

## THE HISTORY OF WESTERN PHILOSOPHY:

Renaissance and Enlightenment (1400-1800)

Christ College

*Dr. Greg L. Babnsen*

### Assignments

1. Read Sahakian, History of Philosophy, chapters 7-10.1 (Kant)
2. Read Colin Brown, Philosophy and the Christian Faith, chapter 2

Read Schaeffer, How Should We Then Live?, chapters 3-8

Produce a time line for the period 1400-1800 (due September 30,1993)

Complete the final exam (submit by December 15, 1993)

Write a ten-page comparison of Descartes and Hume (due Nov. 15,1993)

Write a ten-page essay on the adequacy of the Christian worldview in science, philosophy and politics C and the breakdown in these three fields caused by the introduction of autonomy (due Nov. 30,1993)

### *General Outline*

#### **XVII. Recap and Review**

- A. The ancient period
- B. Paganism—antithesis—synthesis
- C. The medieval period
- D. End of Middle ages and seeds of the Renaissance

#### **XVIII. The Renaissance of Humanism**

- A. Revival of Classical man-centeredness
- B. Cultural characteristics
- C. Political theorizing
- D. The scientific spirit
- E. Assessment and summary

#### **XIX. The Reformation of Christianity**

- A. Contrast between renaissance and reformation
- B. Revival of N.T. faith & reaction against humanism
- C. Cultural effects
- D. Scientific advance
- E. Political reform

Two Kinds of Enlightenment A. Calvin: revelation and regeneration B. Hobbes: materialism

XXI. Continental Rationalism A. Descartes and dualism B. Spinoza and monism

C. Leibniz and atomism XXH. British Empiricism

A. Locke and psychologism B. Berkeley and idealism C. Hume and scepticism

XXIII. Enlightenment Movements A. English Deism

B. Reid and Scottish common-sense realism C. The French Enlightenment

1. Voltaire

2. encyclopedists

3. sensationalists and materialists 4. Rousseau and Romanticism D. German Aufklarung

XXIV. Loss of Optimism Regarding Reason

A. Enlightenment optimism regarding rationality of the universe and man B. Collapse of confidence

C. Recap and synopsis

D. From confidence to despair regarding rationality E. Kant to the rescue

XXV. Kant's Critical Philosophy A. Two realms  
B. Transcendental epistemology C. Values and ethics