**Seminar 2: Preface and Introduction**

**0. Recap**

crash course of identity (?)

fundamental problems of mankind, searching for the adequate questions & concepts to answer these questions

1) Kant: encyclopedic thinker, 3 concepts from the epoch of Enlightenment

* critique
* reason
* freedom

3 fundamental questions (no repeat) + what is human being

2) four driving forces

* Enlightenment: have the courage to think for ourselves
* critique: democratic character
* morality: 1st interest of Kant
* cosmopolitan: elements valid in each and all culture

3) revolutionary in moral phil.

eudaimonia, theonomy, … all replaced by autonomy

4) provocations

* “If the highest good, which relativizes the autonomy, (???)
* moral duty is fully opposed to desire of happiness

2 interests of this course:

* Interpretation & discussion of classical texts
* How to do them
  + Ask paragraph’s main subject (leading question)
  + Main concept & argument of discussion
  + New, striking, convincing things

**1. Why Kant titled this treatise “Critique of Practical Reason” instead of “Critique of Pure Practical Reason”? (Compare 1st para. of preface, introduction & 11th, 13th para.)**

Background:

* Kant’s Critique of Pure Reason (for speculative reason, theoretical) => rejects the claim that speculative reason has the possibility to have objective knowledge about …
* Present work (for practical reason, willing) => rejects the claim of non-pure practical reason, the claim that imperative practical reason has an exclusive right
  + Motivation: 3 questions in debate between rationalists & empiricists (immortality, God, freedom)
  + Kant’s answer: no objective knowledge about them (against rationalism), but have some other form of insight (against skepticism & empiricism)
    - Example: category of causality (not empirical, start from expectation)

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**2. (After reading Chap. 1 of Analytic) At the end of the 1st paragraph, Kant said “proves its reality through its deed”, what does it imply?** 您已经读过《实践理性批判》的全书，至少是分析论的第一章了，请基于您的阅读来思考以下问题：第一段的末尾，康德说：“那么它[纯粹理性]就通过事实证明了它的实在性和它的概念的实在性”，他在此处暗指什么？

**3. Why Kant qualified freedom as “transcendental”?** 为什么康德要用“超验”一词来限定自由？根据前言，自由在康德哲学中享有何种特殊地位？

**4. 为什么康德如此重视“ratio essendi”与“ratio cognoscendi”这一对概念？**

**5. Empiricism, skepticism, critical moralism?** 康德如何理解经验主义的立场、怀疑论的立场和批判的道德学家的立场？为什么它们对于康德来说如此重要呢？