

**CAMOSUN COLLEGE
School of Arts & Science
Humanities Department**

**Phil 100-03, Introduction to Philosophy
Fall 2002**

COURSE OUTLINE

1. Instructor Information

Instructor: Sandy Bannikoff

Office hours: Tuesday-Friday, 10:30-11:20, and Wednesday, 1:30-12:20

Location: Ewing 250

Phone: 370-3508

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2. Intended Learning Outcomes

Students will begin their introduction to analytic philosophy by studying two of Plato's ancient dialogues, the *Apology* and *Euthyphro*. Our examination of Plato and Socrates will reveal to students both that philosophy requires a method of investigation and that there is an aim to the investigation: clarity and truth. We will pick up these themes with Descartes, the founder of modern philosophy. In addition to learning how to read philosophy, students will learn how to write philosophy through a series of written assignments. The seminar portion of the course is dedicated to a practical study of informal logic that will sharpen critical thinking skills.

3. Required Materials

Texts:

1. Plato: *The Last Days of Socrates*
2. Descartes: *Meditations and Other Metaphysical Writings*

Other

1. Course-pack: "Handout: Philosophy 100, Sandy Bannikoff"
2. A small duo-tang or binder for the course-pack

4. Course Content and Schedule

A. Lecture Schedule

Week One

1. Administration and General Introduction
2. Introduction to Plato and Ancient Greece
Reading * Guthrie, "Greek ways of thinking" (Coursepack)

Week Two

1. Socrates
2. Plato's *Apology*
Reading * Plato's *Apology*, in The Last Days of Socrates, pg. 37-67

Week Three

1. *Apology*, and Introduction to Plato's *Euthyphro*,
2. *Euthyphro*, Sections A and B
Reading * Plato's *Euthyphro*, in The Last Days of Socrates, pg. 7-27.

Week Four

1. *Euthyphro*, Section C
2. Study Questions: Writing Competently
Readings *Euthyphro*, pg. 7-27
Exam preparation * Guthrie, "Greek ways of thinking"
* Plato's *Apology*

Week Five

1. *Euthyphro*, Socrates and Plato on Virtue
2. **Exam One**
Readings * Exam preparation
* Peruse Descartes

Week Six

1. Introducing: Descartes
2. Descartes' *Meditations*, Meditation One
Readings * Descartes' *Meditations*, Introductory Material (Letter of Dedication, Preface to the Reader, Summary) pg. 8-17
* Meditation One pg. 18-22

Week Seven

1. *Meditations*, Meditation Two
2. *Meditations*, Meditation Three
Readings * Meditation Two, pg. 23-30
* Meditation Three, pg. 30-43

Week Eight

1. *Meditations*, Meditation Four
2. *Meditations*, Meditation Five
Readings * Meditation Four, pg. 44-51
* Meditation Five, pg. 51-57

Week Nine

1. *Meditations*, Meditation Six
2. Review of the central arguments in the *Meditations*
Readings * Meditation Six, pgs 57-70,
* Exam Preparation

Week Ten

1. **Exam Two**
2. Writing as Communication
Readings * Graybosch, The Philosophy Student Writer's Manual (Coursepack)

Week Eleven

1. Star Trek Interlude: "Body and Soul"
2. Writing Philosophy; Snap-shots of Moral Theories: Utilitarianism and Kant
Readings * Graybosch, The Philosophy Student Writer's Manual (Coursepack)

Week Twelve

1. I. The Integrated-Self Picture of Integrity
Writing Assignment Due: Star Trek
2. II. The Identity Picture of Integrity
Readings * Calhoun, "Standing for Something" (Coursepack)

Week Thirteen

1. III. The Clean-Hands Picture of Integrity
November 26: Outline of Final Paper Due
2. IV. Personal and Social Virtues
Readings * Calhoun, "Standing for Something" (Coursepack)

Week Fourteen

1. V. Standing for Something
2. Last Class
Readings * Calhoun, "Standing for Something" (Coursepack)

Exam Period: Final Paper Due

B. Seminar Schedule

Week One

Basic Concepts

Week Two

Basic Concepts, Formal and Informal Logic

Due Assignment 1. Basic concepts

Week Three

Fallacies of Ambiguity

Due Assignment 2. Explain and provide an example of each of Two fallacies of ambiguity

Week Four

Review of Basic Concepts, Informal Logic and Fallacies

Week Five

Fallacies of Presupposition

Week Six

Fallacies of Presupposition

In-class Exercise: Russell on Induction

Due Assignment 3. Explain and provide an example of each of three fallacies of presupposition.

Week Seven

Causal Fallacies

In-class Exercise: Hume on Cause

Due Assignment 4. Explain and provide an example of each of two causal Fallacies.

Week Eight

Class examples, assignments 3 and 4

Week Nine

Fallacies of Relevance

Week Ten

Fallacies of Relevance

In-class Exercise: Hume on Personal Identity

Week Eleven

Star Trek

Due Assignment 5: Explain and provide an example of each of three fallacies of relevance.

Week Twelve

Statistical Fallacies

Due Assignment 6: Explain and provide an example of each of two statistical fallacies.

Week Thirteen

Class examples, Assignments 5 and 6
Monty Python, “The Philosopher’s Song”

Week Fourteen

Writing Workshop (bring what you’ve written)

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

A. Assignments.....	15%
B. Exams 1. In-class exam.....	20%
2. In-class exam.....	20%
C. Other 1. Writing Assignment.....	10%
2. Outline of Final Paper.....	10%
3. Final Paper.....	25%

6. Grading System

The following percentage conversion to letter grade will be used:

A+ = 95–100%	B = 75-79%	D = 50-59%
A = 90-94%	B- = 70-74%	F = 0.0-49%
A- = 85-89%	C+ = 65-69%	
B+ = 80-84%	C = 60-64%	

7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed throughout the Course

A. Study Questions: To make the best use of these sets of study questions, students should read the texts with the study questions in mind and then prepare an answer to each question.

Questions on *Euthyphro*

1. Why is Socrates not concerned to question Euthyphro's claims to religious knowledge?
2. What is the difference between 'essence' and 'attribute'? How is this distinction relevant to the arguments in the dialogue?
3. Summarize the argument Socrates presents against Euthyphro's definition of 'holy' as 'that which is agreeable to the gods'.
4. Does Euthyphro's claim that religious approval *makes* an action morally right, or does he claim that the gods would never approve of an action unless it were morally right? Why is this distinction relevant to the arguments in the dialogue?

Questions on *Meditations on First Philosophy*

1. What is methodological doubt and what is its purpose?
2. What are the two main hypotheses that Descartes employs in his methodological doubt?
3. What does Descartes think the solid wax and the melted wax have in common that makes them the same piece of wax?
4. Summarise and critically assess Descartes first argument for the existence of God.
5. Summarize Descartes' second argument for the existence of God. Include a statement of what kind of argument this is.
6. How do the arguments concerning the existence of God relate to epistemology?

B. On the 'Net

1. The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy
2. The Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy

