A Contemporary View of Hegel’s *Phenomenology*

Philosophy 2180—Fall 2021—University of Pittsburgh

Bob Brandom—[rbrandom@pitt.edu](mailto:rbrandom@pitt.edu)

Tuesdays, 1:30—4:00pm.

Course website at [sites.pitt.edu/~rbrandom](http://www.pitt.edu/~rbrandom) (under “Courses”).

The course has two texts:

Hegel’s *Phenomenology of Spirit* [*PG*].

Brandom’s *A Spirit of Trust: A Reading of Hegel’s Phenomenology* [*ST*].

Basic Readings. Further materials for study before each session are listed and updated in the course website.

Week 1. August 31, 2021: Introduction to Course: Why Read Hegel—and How?

Week 2. September 9, 2021: Overview of a Pragmatist, Semantic Reading of the *Phenomenology*.

*ST* Introduction and Précis.

Week 3. September 14, 2021: Hegel’s *Introduction* to the *PG*. Critique of Representationalism and Sketch of an Alternate Approach.

*PG Introduction. ST* 1-3.

Week 4. September 21, 2021: *Consciousness* I. Two Varieties of Empiricsm: Phenomenalist and Observational.

*PG* I *Sense Certainty*, *PG* II *Perception*. *ST* 4-5.

Week 5. September 28, 2021: *Consciousness* II. Theoretical Entities and Conceptual Holism.

*PG* III *Force and Understanding*. *ST* 6-7.

Week 6. October 5, 2021: *Self-Consciousness* . From Autonomy to Recognition.

*PG* IVA. *ST* 8-9.

Week 7. October 12, 2021: *Reason*. Practical Agency.

*PG* VB, VC. *ST* 11-12.

**No Class October 19, 2021**

Week 8. October 26, 2021: *Spirit* I. From Traditional to Modern *Geist*.

*PG* VIA. *ST* 13.

Week 9. November 2, 2021: *Spirit* II. Language, Alienation, and Modern *Geist*.

*PG* VIB. *ST* 14.

Week 10. November 9, 2021: *Spirit* III. Transition to Post-Modernity: Confession, Forgiveness, and Trust.

*PG* VIC. *ST* 15-16.

Week 11. November 16, 2021: Substance as Subject and Absolute Knowing.

*PG* Preface, *PG* VIII. *ST* Conclusion.

**No Class November 23, 2021: Thanksgiving Break.**

Week 12. November 30, 2021: From the *Phenomenology* to the *Science of Logic.*

*Begriffslogik*: The Idea.

Week 13. December 7, 2021: Conclusion: Hegel in the Twentyfirst Century.

*ST* Conclusion.