Introduction

This course will undertake a close and careful reading of Edmund Husserl’s *Formal and Transcendental Logic*, his most elegant work and the culmination of his lifelong reflection on the nature and transcendental grounding of logical cognition in particular and of all cognition in general. We shall pay special attention to Husserl’s discussions of the two traditions (apophantic and mathematical) in the history of logic; the unity of these two traditions as achieved in a *mathesis universalis*; the unity-in-correlation of formal logic and formal ontology; the genesis of the judgment or proposition in the specifically logical sense; the three levels of logic; and logic’s transcendental grounding in subjectivity (without psychologism). Our discussions will be supplemented by a selection of readings from Husserl's *Experience and Judgment*, the work for which *Formal and Transcendental Logic* was to serve as an introduction.

Texts


Schedule of Classes

Jan. 13: Organization and Introduction
Readings: *FTL*, Introduction

Jan. 27: The concept of the predicative judgment
Readings: *FTL*, §§1–11
*EU*, §§1–14

Feb. 3: The three levels of logic and concept of the predicative judgment (*apophansis*)
Readings: *FTL*, §§12–22

Feb 10: Formal apophantics, formal mathematics, formal ontology
Readings: *FTL*, §§23–36

Feb 19: Formal logic as the unity-in-correlation of formal apophantics (logical attitude) and formal ontology (objective attitude)
Readings: *FTL*, §§37–46

Feb. 24: Theory of sense, the logic of truth, and ontology
Readings: *FTL*, §§47–54

Mar. 3: Psychologism and transcendentalism
Readings: *FTL*, §§55–68

Mar. 10: Fundamental concepts of a transcendental logic and their criticism
Readings: *FTL*, §§69–81

Mar. 24: The grounding of judgment in experience I
Readings: *FTL*, §§82–91

Mar. 31: The grounding of judgment in experience II
Readings: *FTL*, Appendix I

Apr. 7: The grounding of judgment in experience III
Readings: *EU*, §§47–63

Apr. 14: The grounding of judgment in experience IV
Readings: *EU*, §§64–79

Apr. 28: Transcendental philosophy and transcendental psychologism
Readings: *FTL*, §§92–100

May 5: The phenomenology of reason
Readings: *FTL*, §§101–107


Requirements

1. Class participation: 10%. Class participation can take many forms, for example, asking questions, offering clarifications or criticisms, responding to other students’ presentations.

2. Class presentation: 25%. Each student is expected to make a presentation to the class on some set of readings over the course of the semester. In this presentation, the student should identify the main point or points that Husserl makes in the assigned reading. In addition, the student should indicate the support provided for this point or these points in the reading or in previously read materials.

   The presentation should be approximately 15 to 20 minutes in length. It should be accompanied by an **outline** (not the text) of the main points to be covered in the presentation. This outline should be distributed to the other members of the class by the Friday preceding the meeting at which the presentation is to be made. The outline should be used by other students to prepare for class discussion.

3. Research paper: 65%. The research paper should be approximately 20 pages in length. You are welcome to discuss your topics with me before you begin writing. The research paper is due no later than May 9.