

ALLIANCE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE



NAZARENE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

PHIL 203

Fall Semester 2005

Instructor: Ken Nickel

410-2000 (ext. 6903)

E-mail: knickel@auc-nuc.ca

Time: Wednesday & Friday @ 1:00 - 2:15

Location: 701

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a philosophical examination of issues concerning the existence of God, the immortality of the soul, the occurrence of miracles, the particularity of revelation, the legitimacy of religious experience, and the place of religion in morality. A dominant theme throughout is the relationship between faith and reason.

OBJECTIVES

1. .

REQUIRED READINGS

Stump, E., & Murray, M. J. (Eds.). (1999). *Philosophy of Religion: The Big Questions* . Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

1. Attendance and participation 20%
☞ Students are expected to attend each class session with an engaged frame of mind, prepared to contribute meaningful conversation to the topics under discussion. Each absence from class merits an immediate 1% deduction and class participation is assessed on the balance. For example, if a student misses three classes and generally participates excellently in class he or she generally cannot achieve more than 17/20 for this portion of his or her evaluation.

2. Seminar Presentation on an “Applied topic” 15%
 ☞ Choose one of the six applied topics and prepare a seminar that presents a reasoned position on the issue at hand. Seminars leaders are free to argue for a particular position but objections reflecting the strongest arguments from the opposing view must be addressed.

3. Six Page “Moral Issue” Research Paper 25%
 ☞ Due December 2nd
 ☞ This includes a short abstract identifying the topic and the general line of argumentation. Abstracts must be submitted via e-mail no later than Friday, November 12th by 4:00 PM..

4. Final exam : Date TBA 40%
 ☞ 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.

RESEARCH PAPERS

SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

- ☞ Each paper is to be submitted electronically as an e-mail attachment by 4:00 PM on the assigned due date. No hard copy submission is not required. E-mails will be saved as ‘official submissions’ in the event of dispute over original content.
- ☞ Required word processing formats are either @Microsoft Word or @Word Perfect (i.e., .doc or .wpd files). Files are to be named as follows: (last name)(first initial)(PH202).doc or (last name)(first initial)(PH202).wpd.

LATE POLICY

- ☞ Late submissions (i.e., submissions after 4:00 PM on the due date) lose 5% for every 24 hours they are not submitted. Weekend days and holidays are counted the same as typical weekdays. Submissions more than 5 days (120 hours) late receive a failing grade.
- ☞ Papers and grades will be returned electronically to each student’s auc-nuc e-mail address.

RESEARCH PAPER FORMAT REQUIREMENTS

- ☞ Roughly 23 lines of text per page
- ☞ Double spaced (not e.g., 1.25, 1.95, 2.5, etc.)
- ☞ 12pt Font (not e.g., 10, 11, 11.8, 12.5, etc.)
- ☞ New paragraphs should be indented with no additional space between paragraphs.
- ☞ Sentences should be separated by two spaces, not just one.
- ☞ 1 inch (or 2.5 cm) margins.

☞ Citation guidelines can be found at www.auc-nuc.ca/pdf/cbc-style-guide.pdf .

MISCELLANEOUS

- ☞ See page 47 of the *AUC-NUC Academic Calendar* for a detailed grading scheme. Two major 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.
- ☞ Students should familiarize themselves with all academic regulations found in the *AUC-NUC Academic Calendar* (pages 46-51) giving specific attention to the issues of **plagiarism, academic dishonesty, and cheating** found on page 50.
- ☞ Students are responsible to check their auc-nuc 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

Sept 14
Sept 16

Sept 21
Sept 23

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 |
| Nov 2 | |
| Nov 4 | |
| Nov 9 | Mid-semester Break – No Class |
| Nov 11 | Mid-semester Break – No Class |
| Nov 16 | |
| Nov 18 | |
| Nov 23 | |
| Nov 25 | |
| Nov 30 | |
| Dec 2 | |
| Dec 7 | |
| Dec 9 | |
| Dec 14 | Last Day of Class |