



The Jefferson School of Philosophy, Economics, and Psychology

1991 Summer Conference

THE INTELLECTUAL FOUNDATIONS OF A FREE SOCIETY V

LECTURE DESCRIPTIONS AND FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES

PHILOSOPHY: Twenty-one hours of instruction.

- **Leonard Peikoff, *Objectivism: The Philosophy of Ayn Rand* (six 90-minute seminars)**

Dr. Peikoff will offer six 90-minute seminars based on Chapters 6-11 of his forthcoming book *Objectivism: The Philosophy of Ayn Rand*. (The text of these chapters will be sent to conference enrollees in advance of the start of the conference.) The subjects are: Man, The Good, Virtue, Happiness, Government, and Capitalism. Topics include: the nature of living organisms, "life" and "value," values as objective, the validation of egoism, rationality and the six derivative virtues, the moral and the practical, the benevolent-universe premise, sex as metaphysical, the validation of man's rights, capitalism as the system of morality and of objectivity, statism as the politics of unreason.

Emphasis is placed on the uniqueness of Ayn Rand's philosophy, on its hierarchical structure, on new integrations between its elements, and on the reasons for the specific wording of important formulations. After opening remarks on each chapter by Dr. Peikoff, students are encouraged to ask as many questions as time permits.

Dr. Peikoff is an outstanding author and lecturer. His most important previous work is *The Ominous Parallels*, a masterful philosophical-cultural history of the United States and modern Germany, which makes intelligible the rise of Nazism and the ominous signs of a similar development in this country. For 30 years he was a close associate of the late Ayn Rand, and is now Chairman Emeritus Board of Directors of the Ayn Rand Institute: The Center for the Advancement of Objectivism. As Miss Rand's intellectual heir, he wrote the Introduction to Miss Rand's posthumously published collection of essays *Philosophy: Who Needs It*. He has also edited *The Early Ayn Rand: A Selection from her Unpublished Fiction* and *The Voice of Reason: Essays in Objectivist Thought*. As the editor of the Ayn Rand Library, he is in the process of preparing for publication Miss Rand's unpublished lectures, correspondence, and journals. Dr. Peikoff's lectures on philosophy have been given regularly in New York City and played on tape to audiences in over 100 cities in North America, Europe, Asia, and Australia. Dr. Peikoff taught philosophy for many years at Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute, where he was Associate Professor, and before that at the University of Denver, Hunter College, Long Island University, and New York University. His articles have appeared in *Barron's*, *The Objectivist*, and other periodicals. His essay "The Analytic-Synthetic Dichotomy" was reprinted in Ayn Rand's *Introduction to Objectivist Epistemology* as a companion piece to her own essay. *Objectivism: The Philosophy of Ayn Rand* is scheduled for release by New American Library in December 1991.

• **Harry Binswanger, *John Locke's Political Philosophy* (three lectures)**

John Locke is one of the very few heroes in the history of philosophy. He virtually created the theory of individual rights and thereby laid the intellectual basis for the founding of the United States. All the founding Fathers were thoroughly schooled in his *Second Treatise of Government*, and phrases from that illustrious work even appear in the Declaration of Independence.

After an introductory survey of Locke's basic philosophy, these lectures will focus on: Locke's derivation of rights; his justification of private property; his explanation of the need for government; the elements of mysticism and collectivism that remained in Lockes's theory, undercutting his achievement; and how Ayn Rand's philosophy holds the solution to the problems raised by Locke's theory.

Dr. Binswanger is the author of *The Biological Basis of Teleological Concepts*, a book on the philosophy of biology. He is also the editor of *The Ayn Rand Lexicon*, a topically organized compilation of extracts from Objectivist writings and lectures. Until its closing in 1987, he was the editor and publisher of *The Objectivist Forum*. Dr. Binswanger received his Ph.D. from Columbia University and taught philosophy for many years at Hunter College (City University of New York) and at the New School for Social Research. He has written and lectured extensively on ethics, philosophy of science, and political philosophy. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Ayn Rand Institute.

• **John Ridpath, *Individualism and the Political Philosophy of Immanuel Kant* (two lectures)**

In spite of the fact that Immanuel Kant's basic philosophy is totally incompatible with individualism, Kant is repeatedly claimed to be an individualist, even an admirer of the American Revolution. These lectures will examine Kant's political philosophy in order to discover whether he is in fact an advocate of individualism, and if so, on what grounds. The basic issue these lectures will address is the hierarchical structure of philosophical knowledge: the significance of inconsistency, and the need, in addressing derivative philosophical ideas, of placing them in their deeper context. They will demonstrate why Kant's views on epistemology and ethics render meaningless any appearance of individualism in his views on politics.

Dr. Ridpath is Associate Professor of Economics and Intellectual History at York University in Toronto, Canada. Widely recognized for his lecturing skills, and for his public speaking and debating in defense of capitalism, he is a recipient of the prestigious award given by the Ontario Council of University Faculty Associations for outstanding contribution to University teaching. His research interests lie in the history of basic ideas and their impact on social change. Articles by Dr. Ridpath have appeared in *The Objectivist Forum* and *The Intellectual Activist*.

• **Dianne Durante, *Analyzing Art Objectively and Donatello & Michelangelo* (two lectures)**

First Lecture: Do you know what art you like, but not know why? Do you feel that thinking about a work of art too much will make you lose your enjoyment of it? This lecture gives a simple framework for analyzing art, based on your values and your context of knowledge, and explains why analysis enhances rather than endangers enjoyment.

Second Lecture: Donatello (1386-1466) is the towering figure in the art of the early Renaissance, as Michelangelo (1475-1564) is of the High Renaissance. This lecture contrasts these two geniuses: Their subjects, their styles, and their outlook on life as evidenced in their art.

Dr. Durante holds a Ph.D. in Classics from the University of Cincinnati. She has given lecture courses on Greek and Roman Art and on Medieval and Renaissance Art; her courses stress the connection between philosophy and art. Dr. Durante works as a bibliographic researcher for a dealer in rare books in New York City.

• **Glenn Marcus, *Plato, Kant, and Aristotle in Mathematics* (one lecture)**

Mathematicians have always relied, either explicitly or implicitly, on philosophy for answers to questions such as: What is mathematics? How is it done? What is its relation to human life? This lecture discusses the main answers to these questions, identifies their fundamental philosophic authors (mainly Plato, Aristotle, and Kant), and explains how the answers have determined the progress or stagnation of mathematics.

Dr. Marcus is Assistant Professor of Mathematics at LaGuardia Community College in New York City. He was a founder and Headmaster of American Renaissance School in White Plains, New York. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut in Electrical Engineering, and has taught electrical engineering at Manhattan College and mathematics at Fordham University.

ECONOMICS: Twelve hours of instruction.

• **George Reisman, *Wealth, Natural Resources, and the Environment* (four lectures) and *A Theory of Monopoly Consistent With Individual Rights* (two lectures)**

The first four lectures will explain the following: the nature of wealth and goods; why man's possession and use of reason gives rise to a need and desire for wealth that for all practical purposes is limitless; why there is a fundamental and ineradicable scarcity of human labor; the "naturalness" and "necessity" of economic progress; the objective superiority of modern goods over earlier goods and over the goods of primitive societies; why the potential increase in the supply of natural resources is limitless for all practical purposes; the errors of conservationism; the objective value of an industrial society; why the inherent effect of production is to improve man's environment; the anti-human standard of value of "environmentalism"; the further errors of environmentalism; the roots of environmentalism in philosophical corruption, especially that present in contemporary education.

The last two lectures will present a concept of monopoly which is consistent with the Objectivist concept of freedom and individual rights. The concept will then be applied to show why instances of monopoly are constituted by exclusive government franchises, licensing laws, tariffs, government-owned or government subsidized enterprises, minimum-wage and pro-union legislation, and, ironically, anti-trust legislation.

Dr. Reisman is a leading advocate of *laissez-faire* capitalism. He is best known as the author of *The Government Against the Economy*, an exposition of free-market price theory and critique of price controls and socialism. He was originally a student of the late Ludwig Von Mises, under whom he obtained his doctorate in economics at New York University. He is the translator of Von Mises' *Epistemological Problems of Economics* and of Heinrich Rickert's *Science and History*, and has authored over thirty articles on economics. He is internationally known as a lecturer. Currently, Dr. Reisman is Professor of Economics at Pepperdine University's School of Business and Management in Culver City.

• **Walter Williams, *South Africa's War Against Capitalism and Government Intervention and Individual Liberty* (Two Lectures)**

First Lecture: Within a large segment of South Africa's population, apartheid is seen as an adjunct to capitalism. Hence, the solution is seen in a movement towards nationalization. This lecture shows that, to the contrary, apartheid was a struggle against market forces which were never completely suppressed, as evidenced by private measures to contravene, sabotage, and violate state edicts imposing apartheid. While apartheid is not yet finished, the question now is, what is going to replace it? As Frederick Bastiat warned, victims of injustice often "do not abolish legal plunder.... Instead, they emulate their evil predecessors by participating in this legal plunder."

Second Lecture: The unavoidable consequence of growth of government is loss of liberty. The cause of our departure from limited government is a generalized contempt for principles of rule of law, voluntary exchange, and private property rights. The genesis of this contempt is people's concern for *results* which they believe are desirable, such as equality of income, racial justice, energy conservation, and environmental protection. In the process of pursuing such results, they ignore process, rule of law, voluntary exchange, and private property rights.

Dr. Williams is John M. Olin Distinguished Professor of Economics at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. He is the author of four books on economics, including *South Africa's War Against Capitalism* and *The State Against Blacks*. He is also the author of over sixty articles and book reviews on economics, which have appeared in professional journals or popular magazines. He is a frequent witness before Congressional Committees, and a frequent guest on television and radio interview shows. In addition, he is a nationally syndicated columnist whose column appears weekly in approximately 100 newspapers.

PSYCHOLOGY: Eleven hours of instruction.

• Edwin Locke, *The Nature of Human Intelligence* (two lectures)

These two lectures will deal with the following issues: What is intelligence? What are its causes and what is the evidence for them? Are there different types of intelligence? What do so-called intelligence and intellectual aptitude tests measure (and what don't they measure)? Are there racial differences in intelligence (and is the issue important)? What are the consequences (e.g., for performance) of differences in intelligence?

Dr. Locke is Professor of Business and Management and of Psychology at the University of Maryland, where he is also Chairman of the Organizational Behavior and Industrial Relations Faculty. In addition, he is in private practice as a psychotherapist and serves as a consultant to business firms. He is internationally known in the field of Industrial/Organizational Psychology, especially for his work in the areas of goal setting and job attitudes.

• Jonathan Rosman, *Freud: Basic Theory and the Philosophies that Influenced Him* (two lectures)

First Lecture: An introduction to Freud's psychological theory. Freud, the most influential thinker in modern psychology, provided a comprehensive view of the workings of the human mind. His theories of instincts, repression, and infantile sexuality will be presented. Freud's explanation of the unconscious mind, his division of the mind into Id, Ego, and Superego, and his view of defense mechanisms and symptoms will be explained.

Second Lecture: Philosophical influences on Freud. The influence of Plato and Empedocles, Kant's epistemology, Schopenhauer's Will and Hegel's dialectic process will be covered. Freud's system of thought will be contrasted with Objectivism.

Jonathan P. Rosman, M.D. is a psychiatrist in private practice in Riverside, California. He practices general adult psychiatry, and special interests are Short-Term Psychotherapy and Forensic (legal) Psychiatry. He is editor of the Newsletter of the Objectivist Health Care Professionals Network (OHCPN).

• Edith Packer, *Happiness Skills* (one lecture)

This lecture will discuss the conscious and subconscious conclusions, attitudes, and skills required for successful living and the achievement of a positive emotional state in everyday life. Application will be made to the four crucial areas of work, romantic relationships, friendships, and leisure. The lecture will explain the importance of such attitudes and skills as focusing on positive goals, thinking long range, holding perspective, not exaggerating the significance of failure, not fearing negative emotions, and commitment to action.

Dr. Packer is an attorney and clinical psychologist. She has been in private practice as a psychologist for over twenty years. She has lectured on psychology and psychotherapy in the United States and Canada and was published on these subjects in *The Objectivist Forum*. Most of her previous TJS lectures are available from Second Renaissance Books in pamphlet form as well as on audio-tape.

• **Arthur Mode, *Psychological Symptoms of Physical Origin* (one lecture)**

When a person develops symptoms of depression, he may seek help from a psychotherapist. But there are instances, not rare, when psychological symptoms are actually produced by physical diseases or by medications. If not properly diagnosed, correct treatment will be delayed. This lecture takes up the general nature and scope of this problem, names criteria for making the distinction, and then discusses specific diseases that can cause symptoms of depression, anxiety, and psychosis. A number of case histories will dramatize the difficulties in diagnosis.

Arthur Mode, M.D., is a psychiatrist in private practice in Falls Church, Virginia. His avocation is eighteenth and early nineteenth century American history. His articles supporting individual rights and the free market have appeared in publications such as *Private Practice*, *The Intellectual Activist*, and *The Freeman*.

• **Psychology Panel Composed of the Above Four Psychologists and Psychiatrists. (Two hours)**

Each of the panel members will attempt to apply his or her area of special expertise to answering questions from the audience which concern psychology or psychiatry.

HISTORY, LAW, AND SCIENCE: Four and a half hours of instruction.

• **Arthur Mode, *Benjamin Franklin* (one lecture)**

Thomas Jefferson wrote of Franklin: "No one of the present age has made more important discoveries, nor has enriched philosophy with more ingenious solutions of the phenomena of nature." Scientific discoveries and valuable inventions were but one aspect of Franklin's amazing versatility. He was also a successful author, publisher, journalist, entrepreneur, and diplomat, as well as being a leader of the American Revolution. This lecture will describe his career, and consider some of the character traits that made it possible.

(See above for biographical statement.)

• **Arline Mann, *The Remarkable Rationality of the Common Law* (one lecture)**

The legal system of the United States is based largely upon English common law. Common law consists of the legal principles enunciated by judges in particular disputes brought before them, and then followed as precedent in future disputes. This lecture will present highlights of traditional common law illustrating the remarkable rationality of its substantive, procedural, and evidentiary principles. The lecture will consider the historical roots of the common law and its debasement in modern times.

Arline Mann, J.D., has practiced law on Wall Street for 12 years. She is President of The Association for Objective Law, an organization of lawyers, law students, and others, the purpose of which is to advance Objectivism as the basis of a proper legal system. She is also a member of the Board of Advisors of the Ayn Rand Institute, and has contributed to *The Objectivist Forum*.

• **Richard Sanford, A Scientific Refutation of Environmentalism**

According to environmentalism, overwhelming scientific evidence proves that man's selfish pursuits will cause a global ecological Armageddon. This lecture will expose the scientific fallacies in such a view. Examples of flawed science will be selected from among the topics: ozone, the extinction of species, toxic and carcinogenic substances, tropical rain forests, global warming, and acid rain. In each case, the proper rule of inductive reasoning will be contrasted with the fallacy, and the implicit hidden purpose will be revealed.

Dr. Sanford's professional work focuses on the discovery of new mineral resources through application of chemistry, hydrology, and geology. Since earning his Ph.D. in geology from Harvard University in 1978, he has conducted research at a major institution and has authored more than forty publications. His professional studies have ranged from the evolution of the lunar crust to the formation of asbestos, uranium, and gold-silver deposits. He is currently investigating the science and philosophy of environmentalism for a forthcoming book.