

Introduction to Philosophy
Chaminade University

Philosophy 100
June 18-July 3
Schofield, Building Room

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Content: In this introductory course we will survey some basic questions in philosophy and ways in which both Ancient and Modern philosophers have responded to these questions. At the same time we will focus on how what we learn in asking such questions can help us to get on in the world and offer consolation in the face of life's frustrations.

Readings: The Readings for this course will come from a variety of sources. The two texts listed below are required and will be available in the bookstore.

De Botton	<i>The Consolations of Philosophy</i>	Pantheon, 2000
Biffle	<i>A Guided Tour of Five Works by Plato</i>	McGraw Hill, 2001

The readings from Plato are also available on several internet sites including:

The Persius Digital Library. (www.perseus.tufts.edu) This site includes English translations of each of the Platonic dialogues we will be reading as well as the original Greek versions.

The Last Days of Socrates. (<http://socrates.clarke.edu/>) This site includes English translations of the *Euthyphro*, the *Apology*, and partial translations of the *Crito* and *Phaedo*.

Requirements: Attendance and participation will be taken into account in determining final grades. Students will be expected to regularly attend class, arrive on time, and stay until class is dismissed. Assigned readings, writing exercises, and questions for reflection are to be completed before the beginning of class.

Assessment:

Reading Worksheets (60%): There will be a total of four take home quizzes based on readings, lectures, and films. Both content and writing quality will be taken into account in evaluating these quizzes.

Questions for Reflection (20%): Students will be required to hand in a single question based on each days reading assignment. These questions should not be factual question (e.g. How many children did Socrates have?) but reflective (What does Socrates mean when he says no harm will ever befall a good person? Is it true?) and philosophical (e.g. Could someone who follows Seneca advice ever really be happy?).

Attendance and Participation (20%): Since there are only a total of 10 classes meetings it is imperative that students attend each class. Since the goal of this course is for students to learn to do philosophy, students will be required to participate in exercises, activities, and class discussions.

Grading Scale: 92-100% =A 81-91%=B 70-79%=C 60-69%=D Below 60% =F \

Schedule of Topics and Readings

(Classes scheduled on Monday through Friday will meet from 5:30 to 9:40pm. Saturday classes will meet from 10:00 am to 2:10pm.)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading</u>
Wed 6/18	Socrates outside the Courts Socrates on Unpopularity	Plato <i>Euthyphro</i> pp 8-14 de Botton I pp 3-26
Fri 6/20	Socrates outside the Courts Socrates on Unpopularity	Plato <i>Euthyphro</i> pp14-30 de Botton I pp 27-42
Sat 6/21	Faith, Reason, and Integrity	Film: <i>Name of the Rose</i>
Mon 6/23	Socrates on Trial Epicurus on Happiness	Plato <i>Apology</i> pp 33-38 de Botton II pp 45-55
Wed 6/25	Socrates on Trial Schopenhauer on the Broken Heart	Plato <i>Apology</i> pp 38-46 deBotton V pp 169-203
Fri 6/27	Socrates of Trial Nietzsche on Difficulties	Plato <i>Apology</i> pp 46-58 de Botton pp 205-244
Sat 6/28	Nietzsche on this Life	<i>Human all too Human</i>
Mon 6/30	Socrates Awaiting Execution Seneca on Frustration	Plato <i>Crito</i> pp 60-69 de Botton III pp 75-95
Tues 7/1	Socrates' Execution Seneca on Frustration	Plato <i>Phaedo</i> 76-82 de Botton pp 96-112
Thu 7/3	Death, Honor, and what is up to Us Wrap Up	Film: <i>Gladiator</i>