INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY
PHILOSOPHY 1301.002

Philosophy Senior Lecturer: Dr. R. Stephen Krebbs
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Office Hours: Tues. & Thurs. 9:10-10 & 2-3:30; Tues. 5-5:45, or by appointment.

COURSE OBJECTIVE: This course introduces students to the study of philosophy. As such, students will become acquainted its language and with some of the major issues within the field including: rationalism versus empiricism, realism versus phenomenalism, proving God exists, the problem of evil, the mind/body problem and freedom versus determinism.

LEARNING STUDENT OUTCOMES: Through readings, discussions, and research students will:

• (Critical Thinking) critically comprehend some of the major issues Western philosophers uncovered in their inquiry into knowledge, reality, theology, psychology, and ethics and the varied schools of thought (like rationalist, empiricist, theist, naturalist, monist, dualist, materialist, panpsychist, determinist, and free will theorists) which offered solutions to these problems;

• (Communication) speak and write clearly, effectively, and critically about the questions raised;

• (Social Responsibility & Personal Responsibility) acquire a historical sense of Western philosophy and major issues defining each of the periods making up this history including current events;

TEXTS: A Concise Introduction to Philosophy – William Halverson
Ishmael—Daniel Quinn

FINAL GRADE: All homework must be typed and turned before the beginning of class
1. plagiarism/academic dishonesty statement due January 17th (3%);
2. attendance, preparation and informed participation in class discussion (7%);
3. guided book report over Ishmael—due February 12th (15%)
4. short exam over philosophical disciplines and history as covered in the basic notes handout (10%);
5. five out of six chapter exams lowest grade or missed exam dropped (10% each); and a;
6. comprehensive final exam (15%)

PLAGIARISM OR ACADEMIC DISHONESTY OF ANY KIND WILL RESULT IN AN AUTOMATIC GRADE OF F

Important Dates to Remember:
January 10th—First day of Class-Introductions
January 17th—Plagiarism/Academic Dishonesty statement due:
February 12th—Ishmael Guided book report due
March 11-18th—Spring Break
March 25th—Last day to drop
      May 7th—PHIL 1301.001 Final Exam—11:00-1:00
      May 9th—PHIL 1301.002 Final Exam—12:30-2:30

SCHEDULE:
(dates and content may be altered as necessary)

January 10-17th
Lecture and discussion: Philosophy disciplines
Assignment: Begin reading Ishmael and preparing your guided book report.

Written Assignment:
email me at skrebbs@uttyler.edu the following statement:
I realize that plagiarism or academic dishonesty in any form will result in a semester grade of “F” for this class.
[This must be sent from your UT patriots email address. In the subject line please include the section you are in (.001—11-12:15 or .002—12:30-1:45).

January 22nd—29th
Lecture and discussion: brief history of Western philosophy.
Assignment—prepare for the 1st exam over the basic notes handout covered in class.

January 31st

Basic Notes Exam
Lecture and discussion: Introduction of the Rationalist / Empiricist section from the text
Assignment: read chapters 3-6 of your text over rationalism and empiricism

February 5th—10th
Lecture and Discussion continued over: "Rationalists and Empiricists" chapters
Assignment: complete your guided book report

February 12th—Ishmael Guided Book Report Due—No Exceptions

February 12th
Review for Rationalists / Empiricists exam

February 14th

Rationalists / Empiricists Exam
Assignment: Read Chapters 12-14 of “Realists and Phenomenalists”

February 19th—February 21st
Lecture and discussion: concerning Realists & Phenomenalists Issues, Common Sense Realism, & Critical Realism.
Assignment: Read Chapters 15-17

February 26th
Lecture and Discussion: review of study guide for Realist / Phenomenalist section
Assignment: prepare for exam

February 28th

Exam over Realists & Phenomenalists
Assignment: Read Chapters 18-21 over “The Existence of God”

March 5th
Lecture and Discussion: Proving God exists”, Ontological, Cosmological, & Teleological Proofs
Assignment: read chapters 22-24

March 7th
Lecture and Discussion: Naturalist’s reply and Sympathetic Appraisal
Assignment: read over study and preparer for review of this section

March 11th—16th Spring Break

March 19th
Lecture and Discussion: Review of study guide for God’s existence exam

March 21st

Exam over the Existence of God
Assignment: Read chapters 24 & 26 over “The Problem of Evil”

March 25th Last day to withdraw from class

March 26th—28th
Lecture and Discussion; “The Problem of Evil”
Assignment: read over the problem of evil study guide

April 2nd

Exam over the Problem of Evil
Assignment: read chapters 27 - 29 over Mind and Body

April 4th—9th
Lecture and Discussion: Mind and Body problem, Identity Materialism
Assignment: read chapters 30 and the study guide for this section

April 9th & 11th
Lecture and Discussion: Panpsychism & Dualism Reconsidered & review
Assignment: prepare for Mind / Body exam

April 16th

Exam over the Mind / Body Problem
Assignment: read chapters 31-33 over the issue of “Freedom & Determinism,”

April 18—23rd

Lecture and Discussion: Issues of freedom & determinism, hard & soft determinism
Assignment: read chapter 34 over Libertarianism and the study for this section

April 25th

Lecture and Discussion: the libertarian point of view and review for the exam
Assignment: prepare for the Freedom / Determinism Exam

April 30th

Exam over the issue of Freedom and Determinism

May 2nd

Review for Final

May 7th  FINAL EXAM    PHIL 1301.001----11:00-1:00
May 9th  FINAL EXAM .  PHIL 1301.002----12:30-1:30

Further Reminders

Cell phones and pagers: All cell phones and pagers must be turned off at the beginning of class.

Missed Assignments, Exams, and Extra Credit: I will only accept assignments according to the directions on the syllabus regarding due date, format, etc. I will not accept assignments submitted in any other way which will result in a zero grade on the assignment. No late assignments will be accepted without compelling justification. A missed exam will serve as the one that you can drop from the average. All written homework will be typed and turned in at the beginning of class. No extra credit work will be given. If you are truly concerned about your grade, then do your best on the work listed in this syllabus.

Disability Statement: If you have a disability, including a learning disability, for which you request disability support services/accommodation(s), please contact Cindy Lowery Staples in the Disability Support Services office so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting disability support services/accommodation(s) must provide appropriate documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Support Services counselor. In order to assure approved services the first week of class, diagnostic, prognostic, and prescriptive information should be received 30 days prior to the beginning of the semester services are requested. For more information, call or visit the Student Services Center located in the University Center, Room 3150. The telephone number is 566-7079 (TDD 565-5579). Additional information may also be obtained at the following UT Tyler Web address: http://www.uttyle.r.edu/disabilityservices.

Social Security Statement and FERPA: It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (for example, by email) risks violation of the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act: No grades will be transmitted electronically.

Note Regarding Student Absence due to Religious Observance: Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor by the second class meeting of such absences.

Grade Replacement:
If you are repeating this course for a grade replacement, you must file an intent to receive grade forgiveness with the registrar by the 12th day of class. Failure to file an intent to use grade forgiveness will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. A student will receive grade forgiveness (grade replacement) for only three (undergraduate student) or two (graduate student) course repeats during his/her career at UT Tyler. (2006-08 Catalog, p. 35)
Emergency Exits and Evacuation:
Everyone is required to exit the building when the fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform the instructor during the first week of class. Do not reenter the building until given permission from the university police, fire department, or fire prevention services.