

# The Dialectic

Classics & Philosophy Newsletter  
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Philosophy & Humanities, UTA  
Spring, 2001

Greetings all Classics and Philosophy majors, minors, and alumni! After cramming for midterms and enjoying Spring Break, most of us are back in our usual routines again. By now we have accumulated enough excitement to discuss for this semester, so I am thinking that it is a good time to deliver the long awaited Spring 2001 issue of the Classics and Philosophy newsletter. As usual, this newsletter should brief you on what has been happening, and what is to come, on the third floor of Carlisle Hall — including insight as to what the Philosophy Department has added to its menu of course offerings (for those of you with a sweet tooth for Kant, I encourage you to read on). Read about everything from our guest speakers to what the Philosophy Club has pulled together for anyone who is interested in being among the most elite of philosophy students/alumni. It's all here for you, so sit back, relax, and enjoy.

Sincerely,  
Michelle Kapolowicz  
Philosophy Club President

## New Philosophy Course Offered — Fall 2001!

For anyone with an interest in learning more about the philosophy of Immanuel Kant, or anyone needing to complete credit hours in upper-division philosophy courses, now is your chance! This coming fall semester, Dr. Charles Nussbaum is teaching PHIL 4388/5392, *Kant's Critical Philosophy*. The course will discuss, precisely, what Kant's "Critical Philosophy" was, covering his three

critiques, one treating epistemology and metaphysics, the second on ethics, and the third on aesthetic judgment and teleological judgment in biology and theology. These three treatises revolutionized philosophical thinking in all these areas by directing particular attention toward the contribution made by human mentality to descriptive theories concerning the natural world, to normative principles of action, and to the attribution of aesthetic properties to art and nature. Don't miss out on this course; it will be a thrilling time!



## Matching: Test Your Knowledge

Match the quote to the thinker below (key on the next page — don't peek!):

1. "All men, by nature, desire to know."
2. "Egoism is the essence of a noble soul."
3. "The individual is not accountable to society for his actions in so far as these concern the interests of no person but himself."
4. "He that always gives way to others will end in having no principles of his own."
5. "Necessity is blind until it becomes conscious. Freedom is the consciousness of necessity."
6. "To be wronged is nothing unless you continue to remember it."
7. "The actions of men are the best interpreters of their thoughts."
8. "To love rightly is to love what is orderly and beautiful in an educated and disciplined way."
9. "Science is what you know, philosophy is what you don't know."
10. "To dare is to lose one's footing momentarily. Not to dare is to lose oneself."

- a. Søren Kierkegaard
- b. Confucius
- c. Plato
- d. John Locke
- e. John Stuart Mill
- f. Friederich Nietzsche
- g. Æsop
- h. Karl Marx
- i. Aristotle
- j. Bertrand Russell

## Spring Showcase of Guest Speakers

This spring the Philosophy Club at UTA was pleased to co-sponsor, for the Philosophy Lecture Series, Professor Bijoy Boruah from the Indian Institute of Technology in Kanpur, India. He spoke on "The Idea of a Decentered Self in Comparative Philosophical Perspective," covering the Neo-Vedantist elements he's found in the philosophies of both Ramchandra Ghandi and Thomas Nagel. We had an excellent turnout for the discussion, with students and faculty from surrounding campuses and high schools, as well as many of our own students and professors attending.

Our sponsored lecture made double the fun because earlier in the semester members of the Philosophy Club and the philosophy faculty took a "road trip" to the University of Dallas, to attend a



**Philosophy Clubbers after a recent post-meeting lunch.**

lecture given by Professor John Haldane of the University of Saint Andrews in Scotland. His topic was mainly concerned with the philosophy of Aquinas, however, he also discussed the philosophies of Berkeley, Dummett, and McDowell in relation to his lecture, which covered Haldane's research on the "...perennial challenge for philosophy to provide descriptions and explanations that properly recognize the place in and the contribution of mind to reality and reality to mind."

Also this spring, the Classics Club at UTA co-sponsored a visit by Professor Alden Smith from Baylor University. His lecture, entitled "Breaking Up is Hard to Do: Some Thoughts on Leaving Your Lover in the *Aeneid*," covered the relationship between two characters in Virgil's *Aeneid*, Aeneas and Dido. Smith discussed the portrayal of the characters' intense emotions for one another and their reactions towards each other in given situations, showing how recurring patterns of these reactions in the text are a reflection of their emotions, among other things.

As always, our lectures were fun as well as excellent learning opportunities. Stay tuned for the word on who is to come for the Fall 2001 semester so that *you* won't miss out on all of the excitement!

### **What Happened with *Phi Sigma Tau*?**

If you recall, last fall the Philosophy Club was interested in bringing the International Philosophy Honor Society, *Phi Sigma Tau*, to UTA. And guess what? It's almost here! We had our campus organizational meeting, and it was a success. The paperwork to petition for a chapter on the UTA campus was submitted to the National Office, and we expect to receive final approval by the end of the month! The following interested parties were elected as the new local officers: April Hunziker, President; Michelle Kapolowicz, Vice President; Gary Robinson, Secretary; and Jeff Brignac, Treasurer. We will be running the local meetings to coincide with those of the Philosophy Club — with the exception of the initiations and chapter installation, which will be announced — and anyone is welcome to attend. Official membership in the national organization is subject to one's meeting certain requirements. For more information, email the UTA Chapter Advisor, Professor Denny Bradshaw ([bradshaw@uta.edu](mailto:bradshaw@uta.edu)).

### **Solutions to the Matching on Page 1**

Here are the correct pairings: 1i, 2f, 3e, 4g, 5h, 6b, 7d, 8c, 9j, and 10a. How many did *you* get right?



**Homerathon Pavilion, April 4<sup>th</sup>**

#### *ALUMNI NEWS FORM*

NAME (PLEASE PRINT):

Last: \_\_\_\_\_ First: \_\_\_\_\_ MI: \_\_\_\_ Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_

WHAT IS YOUR NEWS?

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*Please return to Department of Philosophy & Humanities, Box 19527, UTA, Arlington, TX 76019.*