

SYLLABUS

PHIL 1000. 3 hours. 2 hours lecture and 1 hour discussion per week.

Course Title: Introduction to Philosophy

Syllabus (Description): A critical exploration of such topics as knowledge and belief, God and the problem of evil, freedom and determinism, the right and the good, language and meaning, mind and body, appearance and reality, and man and the world.

Oasis Title: INTRO TO PHILOSOPHY

Duplicate Credit: Not open to students with credit in PHIL 1000H

Fall 2009

Lecturer: Raymond Woller

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(706) 542-2656

Office

127 Peabody

Hours:

Monday, & Wednesday: 9:30 to 10:00; 11:00 to 11:30; 3:30 to 4:00

Friday: 2:30 to 3:30

And by appointment

Teaching Assistant: TBA

@uga.edu

Office

TBA

Hours

TBA

You are responsible for knowing everything contained in this syllabus.

Reading Assignments & Lecture Topics:

- There is no text for the course: all readings are available through the course website via www.eLC.uga.edu.
- The website Calendar shows the Learning Module for each Monday and Wednesday lecture day. Clicking on the topic takes you to the module which gives you access to the reading for each lecture as well as the lecture slides and notes; the lecture test; and often, miscellaneous material of interest.

Goals of the Course: The goals cited above in the title will be achieved by having you understand some of the view and arguments of some of the most important figures of western philosophy, from its beginnings in the 6th Century B.C.E. into the 20th Century C.E. This will be accomplished by readings, lectures, and discussions in breakout sessions.

Method:

- There are two lectures a week in Peabody 115.
- There is one discussion or breakout session each week. You are assigned to one such session on either Thursday or Friday. Consult your schedule for the time and place of your discussion section. Discussion sections are small classes designed to insure that you have mastered the material presented in lecture. What you should be prepared to do in discussion sections on Thursdays and Fridays is listed on the Calendar on Thursdays. What you should be prepared to do are things that you might be asked on exams.

Grades:

- Your course grade will be calculated from four elements that are listed below with their weight towards the course grade:

- Frequent quizzes on the assigned readings. (15%)
 - A missed quiz receives the grade of 0%.
 - A failing grade on a quiz is 50%.
 - The 3 lowest quiz grades will be dropped.
 - There are no makeups for quizzes.
 - Note that the quizzes are designed to reward you not only for attending lecture but for working on the assigned readings.
- Frequent short tests on what was covered in lecture. (10%)
 - These tests are to make sure that you understand what was covered in lecture.
 - They are on-line test that you can take any time before the next lecture.
 - You may work together and use notes.
- Three in-class hour exams. (Each worth 20%)
 - The first will be graded and returned to you before the deadline to withdraw.
 - N.B., that starting with the Fall 2008 semester you will only be allowed to withdraw passing from four (4) courses in your academic career at UGA. Withdrawing from more results in a grade of WF.
 - If you miss an exam, a written excuse documenting serious illness or an equally serious circumstance that caused your missing the exam must be provided within one week of your returning to class after the missed exam in order for you to be allowed to take a make-up.
 - You must take all three exams to receive a passing grade in the course.
- Your discussion-section grade. (15%)
 - Your TA will explain how he or she will grade your performance in discussion section.
 - Your cumulative discussion grade will be posted on the website after 4 weeks and updated about every 4 weeks after that.
 - If your grades are not what you expected, be sure to make an appointment with your TA to find in what ways your are not performing up to our expectations.
- Question about any grade you receive must raised no latter than one week after the graded was posted.
 - **Keep all graded material returned to you** in case there is a factual error in recording you grade. No recording error can be correct without our seeing the graded quiz or exam.
- Grades are posted on the website.
- The university now uses a plus-minus system for recording grades. You should check the following website for answers to some frequently asked questions about this system: <http://www.bulletin.uga.edu/PlusMinusGradingFAQ.html#Q9>.
- I use numbers from 0 to 100 in grading quizzes, tests, and exams. To see how they relate to plus and minus letter grades, click on the +/- Grades icon on the Course Homepage. In calculating grades, I do not round up or down: for example, a 79.9 is a C+
- There will be no extra-credit options.
- After the course grade as been assigned, always check to make sure that the reported grade on Oasis agrees with what is on the website; errors sometimes occur in reporting grades.

Reading Assignments:

- You should expect to spend at least two (2) hours working through the reading assignment for each class. Although most of the readings are not long, they are not easy. You should expect to have to read the material very slowly and carefully.
- Readings are to be read carefully **before** the class in which they will be considered. Quizzes will be on the readings assigned for the day the quiz is given.
- Reading assignments along with links to the reading are in the relevant Learning Modules. The Learning Module for any given lecture day is listed on the Calendar.
- The Calendar is subject to change. I will notify you by e-mail whenever there is a change in the Calendar.

Course Web Site: All material relevant for the course is to be found on or through the Course Website.

- The **Syllabus** is this document.
- The **Calendar**
 - It contains the lecture topics for each lecture day and a link to the Learning Modules for each lecture day, which contain links to the readings, lecture slides and notes, the lecture test, and often miscellaneous material of interest.
 - It lists on Thursdays what you need to prepare for discussions sections on Thursdays and Fridays.
 - Exam dates.
- **Reference Material:** Links to a dictionary of philosophy and an excellent encyclopedia of philosophy, and an interesting philosophy site.
- **Discussion** is a bulletin board feature.
 - This is the place to post questions and comments about the material encountered in the readings, in discussion sections, and in lectures.
 - I look at this quite regularly and respond to postings.
 - I will delete any posting that are not relevant to the course.
- **Intra-class Mail** is an e-mail function limited to members of the class and the instructor.
 - Use this or my regular e-mail address (see the box above) to contact me about personal matters relating to the course.
 - I move questions of general interest to the bulletin board.
 - **You are responsible for knowing the contents of any e-mail I send you in this fashion.**
 - **If you don't check your elc daily, you are required to forward your intra-class e-mail to the e-mail account that you do check daily by**
 - Going to My eLearning Commons
 - Clicking on My Setting at the very top right of the screen
 - Going to Edit Profile, if the e-mail listed is not the one you use daily
 - Scrolling down and clicking on Forward all mail messages to the e-mail address in my profile
 - Scrolling to very bottom and Save.

Academic Honesty: All academic work must meet the standards contained in “A Culture of Honesty.” All students are responsible to inform themselves about those standards before performing any academic work. There is a link to “A Culture of Honesty” on the Course Website Homepage.

Office Hours: You are encouraged to take advantage of my office hours as well as my TA's. If the hours are inconvenient for you, we will gladly arrange a mutually convenient time to meet with you. You should be aware that you are **not** bothering us by meeting with us.