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Chaminade University of Honolulu

Winter '00 Evening Session

January 10 - March 21, 2000

Schofield

COURSE: PH 10010 Intro to Philosophy

TIME: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays; 1150 - 1250

INSTRUCTOR: Marty H. Heitz, Ph.D.
944-4641 E-mail: marty@hawaii.edu

TEXTBOOK: *Fundamentals of Philosophy*, by David Stewart and H. Gene Blocker
(Prentice-Hall: Fourth Edition, 1996)

Description:

A study of the nature of philosophical thought and methods by examining actual examples from a selection of classical Greek, medieval Christian, and modern European philosophers. Students will develop an understanding of the ways in which western culture functions.

Objectives:

- To familiarize ourselves with the subject matter and methodology of philosophy
- To learn how to approach philosophical problems and readings
- To experience the depth and richness of some central issues in philosophy
- To understand and appreciate the influence of philosophical ideas on western culture
- To explore the relevance of philosophical wonder and questioning in our own lives

Class Format:

This class will usually be held "seminar style," to facilitate interaction and discussion among all the students. To enable us to have productive discussions, students will be expected to have read all relevant materials before our class meetings. A brief quiz will be given following our study of each topic area. Homework assignments will be given at the beginning of each topic area, covering all chapters within that area, and will be collected the day before each quiz. These homeworks are designed to prepare students for the quizzes, and to encourage a thorough reading and study of the material. We will explore five topic areas: What is Philosophy, Metaphysics, Epistemology, Ethics, and the Philosophy of Religion.

Course Requirements:

- Attendance, as well as coming to class on time, is required in order to complete the course (unexpected conflicts such as illness or deployment will be excused on a case by case basis with proper documentation, according to the University policy as published in the handbook). Students *must contact* the instructor by phone ASAP for make-up work.
- All HW assignments are to be turned in on time, and all reading assignments are to be done before class meetings—late papers will not be accepted without a proper excuse.
- Students will be expected to participate in group discussions, and to allow others to express their ideas without interruption.
- All handouts are considered required reading, and might be used for test questions.

Grading:

- Participation/Attendance 30 pts.

Two unexcused absences are allowed; points will be deducted for each unexcused absence after that. Participation in group discussion is expected.

- Final Project 40 pts.

Designed to explore the personal relevance of philosophical wondering.

- Homework 50 pts.

Five homework assignments @ 10 points each; due at the beginning of each week.

- Quizzes 80 pts.

Five quizzes @ 16 points each; one quiz on each topic area.

TOTAL = 200 pts.

Grading Criterion as stated in the Chaminade undergraduate catalog are as follows:

A - Outstanding scholarship and an unusual degree of intellectual initiative.

B - Superior work done in a consistent and intellectual manner.

C - Average grade indicating a competent grasp of subject matter.

D - Inferior work of the lowest passing grade, is not satisfactory for fulfillment or prerequisite coursework.

F - Failed to grasp even the minimum subject matter; no credit given.

I - Did not complete a small portion of the work or final examination due to circumstances beyond the student's control.

The issuance of an "I" grade is not automatic. Prior to reporting of grades a contract must be made between the student and the instructor for the completion of the course. Sufficient time should be allowed to permit completion of the work, evaluation, and reporting of the final grade within 90 days after the end of the semester or term. This limit may not be extended. If a new grade for the course is not submitted by the instructor prior to the deadline, the alternate grade, indicated in the contract, will be recorded.

Preliminary Schedule

<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>		<u>Reading Assignments</u>	
1	January	10	Course Introduction	Chapters 1, 5
		11	What is Philosophy?, & Reason	Chapter 2
		12	Socrates' "Apology"	
		14	" "	Chapter 3
2		17	HOLIDAY - NO CLASS	
		18	The Practice of Philosophy	Chapter 4
		19	<u>HW Due</u> ; Philosophy and the Search for Truth	
		21	Discussion/Review; Quiz #1	Chapter 9
3		24	Introduction to Metaphysics	Chapter 10
		25	Plato's Theory of Ideas	
		26	" " "	Chapter 11
		28	Materialism	
4	February	31	Epicurus' "First Principles"	Chapter 12
		1	Berkeley's Subjective Idealism	
		2	<u>HW Due</u> ; Berkeley cont.	
		4	Discussion/Review; Quiz #2	Chapters 14, 15
5		7	Introduction to Epistemology	
		8	Plato's Theory of Knowledge	Chapter 16
		9	Descartes' <i>Cogito Ergo Sum</i>	
		11	" " " "	Chapter 17
6		14	Trust Your Senses	Chapter 18
		15	Kant's Synthesis	
		16	<u>HW Due</u> ; Kant cont.	
		18	Discussion/Review; Quiz #3	Chapters 20, 21
7		21	HOLIDAY - NO CLASS	
		22	Introduction to Ethics; Hobbes' <i>Leviathan</i>	
		23	Hobbes' <i>Leviathan</i>	Chapter 22
		25	Aristotle's "Good Life"	
8	March	28	Aristotle's "Good Life"	Chapter 23
		29	Mill's Utilitarianism	
		1	" "	Chapter 24
		3	Kant's Deontology	
9		6	<u>HW Due</u> ; Kant's Deontology	
		7	Discussion/Review; Quiz #4	Chapter 25
		8	Introduction to the Philosophy of Religion	
		10	Tolstoy's "Confession"	Chapter 26
10		13	The Ontological Argument	Chapter 27
		14	The Cosmological Argument	
		15	" " "	Chapter 28
		17	The Problem of Evil	
11		20	<u>HW Due</u> ; The Problem of Evil	
		21	Discussion/Review; Quiz #5; Final Project Due!!	