

# School of Arts & Science HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT

PHIL 100-01 Introduction to Philosophy Fall 2008

# **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:	Sandy Bannikoff	
(b)	Office Hours:		
(c)	Location:	Y320	
(d)	Phone:	370-3508	Alternative Phone:
(e)	Email:	bannikof@camosun.bc.ca	

# 2. Intended Learning Outcomes

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

- 1. Identify and describe fundamental philosophical problems, along with the classical philosophical answers to these problems.
- 2. Distinguish among various philosophical theories.
- 3. Identify key periods and concepts in the (philosophical) history of ideas.
- 4. Critically analyze an argument philosophically by identifying its premise and conclusion and by assessing its strengths and weaknesses.

# 3. Required Materials

			Available in the Camosun Bookstore	
			1. Plato, Five Dialogues: Euthyphro, Apology, Crito, Meno, Phaedo	
			Translated by G.M.A. Grube, Hackett, Publishing Company,	
	(a)	Texts	2002.	
			2. Descartes: Meditations and Other Metaphysical Writings Penguin	
			Books, 2000.	
		3. John Stuart Mill, On Liberty, Hackett Publishing Company, 1995.		
	(b)	Other	4. Coursepack Philosophy 100, Sandy Bannikoff	

#### 4. Course Content and Schedule

# **Lecture Schedule**

Note: This schedule is subject to change at the instructor's discretion.

#### Week One

Administration
General Introduction
Introduction to Plato's *Apology* 

# **Week Two**

**Reading:** *Apology* in <u>Five Dialogues</u>, Plato. Socrates

Introduction to Plato's Euthyphro

## **Week Three**

**Reading:** *Euthyphro*\_in <u>Five Dialogues</u>, Plato.

Euthyphro's definitions of piety

Euthyphro, content and structure

#### **Week Four**

**Reading:** Plato's *Meno*, in <u>Five Dialogues</u>, 70a-86b.

The question "What is virtue?" Theory of recollection

## **Week Five**

Reading: Plato's *Meno*, in <u>Five Dialogues</u>,

86c-100b

The question "Can virtue be taught?" Review for Exam One

# Week Six: Plato Exam

Introduction to Descartes

#### Week Seven

**Reading**: Descartes Meditations, Meditation One and Two; Mersenne's objection to rationalism (pg. 98-99, objection (d)) and Descartes' reply (pg.102-104)

Meditation One Meditation Two and Mersenne's objection

#### **Week Eight**

**Reading:** Meditation Three (focus on pgs. 30-38) and Four; deKater's objection to Meditation Three (pg. 71, objection (a)) and

Descartes' reply (pg. 72-74); Gassendi's objection to Meditation Four (pg. 93-94, objection (b)) and Descartes' reply (pg. 96)

Meditation Three and deKater's objection Meditation Four and Gassendi's objection

# **Week Nine**

Reading: Meditation Five and Meditation Six (focus on pgs. 57-64); Mersenne's objection to Meditation Five (pg. 78, objection (b)) and Descartes' reply (pg. 80-81); Princess Elizabeth's objection to Meditation Six (pg. 148) and Descartes' reply (pg. 148-150)

Meditation Five, Mersenne's objection Meditation Six, Elizabeth's objection

# **Week Ten: Descartes Exam**

Review Descartes for the Exam

## Week Eleven:

Reading: Mill's On Liberty, Chapter I

Introduction to Mill Mill's Introductory Essay

## **Week Twelve**

Reading: Chapter II

Liberty of thought and discussion

## **Week Thirteen**

Reading: Chapter III

Liberty in relation to individuality

# Week Fourteen

Reading: Chapter IV

Limits of social authority Review for Final

# **Seminar Schedule**

## **Week One** Introduction to Arguments

Terms: Valid and Invalid, Sound and Unsound Fallacies

## Week Two

- 1. Appeal to Force (pg. 113)
- 2. Appeal to Pity (pg. 114)

# **Week Three**

- 3. Appeal to the People (pg. 115)
- 4. Ad Hominem (pg. 116)

# Week Four

- 5. Accident (pg. 120)
- 6. Straw Man (pg. 120)

## **Week Five**

- 7. Missing the Point (pg. 121)
- 8. Red Herring (pg. 122)

Review for Exam

# Week Six Question Period

#### Week Seven

Terms: Inductive, Deductive

Extra Assigned Reading: Internet

Encyclopedia of Philosophy,

"Deductive

and Inductive Arguments"

# Week Eight

- 9. Appeal to Unqualified Authority (pg. 128)
- 10. Appeal to Ignorance (pg. 130)
- 11. Hasty Generalization (pg. 131)

#### **Week Nine**

- 12. False Cause (pg. 133)
- 13. Slippery Slope (pg. 135)
- 14. Weak Analogy (pg. 137)

## Week Ten Question Period

# **Week Eleven**

- 15. Begging the Question (pg. 145)
- 16. Complex Question (pg. 148)
- 17. False Dichotomy (pg. 149)

#### **Weekl Twelve**

- 18. Suppressed Evidence (pg. 150)
- 19. Equivocation (pg. 152)
- 20. Amphiboly (pg. 153)

# **Week Thirteen**

- 21. Composition (pg. 154)
- 22. Division (pg. 156)

#### Day Fourteen

Fallacies in ordinary language (pg. 167-172) Review for Final Exam

# 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

1.	Exam One on Plato	30%
	Exam Two on Descartes	
3.	Final Exam on Mill	30%
4.	Seminar Assignments	10%

#### Seminar Grade

The seminar grade will be based on in-class assignments. Students who miss three seminars will receive a maximum seminar grade of 50%, while those who miss more than three seminars will receive a zero for the seminar portion of their grade.

## Exam Policy

Each exam is mandatory. Contact me as soon as you are aware that you either will miss a test or have missed a test. My phone number and e-mail are on the first page of this outline. Makeups will be permitted only in cases of confirmed illness or crisis and will be written during my office hours or in the final exam period.

# 6. Grading System

# 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.

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 E-1.5 at **camosun.ca** for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

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

**Reading:** Reading philosophy requires very careful attention. Expect to read everything more than once and always spend the time it takes to read carefully – which means looking up words in the dictionary, taking notes, etc.

**Speaking:** Some people have a habit of peppering their speech with incorrect uses of "like". For example, "Plato, like, depends on Socrates; like, without Socrates, there would be, like, no Plato". One method of dropping this bad habit is to substitute "duh" for each incorrect instance of "like". This will enable you to make exactly the same impression on others, but it may become clearer to you that this is not the impression you aim to make.

## **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 <a href="mailto:camosun.ca">camosun.ca</a>.

## 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.