

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

**Phil 102-04, Introduction to Philosophy
Winter 2005**

**COURSE OUTLINE
Monday/Friday class**

1. Instructor Information

Instructor: Sandy Bannikoff
Office hours: Monday and Friday, 9:30-10:20
Tuesday and Thursday, 12:30-1:20
Location: office, Y320
Phone: 370-3508
e-mail: bannikof@camosun.bc.ca

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course the student will be able to

1. Summarize the central philosophical issues within both the Continental (i.e., French and German) and Analytic (i.e., British) traditions.
2. Outline critical objections to both classical and contemporary philosophical theories.
3. Argue a philosophical position and support it with good reasons.
Identify the relevance of philosophical problems to everyday problems concerning beliefs and values, knowledge, personal identity, and the nature of reality.

3. Required Materials

Course pack, available in the bookstore, called "Philosophy 102, Sandy Bannikoff"

4. Course Content and Schedule

Philosophy

Readings 1. William James. "Philosophy and Its Critics"
2. Immanuel Kant. "Introduction" to Kant's Prolegomena

January 10 Administration, Introduction to readings

January 14: Lecture

Seminar on Logic: Seminar B, January 14,
Seminar A, January 17

Reading for Seminar: Solomon. "A Brief Introduction to Logic" (pg. 20-30)

Epistemology

Readings: 1. Plato's *Meno*
2. "A Brief Introduction to Logic" pgs. XX
January 17 Introduction to Reading
January 21 Lecture
Seminar Discussion on Plato: Seminar B, January 21
Seminar A, January 24

Political Action

Reading: Mohandas K. Gandhi, "Passive Resistance"
January 24 Introduction to Reading
January 28 Lecture
Seminar on Logic: Seminar B, January 28,
Seminar A, January 31
Reading for Seminar: Solomon. "A Brief Introduction to Logic" (pg. 30-40)

Ethics

Plato Paper Due: January 31

Reading: G.E.M. Anscombe, "Two Kinds of Error in Action"
January 31 Introduction to Reading
February 4 Lecture
Seminar Discussion on Anscombe: Seminar B, February 4
Seminar A, February 7

Religion

Reading: 1. William James. "The Will to Believe"
2. John Wisdom. "Gods"
February 7 Introduction to James
February 14 Lecture on James and Introduction to Wisdom
February 18 Lecture on Wisdom
Seminar Discussion on James and Wisdom, Seminar A, February 14
Seminar A, February 18

Exam One

February 21 Review for Exam One
February 25 Exam One
Seminar Open Q/A, February 21 and 25

Politics

Reading: Emma Goldman. “Anarchism: What it Really Stands For”

February 28 Introduction to Reading

March 4 Lecture

Seminar Discussion on Goldman, Seminar B, March 4
Seminar A, March 7

Free Will

Reading: Raymond Smullyan. “Is God a Taoist?”

March 7 Introduction to Reading

March 11 Lecture

Seminar Discussion on Smullyan, Seminar B, March 11
Seminar A, March 14

Time

Reading: Jorge Luis Borges. “A New Refutation of Time”

March 14 Introduction to Reading

March 18 Lecture

Seminar Discussion on Borges, Seminar B, March 18
Seminar A, March 21

Language

Reading: Hilary Putnam. “Meaning and Reference”

March 21 Introduction to Reading

Easter Weekend: March 25 and 28

April 1 Lecture

Seminar Discussion of Putnam, Seminar B, April 1
Seminar A, April 4

Analytic Philosophy

Readings: 1. Ray Monk. “What is Analytical Philosophy?”

April 4 Introduction to Reading

April 8 Lecture

Seminar discussion of Monk, Seminar B, April 8
Seminar A, April 11

Philosophy

Readings: (“Play it again, Sam!”)

1. William James. “Philosophy and Its Critics”
2. Immanuel Kant. “Introduction” to Kant’s Prolegomena

April 11 Lecture on Monk, James and Kant

April 15 Vocabulary Test, Class Discussion on Philosophy,

The final exam will be scheduled during the final exam period. It is each person’s responsibility to find out the time, date and place of the final exam.

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

1. Average of Exams40%
2. Average of Papers40%
3. Participation10%
4. Vocabulary10%

Exams

Each exam will require an essay-style answer to a study question. Students are permitted to bring only their course pack into an exam. Students may not have more than a few words written on each page; however, there are only practical restrictions on underlining and highlighting.

Papers

Two short papers are required for this course. The papers will be marked on the basis of accuracy, clarity, grammar and coherence. Each paper must be typed, double spaced and in 12pt. font. Identify yourself by including only your student number, course and seminar section. Any paper handed in not meeting these requirements will receive a grade but no comments. The penalty for late papers is 10% per calendar day.

Participation

In short, earning the participation portion of the final grade requires that students attend each discussion prepared to discuss philosophy.

In order to provide some structure to the discussions, and the participation grade, the following system will be followed. Students are required to bring a short, typed comment to each discussion. These comments will serve both as the basis for our discussion and as the basis for the participation grade. I expect these comments to demonstrate engagement with the reading material. I also expect students to genuinely participate in class

discussions, both by contributing to the conversation and by demonstrating interest. A failure to meet these expectations will be reflected in the participation grade.

Vocabulary

Like other disciplines, philosophy has its own jargon and technical terms will be introduced in this course. The purpose of the vocabulary assignment is to assist students in learning philosophical jargon. There are two components to the vocabulary portion of the grade.

1. Students must hand in 10 correct definitions of technical terms. Candidate terms will come from the readings and will be defined in class. Another source for definitions is the Stanford Encyclopaedia of Philosophy on the internet. Note that standard dictionaries do not provide technical definitions, but philosophy dictionaries do. Five correct definitions must be handed in by the midterm; the other five correct definitions must be handed in before the last week of classes.
2. On the last day of class there will be a cumulative pass/fail vocabulary test.

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. Reading:** Reading philosophy requires very careful attention. Expect to read everything more than once. In fact, it is not unusual to read a piece of philosophy over and over again. It is worth the time. The best thing you could do to succeed in this course is to spend the time it takes to read carefully – which means looking up words in the dictionary, taking notes, etc. Try to not get behind: philosophy, generally speaking, cannot be crammed.

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College Calendar, Registrar's Office or the College web site at <http://www.camosun.bc.ca>

ACADEMIC CONDUCT POLICY

There is an Academic Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, Registration, and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

www.camosun.bc.ca/divisions/pres/policy/2-education/2-5.html