

PHIL 1000: Introduction to Philosophy (3 credits), Spring 2015

SECTION 001: LA 372, M, W F, 9:00 a.m – 9:50 a.m.

Contact
Information

Instructor: Dr. Schalow
Office: UNO: LA 383
Office Hours: M, W, F, 11:00-12:30 (and by appointment)
Office Phone: (504) 280-6815
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Course Webpages: Accessed via Moodle.

Required
Texts

[1] *An Historical Introduction to Philosophy*, ed. Albert Hakim. Pearson, 2008. ISBN: 978-013190059

Course Description

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: An introductory study of basic philosophical concepts and problems, as developed specifically from an historical standpoint.

COURSE OVERVIEW: This course is an introduction to the study of philosophy, the nature of philosophical problems, and the central ideas and thinkers in the history of philosophy. The focus of these readings is on the origin and development of Western philosophy, from the Pre-Socratics to Jean-Paul Sartre.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successfully completing this course, students will be able to do the following:

- to recognize philosophical questions
- to know the various subfields of philosophy and the sorts of questions dealt with by philosophers in those areas
- to understand theories central to philosophy and how these theories can be applied to contemporary problems
- work with philosophical concepts and methods, and to construct and evaluate arguments
- to participate in classroom discussion, developing and displaying an ability and readiness to defend one's own point of view while listening openly but carefully to others
- to demonstrate a willingness to entertain criticism, formulate and reply to reasonable objections, and represent opposing views both critically and sympathetically
- to read both primary and secondary texts and analyze the arguments contained in them correctly

Grading

Requirement		Final grade	
Analytical Paper	(10%) 10 points	A	100-89.5
First Exam	(30%) 30 points	B	89.79.5
Second Exam	(30%) 30 points	C	79.4.69.5
Final exam	(30%) 30 points	D	69.4-59.5
		F	59.4-0

Course Requirements	<p>Attendance and Participation. Attendance and intelligent participation at all class meetings is expected. Students who miss more than seven (7) classes will have their letter final grades deduced one complete letter (grade), e.g., from “A” to “B”.</p> <p>Paper: The primary reason for attending college is to begin the process of becoming a scholar by reflecting on complicated questions related to the human experience. To this end, each student will be required to writing an “analytical paper” which argues either the “pro” or “con” side of any given issue, e.g., the “legalization of marijuana” or “banning assault weapons,” or “gay marriage,” or “legalization of prostitution.” The paper must be submitted in duplicate, 1) uploaded to Moodle and 2) a hardcopy delivered to the Professor in class. Papers are due on Mar. 20. Late Papers: All papers received after that date will be deducted 4 points for each day late.</p>
Course Policies	<p>ACADEMIC HONESTY: Academic dishonesty undermines the academic enterprise and includes, but is not limited to, the following: cheating, plagiarizing, tampering with academic records or exams, falsifying identity, and being an accessory to acts of academic dishonesty. If you’re foolish enough to do something like this, you’ll be expelled from the course with a failing grade and will be reported to the university.</p> <p>DISABILITY POLICY: It is university policy to provide, on a flexible and individualized basis, reasonable accomodation to students who have disabilities that may affect their ability to participate in course activities or to meet course requirements. Students with disabilities are encouraged to contract their instructors to discuss their individual needs for accommodations. If you any questions, contact the Office of Disability Serviced at UC 260, (504 280-6222 (Voice).</p> <p>CLASS CONDUCT: Each student is required to act in a civil and respectful way.</p> <p>MAKE-UP EXAMS: Make-up exams are allowed. However, the penalty for missing a test (for whatever reason) is a deduction of 8 points from that exam. Make-up exams will only be given during my office hours.</p> <p>WITHDRAWALS: You may withdraw from this course for any reason. Look in the University calender for the last day to withdraw.</p> <p>WARNING! <i>Doing philosophy requires a willingness to think critically. Doing philosophy can be hazardous to your cherished beliefs.</i></p>

Reading is due for the date listed.

Jan. 12	"Introduction"
Jan. 14	<i>An Historical Introduction to Philosophy</i> , pp. 4-22
Jan. 16	Continued
Jan. 21	Who was Socrates?
Jan. 23	pp. 22-41
Jan. 26	Logic and Argumentation
Jan. 28	pp. 54-86 (Plato)
Jan. 30	Continued
Feb. 2	Epicurus
Feb. 4	pp. 85-115 (Aristotle)
Feb. 6	Continued
Feb. 9	Religion and the Ontological Proofs for God's Existence
Feb. 11	St. Anselm, St. Thomas Aquinas, pp. 189-200
Feb. 13	Pascal, Paley, and Kierkegaard's "leap of faith"
Feb. 18	Consultation Day
Feb. 20	Review
Feb. 23	Test #1
Feb. 25	<i>An Historical Introduction to Philosophy</i> , pp. 247-278
Feb. 27	Rene Descartes
Mar. 2	Continued
Mar. 4	pp. 279-282 (Spinoza)
Mar. 6	pp. 293-297 (Leibniz)
Mar. 9	pp. 355-388 (Berkeley and Locke)
Mar. 11	Hume's skepticism
Mar. 13	Kant's challenge
Mar. 16	Kantian principles
Mar. 18	Paper Day
Mar. 20	Kant and the Bounds of Reason, Paper Due
Mar. 23	Review
Mar. 25	Test #2
Mar. 27	Kant and the Turn to Morality
Mar. 30	Theories of Truth
Apr. 6	<i>An Historical Introduction to Philosophy</i> , pp. 415-427 (Hegel)
Apr. 8	Continued
Apr. 10	pp. 486-490 (Marx)
April. 13	Continued
Apr. 15	pp. 472-485 (Nietzsche)
Apr. 17	Theories of Truth
Apr. 20	pp. 547-563 (Heidegger)
Apr. 22	Continued
Apr. 25	pp. 564-580 (Sartre)
Apr. 27	Sartre, Continued
Apr. 29	Philosophy Today
May 1	Review
May 6	Final Exam, 7:30-9:30 (Wed.)