, Ms. Valerie Stewart-Lovell at 718-951-5538. If you have already registered with the Center for Student Disability Services please provide your professor with the course accommodation form and discuss your specific accommodation with him/her.