Philosophy 150.205

History of Modern Philosophy

Spring 2017

Second Paper

Something a bit more challenging this time

In Book IV, of the *Essay Concerning Human Understanding* (pp. 386-421 in your anthology), Locke finally turns to his man topic: the scope and limits of human knowledge. Explain in your own words how Locke deals with the skeptical problem, posed by Descartes, concerning our knowledge of the external world. How successful is his response? What might be said in defence of what can seem his somewhat dismissive attitude towards Descartes’s problem?

You can draw on anything in Locke’s essay, but Book IV Chapters , and XI are especially relevant.

Length: around 5 pages.

Due: 5pm, April 7 (electronic submission)