

PH 125 -1 INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY

Fall Semester 2006

Time: Wednesday & Friday 8:15 – 9:30

Location: 809

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

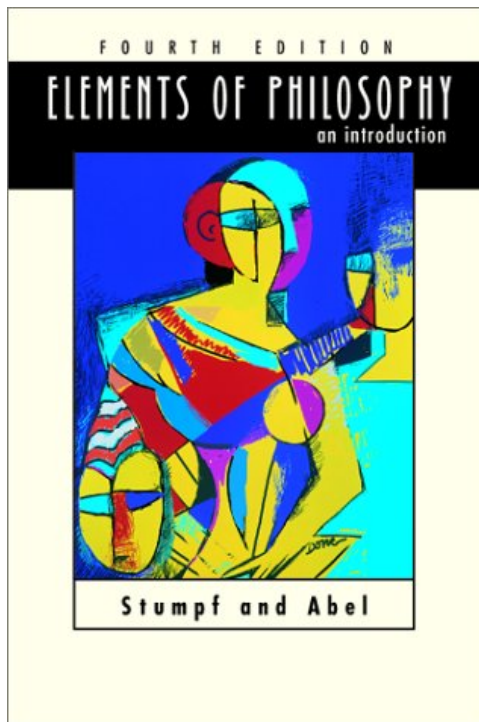
The course introduces students to the broad survey of the Western philosophical tradition. Special attention will be given to enduring philosophical issues including, but not limited to, the nature of reality and knowledge, the existence of God, the mind/body problem, freewill and determinism, value 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. 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 2 marks and the two lowest quiz marks over the course of the term will not count toward the student's final grade.

MIDTERM EXAMINATION

15%

- October 20th

RESEARCH PAPER

25%

- **Due Date:** December 8th @ 4:00 PM
- **Topics:** See the Assignments link at the course website.

- **Submission Procedure:**
- Assignments are to be submitted as e-mail attachments. Printed copies are not required.

- **Format Requirements:**
- Required word processing format is ®Microsoft Word. Attachments are to be named as follows: PH 125-1 last name, first initial
- E.g., PH 125-1 Jones A.doc
- Double spaced (not e.g., 1.25, 1.95, 2.5, etc.)
- Roughly 1 to 1.25 inch margins (2.5 to 3.0 cm).
- 12pt Font (not e.g., 11, 11.8, 12.5, etc.) of New Times Roman or equivalent (not Arial, etc.)
- New paragraphs should be indented with no additional separation between paragraphs.
- Sentences should be separated by two spaces, not just one.
- Papers must have a title page.
- Five pages of roughly 23 lines of text per page: 110—115 total lines of text. Footnotes do not count as text. A four page paper is only 80% of the assignment and would be marked accordingly. Similarly, a five page paper with only 17 to 18 lines of text is at most 80% of the assignment.
- Text pages must be numbered; title pages should not be numbered.
- Citation procedure must be consistent, efficient, and accurately facilitate the confirmation of research sources. Failure to cite sources accurately is a form of academic dishonesty.
- Failure to comply with any of the format requirements may result in a minimum of a 3-5% reduction in paper grade: e.g., a “C+” paper will reduce to a “C” or “C-“

- **Late Policy:** Late submissions (i.e., submissions after 4:00 PM on December 8th) are penalized 5% for every 24 hours they are not submitted. Submissions more than 5 days (120 hours) late receive a failing grade.

- **Extensions:** Extensions are granted very infrequently and only for very good reasons. (E.g., computer or other technological failures are not considered good reasons. Be sure to keep back up copies that enable you to write from various locations.) Extension requests must be made not less than 48 hours prior to the submission deadline.

FINAL EXAM

40%

- During exam period December 15-20: precise time/date TBA.
- 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.

GRADING:

| <u>Letter Grade</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Percentage</u> |
|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| A+ | | 90-100 |
| A | Excellent | 95-99 |
| A- | | 90-94 |
| B+ | | 87-89 |
| B | Good | 83-86 |
| B- | (exceeds expectations) | 80-82 |
| C+ | | 77-79 |
| C | Satisfactory | 73-76 |
| C- | (meets expectations) | 70-72 |
| D+ | | 55-59 |
| D | Minimal Pass | 50-54 |
| F | Failure | 0-49 |

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- 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.
- It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to the academic policies as stated in the Student Handbook and Academic Calendar.
- Personal information, that is information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as a requirement as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@auc-nuc.ca.
- The last day to enter a course without permission and /or voluntary withdrawal from a course without financial penalty is September 15th, 2006.
- The last day to voluntarily withdraw from a course or change to audit without academic penalty is November 15th, 2006
- Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a “Course Extension.” Alternative times for final examinations cannot be scheduled without prior approval. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar’s Office by the appropriate deadline. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise “due to circumstances beyond the student’s control.”
- We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment or for an entire course. It may result in dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar and the Student Handbook that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean.
- Students are advised to retain this syllabus for their records.