

ALLIANCE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE



NAZARENE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 125

Fall Semester 2005

Time: Wednesday & Friday 2:30 – 3:45

Location: 633

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

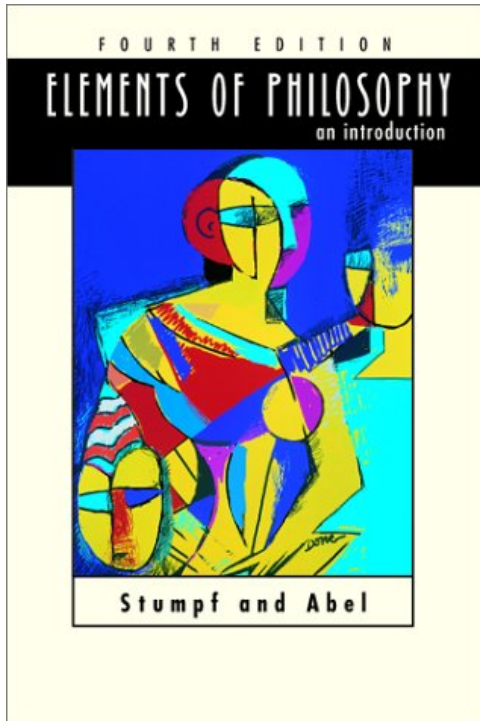
The course introduces students to the broad survey of the Western philosophical tradition. Special attention will be given to enduring philosophical issues including, but not limited to, the nature of reality and knowledge, the existence of God, the mind/body problem, freewill and determinism, value theory and ethics.

OBJECTIVES

1. Students should learn the classical philosophical positions regarding metaphysics, epistemology, and axiology.
2. Students should gain a familiarity with some of the more prominent historical contributors to the Western philosophical tradition.
3. Students should develop an appreciation for the invaluable contribution that philosophy has made to other disciplines and fields such as science, politics, law, education, and theology.

REQUIRED TEXT

Stumpf, S. E., & Abel, D. C. (2002). *Elements of Philosophy: An Introduction*. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill.



COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

Quizzes

20%

- Twelve quizzes will be randomly administered over the course of the term. Please make every effort to be on time for class, as quizzes will be conducted at the beginning of class. The quizzes will require short answers and will pertain to recent readings from the text and/or lecture material. Quizzes will not be rescheduled to accommodate absentees, nor can they be retaken. Each quiz is worth two marks and the two lowest quiz marks over the course of the term will not count toward the student's final grade.

Research Paper

30%

- Due December 9th @ 4:00

- **Submission Procedure:** Assignments are to be submitted as an e-mail attachment on the assigned due date from the UC e-mail account. Submissions from, e.g., Hotmail will not be accepted. No hard copy submission is required. E-mails will be saved as official submissions in the event of dispute over original content.
- Required word processing format is ®Microsoft Word. Attachments are to be named as follows: PH125 Last name First initial.doc [E.g, PH125 Jones A.doc]
- **Format Requirements**

- X Double spaced (not e.g., 1.25, 1.95, 2.5, etc.)
- X Five pages of roughly 23 lines of text per page. Pages should be numbered.
- X 12pt Font (not e.g., 10, 11, 11.8, 12.5, etc.) of New Times Roman (not Arial, etc.)
- X New paragraphs should be indented with no additional space between paragraphs.
- X Sentences should be separated by two spaces, not just one.
- X Roughly 1 to 1.25 inch margins (2.5 to 3.0 cm), not 1.5 or 2.0.

- **Late Policy:** Late submissions (i.e., submissions after 4:00 PM on April 1st) are penalized 5% for every 24 hours they are not submitted. Weekend days are counted the same as typical week days. Submissions more than 5 days (120 hours) late receive a failing grade.
- **Topics:** TBA

Final Exam

50%

- Students must pass the final exam to ensure a passing grade in the course. A student who performs well during the term but performs very poorly on the final exam may fail the course.
- Students should refrain from scheduling flights or travel of any sort that will conflict with the Final Examination schedule. Final examinations will not be rescheduled to accommodate travel arrangements.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Students should familiarize themselves with the Academic Policies of AUC-NUC found on pages 66-76 of the *AUC-NUC Academic Calendar*.
- A detailed grading scheme can be found on page 67. Three significant reasons for unrealized grade expectations for written work are: (1) failures to proof read, often the result of not giving oneself enough time for multiple drafts, and (2) late submissions, and (3) failures to conform with format requirements.
- Please pay particular attention to sections 26-28 found on pages 71 and 72. These sections outline clearly the regulations concerning **plagiarism, cheating, and academic dishonesty**.

- Students are responsible to check their UC e-mail account regularly. E-mail may be used to notify students of cancelled classes or other important details relating to the course.

COURSE OUTLINE¹

Sept 9 Introduction

Epistemology

- From September 14th to September 23rd we will examine epistemological concerns focusing on the questions ‘what is knowledge?’ and ‘how is knowledge acquired?’. Prominent themes will be Rationalism, Empiricism, and Truth Theory (Part 1: pages 21-95).

Sept 14

Sept 16

Sept 21

Sept 23

Metaphysics

- From September 28th to October 21st we will examine the nature of reality, focusing on materialism/physicalism, idealism, and dualism. Personal identity and immortality will also be examined (Part 3 & Part 4: pages 169-278).

Sept 28

Sept 30

Oct 5

Oct 7

Oct 12

Oct 14

Oct 19

Oct 21

¹ This course outline is provisional and may, at the discretion of the instructor, require revision over the course of the term. The instructor reserves the right to deviate from the outline to accommodate, amongst other things, timely issues or pressing concerns.

Oct 26 Community Days – No Class
Oct 28 Community Days – No Class

Freewill & Determinism

- From November 2nd to November 4th we will examine the enduring concern over human freedom (Part 5: pages 281-336).

Nov 2
Nov 4

Nov 9 Mid-semester Break – No Class
Nov 11 Mid-semester Break – No Class

Philosophy of Religion

- From November 16th to November 18th we will examine questions regarding the existence of God, religious knowledge, and the problem of evil (Part 2: pages 99-166).

Nov 16
Nov 18

Ethics and Moral Philosophy

- November 23rd to December 2nd we will examine issues in moral philosophy focusing on Utilitarianism, Deontology, Virtue Ethics, and Existentialism (Part 6: pages 339-445).

Nov 23
Nov 25

Nov 30
Dec 2

Political and Social Philosophy

- From December 7th to December 14th we will examine issues in political philosophy focusing on theories of liberty, equality, and justice (Part 7: pages 447-548).

Dec 7
Dec 9 Research Paper Due @ 4:00

Dec 14 Last Day of Class