

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

**Phil 102-06, Introduction to Philosophy
Winter 2005**

**COURSE OUTLINE
Tuesday/Thursday Afternoon 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

1. Philosophy 102, Sandy Bannikoff

4. Course Content and Schedule

January 11 Administration, General Introduction

Philosophy

Readings William James. "On Teaching Philosophy in Our Colleges"
Immanuel Kant. "Introduction" to Kant's Prolegomena

January 13 Introduction to readings

January 18 Lecture

Seminar on Logic: Seminar A, January 18,
Seminar B, January 20

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

Epistemology

Reading: Plato's *Meno*

January 20 Introduction to Reading

January 25 Lecture

Seminar Discussion on Plato: Seminar A, January 25
Seminar B, January 27

Political Action

Reading: Mohandas K. Gandhi, "Passive Resistance"

January 27 Introduction to Reading

February 1 Lecture

Seminar on Logic: Seminar A, February 1
Seminar B, February 3

Reading for Seminar: Solomon. "A Brief Introduction to Logic" (pg. 30-40)

Ethics

Plato Paper Due: February 3

Reading: G.E.M. Anscombe, "Two Kinds of Error in Action"

February 3 Introduction to Reading

February 8 Lecture, and a quick introduction to James

Seminar Discussion on Anscombe, open to seminars A and B, February 8

February 10 Reading Break

Religion

Reading: William James. “The Will to Believe”

February 15 Lecture

Seminar Discussion on James: Seminar A, February 15
Seminar B, February 17

Religion (again)

Reading: John Wisdom. “Gods”

February 17 Introduction to Reading

February 22 Lecture

Seminar Discussion on Wisdom, Seminar A, February 22
Seminar B, February 24

February 24 Review for Exam

March 1: Exam One

Political Philosophy

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

March 3 Introduction to Reading

March 8 Lecture

Seminar Discussion, on Goldman, Seminar A, March 8
Seminar B, March 10

Free Will

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

March 10 Introduction to Reading

March 15 Lecture

Seminar Discussion on Smullyan, Seminar A, March 15
Seminar B, March 17

Time

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

March 17 Introduction to Reading

March 22 Lecture

Seminar Discussion on Borges, Seminar A, March 22
Seminar B, March 24

Language

Reading: Hilary Putnam. “Meaning and Reference”

March 24 Introduction to Reading

March 29 Lecture

Seminar Discussion on Putnam, Seminar A, March 24
Seminar B, March 29

March 31 Review for Exam Two

April 5: Exam Two

Analytic Philosophy

Reading: Ray Monk. “What is Analytical Philosophy?”

April 7 Introduction to Reading

April 12 Lecture

Seminar Discussion on Monk, Seminar A, April 7
Seminar B, April 8

Philosophy

Readings William James. “Philosophy and Its Critics”

Immanuel Kant. “Introduction” to Kant’s Prolegomena

April 14 Lecture and Vocabulary Test

Final Paper on James or Kant: Due Tuesday April 19

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%
A = 90-94%
A- = 85-89%
B+ = 80-84%

B = 75-79%
B- = 70-74%
C+ = 65-69%
C = 60-64%

D = 50-59%
F = 0.0-49%

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