



**School of Arts & Science
HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT**

**PHIL 100-003
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:	Justine Noel		
(b)	Office Hours:	Tues.-Thurs. 1:30-2:30 pm, Fri. 12:30-1:30 pm		
(c)	Location:	Y 312		
(d)	Phone:	370-3951	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	noelju@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:

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

Required Text: The Philosopher's Way: Thinking Critically About Profound Ideas, John Chaffee, 2nd edition

4. Course Content and Schedule

Lectures: Wednesdays, 2:30 pm -3:20 pm. (WT-203)
Fridays, 2:30 pm -3:20 pm. (WT-203)

Seminars: Group A: Wednesdays, 3:30 pm - 4:20 pm. (WT-203)
Group B: Fridays, 3:30 pm – 4:20 pm. (WT-203)

Reading Assignments

Week 1: What is Philosophy?

Sept.3 – Why Study Philosophy? 1.1

Sept.5 – Defining Philosophy, 1.2, Branches of Philosophy, 1.5

Seminar: Bertrand Russell, “The Value of Philosophy”, 1.6, The Search for a Meaningful Life, 1.7

Week 2: What is the Philosopher’s Way?

Sept.10 – Socrates: A Model for Humanity, 2.1

Sept.12 – Socrates’ Central Concern: The Soul, 2.3, QUIZ #1

Seminar: Socrates’ Legacy, 2.5

Week 3: Do We Have Souls?

Sept.17 – Know Thyself? 3.1, The Soul is Immortal. 3.2 (p.95-100 only)

Sept.19 – Descartes’ Modern Perspective on the Self, 3.3

Seminar: video – “Is Mind Distinct from Body?” The Self is Consciousness, Locke, 3.4

Week 4: Who Are You?

Sept.24 – There is No Self, Hume, 3.5, QUIZ #2

Sept.26 – The Self is the Brain, 3.9, review for test #1

Seminar: Buddhist Concepts of the Self, 3.10, 3.11

Week 5: Are You Free?

Oct.1 – **TEST #1**

Oct.3 – Are You the Master of Your Fate? 4.1, Determinism, 4.2 (p.162-170 only)

Seminar: video – “Do We Have Freewill?”

Week 6: How Can We Know the Nature of Reality?

Oct.8 – What is the Nature of Reality? 5.1, Plato’s Forms, 5.2

Oct.10 – Can Reality Be Known? Descartes, 5.4 (p.242-250 only), QUIZ #3

Seminar: Your Beliefs About the World, 5.5

Week 7: What is Real? What is True?

Oct. 15 – Locke, 6.2 (p.274-277, p.280-285 only)

Oct. 17 – Berkeley, 6.3

Seminar: Hume, 6.4

Week 8: Is There a Spiritual Reality?

Oct.22 – A Brief Survey of Major Religions (p.366-372)

Oct.24 – A Brief Survey of Major Religions cont., QUIZ #4

Seminar: God is a Human Projection (p.353-356), Religion is an Opiate (p.356-358), Religion reflects Patriarchy, (p.358-361)

Week 9: Is There a Spiritual Reality? cont.

Oct.29 – Does God Exist?, 7.4, (p.378-388 only)

Oct.31 – The Problem of Evil, 7.5, (p.391-392 only), review for test #2

Seminar: video: “Does God Exist?”

Week 10: Are There Moral Truths?

Nov.5 – TEST #2

Nov.7 – Your Moral Compass, 8.1, Ethical relativism, 8.2

Seminar: Ethical Absolutism, 8.3

Week 11: Why Should I be Moral?

Nov.12 – Egoism as a Moral Principle, 8.4

Nov.14 – Ayn Rand, from “The Virtue of Selfishness” (p.444-447), QUIZ #5

Seminar: Arguments Against Egoism, p.447-454

Week 12: What are Right Actions?

Nov.19 – Character: Virtue Ethics, 9.2

Nov.21 – Maxims: Duty to Moral Laws, 9.3

Seminar: Consequences: Utilitarianism, 9.4 (p.500-512 only)

Week 13: How Do I Live My Life Authentically?

Nov.26 – Authenticity: Existentialist Ethics, 9.5 (p.518-530 only)

Nov.28 – Authenticity and Ethical Responsibility: Sartre (p.531-536), QUIZ #6

Seminar: video; “Existentialism”

Week 14: Existentialist Ethics cont.

Dec. 3 – Simone de Beauvoir, (p.537-539), Camus, (p.539-542)

Dec. 5 – Review for final exam

Seminar: Questions, extra help (optional)

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

- a) 2 in-class tests: 50% (25% each)
- b) final exam: 35% (date tba, Dec. final exam period)
- c) class participation and seminar group discussion: 10%
- d) quizzes: 5% (6 quizzes, one throwaway)

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
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3

60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	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 E-1.5 at camosun.ca for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> 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	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. <i>(For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)</i>
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> 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.

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