

**Syllabus**  
**Philosophy 1000**  
**Introduction to Philosophy**  
**Spring 2009**  
**Room: Peabody 105**

**Instructor:**

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**Purpose:**

The goal of this course is to introduce you to both the history of philosophy and to its central topics. To be faithful to its history, we shall be reading original works, starting with Plato, circa 400 B.C.E., and continuing on to the twentieth century, with Bertrand Russell and Saul Kripke. In the first third of the class, we shall consider Plato's problem of the good life, which ultimately evolved into the broader philosophical category of ethics. In the second two thirds of the class, we shall turn to the classic problem of the limits of knowledge, as posed by Descartes, as well as issues of causation and the mind-body problem. We shall see how these issues are explored by his contemporaries, Berkeley, Hume and Locke, in the seventeenth and eighteenth century. Finally, we shall turn to twentieth century treatments of the issue.

**Reading Assignments:**

The schedule of reading assignments and exams is given below. A reading should always be completed prior to the class meeting for which it is assigned. Participation is expected, so come to class prepared to ask questions and discuss the material.

**Grading:**

I grade according to the standard interpretation of the grading scale: excellent work will merit an A; good work will earn a B; average work will receive a C; below average work will earn a D; and unacceptable work will merit an F.

**Quizzes:**

Quizzes on the reading will be given throughout the semester. The quizzes will be worth 10% of the final grade.

**Exams:**

There will be three exams which will each count for 30% of your final grade. The exams will be essay style, so please come to class on exam days with an unused blue-book. The final exam will not be cumulative. It will cover the final third of the course.

Makeup exams are given only under the most pressing reasons such as serious illness. You must notify the instructor of your intended absence on an exam day no later than the day of the exam. Failure to do so will result in a zero for the missed exam. Furthermore, you will be expected to present notification from the Office of Student Affairs validating your excuse. You will be required to take the exam at the first possible time following the missed exam. An unexcused absence on an exam day will result in a zero on the missed exam. There will be no exceptions to this policy.

**Attendance:**

Attendance is required. Failure to attend class will negatively effect your grade. A missed quiz counts as a zero, rather than as a 50% score for an F. Quizzes will not be made up. Six absences preclude a student from receiving an A. Twelve absences constitute failure of the course.

**Review Sessions:** Review sessions will be conducted the evening before each exam. Attendance is strongly encouraged.

**Required Readings:**

*Five Dialogues*<sup>†</sup> by Plato  
*Republic*<sup>\*</sup> by Plato  
*Leviathan*<sup>†</sup> by Thomas Hobbes  
*The Second Treatise of Government* by John Locke  
*Utilitarianism* by John Stuart Mill  
*Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals* by Immanuel Kant  
*Meditations on First Philosophy* by René Descartes  
*Three Dialogues between Hylas and Philonous* by George Berkeley  
*An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding* by David Hume  
*A Treatise of Human Nature*<sup>†</sup> by David Hume  
*An Essay concerning Human Understanding*<sup>†</sup> by John Locke  
*The Problems of Philosophy* by Bertrand Russell  
*Logical Positivism*<sup>\*</sup> by Bertrand Russell  
*Identity and Necessity*<sup>\*</sup> by Saul Kripke  
*Mind* by John Searle  
*Physicalism*<sup>\*</sup> by Otto Neurath  
*The Foundation of Knowledge*<sup>\*</sup> by Moritz Schlick  
*The Elimination of Metaphysics Through Logical Analysis of Language*<sup>\*</sup> by Rudolf Carnap  
*Language, Truth and Logic* by A. J. Ayer

The texts may be acquired by any means. The web site, [etext.adelaide.edu.au](http://etext.adelaide.edu.au), is a good source. However, hard copy must be brought to class, and books are strongly encouraged.

\* To be handed out in class.

† Best found on the web at [etext.adelaide.edu.au](http://etext.adelaide.edu.au).

**Schedule of Assigned Readings:**

- 1/8 Introduction to the course.
- 1/13 Plato, "Apology," pp. 23-44. "Crito," pp. 45-58.
- 1/15 Plato, "Republic," Book 2, 357a-369a, Books 9-10, 580a-621d.
- 1/20 Hobbes, "Leviathan," chapters 11, 13, 14.
- 1/22 Hobbes, "Leviathan," chapters 15, 29, 30.
- 1/27 Locke, "The Second Treatise of Government," chapters 1-8, pp. 1-57.
- 1/29 Locke, "The Second Treatise of Government," chapters 9-13, pp. 57-112.

- 2/3 Mill, "Utilitarianism", chapters 1, 2.  
 2/5 Mill, "Utilitarianism", chapters 3-5.  
 Hume, "A Treatise of Human Nature," book 2, part 3, section 3.
- 2/10 Kant, Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals," sec. 1, pp. 7-17, sec. 2, pp. 30-32.  
 Kant, "On a Supposed Right to Lie because of Philanthropic Concerns," pp. 63-7.
- 2/12 **First Exam.**
- 2/17 Descartes, "Meditations on First Philosophy", meditations 1, 2, 3 (up to 40).  
 2/19 Descartes, "Meditations on First Philosophy", meditations 3 (cont.),4.
- 2/24 Descartes, "Meditations on First Philosophy", meditations 5, 6.  
 2/26 Locke, "An Essay concerning Human Understanding," book 2, chapters 2, 3 & 8.
- 3/3 Berkeley, "Three Dialogues between Hylas and Philonous", preface, dialogue 1, 2  
 3/5 Berkeley, "Three Dialogues between Hylas and Philonous", dialogues 2, 3.
- 3/17 Hume, "An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding", sections 2-4.  
 3/19 Hume, "An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding", sections 5-7.
- 3/24 **Second Exam.**
- 3/26 Locke, "An Essay concerning Human Understanding," bk 2, ch. 1; bk 2, ch. 27.  
 Russell, "The Problems of Philosophy", chapters 1-4, pp. 7-45.
- 3/31 Russell, "The Problems of Philosophy", chapters 5-8, 14 pp. 46-90, 141-152.  
 4/2 Kripke, "Identity and Necessity," excerpt to be handed out.
- 4/7 Searle, "Mind," introduction and chapters 1, 2 (partial) pp. 1-34.  
 4/9 Searle, "Mind," chapters 2 (cont.), 3, pp. 35-74.
- 4/14 Neurath, "Physicalism: The Philosophy of the Viennese Circle,"  
 Neurath, "Physicalism."  
 Schlick, "The Foundation of Knowledge."
- 4/16 Carnap, "The Elimination of Metaphysics Through Logical Analysis of Language."  
 Ayer, "Language, Truth and Logic," preface to 1<sup>st</sup> ed., chapter 1, pp. 31-45.
- 4/21 Ayer, "Language, Truth and Logic," Introduction, chapters 2-4, pp. 5-26, 46-86  
 4/23 Ayer, "Language, Truth and Logic," chapters 5, 7-8. pp. 87-102, 133-153.  
 Russell, "Logical Positivism."
- 4/28 **Final Exam: Non-cumulative.**