

School of Arts & Science HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT

PHIL 205-1 Philosophy of Religion W2007

COURSE OUTLINE

The Approved Course Description is available on the web @____

 Ω Please note: this outline will be electronically stored for five (5) years only. It is strongly recommended students keep this outline for your records.

1. Instructor Information

| (a) | Instructor: | Karen Shirley | | |
|------------|---------------|---|--------------------|---------|
| (b) | Office Hours: | Wednesday and Friday: 8:30 – 9:20; Tuesday and Thursday, 10:30 – 11:20. | | |
| (c) | Location: | Young 320 | | |
| (d) | Phone: | 370 3518 | Alternative Phone: | 3838164 |
| (e) | Email: | shirleyk@camosun.bc.ca | | |
| (f) | Website: | | | |

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

(No changes are to be made to this section, unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through EDCO for approval.)

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to describe and assess:

- 1. Arguments on the role of reason in arriving at a religious or non-religious position.
- 2. Arguments on the existence of God.
- 3. Arguments on both sides of the evolution-creationist debate.
- 4. Arguments on the possibility of an afterlife.

3. Required Materials

| _ | | | |
|---|-----|-------|--------------------------------------|
| | (a) | Texts | |
| ſ | (b) | Other | Handout called <i>Philosophy</i> 205 |

4. Course Content and Schedule

(Can include: class hours, lab hours, out of class requirements and/or dates for quizzes, exams, lectures, labs, seminars, practicums, etc.)

Lecture Schedule

1. Jan. 10 Administration

WHAT IS PHILOSOPHY?

2. Jan. 12 "Philosophy East and West" by Stewart and Blocker

FAITH VS. REASON

- 3. Jan. 17 Pascal
- 4. Jan. 19 Kierkegaard
- 5. Jan. 24 Clifford
- 6. Jan. 26 William James

CLASSIC ARGUMENTS FOR THE EXISTENCE OF GOD

- 7. Jan. 31 Donovan
- 8. Feb. 2 Plantinga
- 9. Feb. 7 Anselm Versus Gaunilo
- 10. Feb. 14 Aquinas
- 11. Feb. 16 Hume "Critique of the Design Argument"
- **12. Feb. 21:** "Hume's 'Of Miracles," (**Guest lecturer**: Professor J. O. Young, Chair, U. Vic Philosophy Dept)

THE ONENESS - OR NOT - OF THE VARIOUS RELIGIONS

- 13. Feb. 23 Ramakrishna
- 14. Feb. 28: Buddhism (Guest lecturer: Dr. John Conklin from Camosun)
- 15. Mar. 2: Islam (Guest lecturer: Dr. Nasr Kahalifa from Camosun)
- 16. Mar. 7: **EXAM**

Seminar Topics

Jan. 10/12

Come with any questions. No points lost for not attending.

Jan. 17/19

Suppose that two people are very similar, except that one is religious and one isn't. The religious person will be happier.

Jan. 24/26

The following argument is strong:

- P1. We can only be judged for what we have control over.
- P2. We have control only over our actions.
- P3. Beliefs are not actions.
- C4. Therefore, we cannot be judged for our beliefs, but only for our actions.

Jan 31/Feb. 2

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

(Should be linked directly to learning outcomes.)

| (a) | Assignments | Paper 20% | |
|-----|---|---|--|
| (b) | Quizzes | | |
| (c) | Exams | Midterm exam (closed-book).25% Final exam (closed-book) 25% | |
| (d) | Other (eg, Attendance, Project, Group Work) | Participation via questions and comments on the debates 10% Debate 20% | |

6. Grading System

(No changes are to be made to this section, unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through EDCO for approval.)

Standard Grading System (GPA)

| Percentage | Grade | Description | Grade Point Equivalency |
|------------|-------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 95-100 | A+ | | 9 |
| 90-94 | Α | | 8 |
| 85-89 | A- | | 7 |
| 80-84 | B+ | | 6 |
| 75-79 | В | | 5 |
| 70-74 | B- | | 4 |
| 65-69 | C+ | | 3 |
| 60-64 | С | | 2 |
| 50-59 | D | | 1 |
| 0-49 | F | Minimum level has not been achieved. | 0 |

Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy at **camosun.ca** or information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

| Temporary Grade | Description |
|--------------------|--|
| I | Incomplete: A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family. |
| IP | In progress: A temporary grade assigned for courses that are designed to have an anticipated enrollment that extends beyond one term. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. |
| CW | Compulsory Withdrawal: A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement. |

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

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, at Student Services or the College web site at camosun.ca.

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student 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, at Student Services and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE OR AS REQUIRED