



**School of Arts & Science  
SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT**

**Philosophy 102-001  
Central Issues in 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:	Young 320		
(d)	Phone:	370-3508	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	bannikof@camosun.bc.ca		
(f)	Website:			

### 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. "Philosophy 102, Sandy Bannikoff"

### 4. Course Content and Schedule

The lecture schedule will generally follow this pattern: on Wednesdays/Thursdays, the lecture will introduce the paper that is assigned reading for the weekend; on Mondays/Tuesdays, the lecture will focus on the content of the paper and assume that it has been read by everyone (preferably twice). Each seminar group will spend one seminar discussion on each topic. The discussion will take place in the seminar that follows the second lecture on the topic. So, typically, both seminars will discuss the subject of Monday's/Tuesday's lecture.

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

### **Week One**

Administration, General Introduction  
Introduction to Bertrand Russell

### **Readings**

1. "Bertrand Russell, 1872-1970"
2. Bertrand Russell, "Philosophy for Laymen"

### **Week Two**

Lecture on Russell  
Introduction to James

**Reading:** William James, "Religion and Neurology"

### **Week Three**

Lecture on James  
Introduction to Putnam

**Reading:** Hillary Putnam, "Meaning and Reference", pgs. 699-706  
(You do not have to read the last section, "Indexicality and Rigidity")

### **Week Four**

Lecture on Putnam  
Review for Exam

### **Week Five**

Exam One  
Introduction to Martin Luther King, Jr.

**Reading:** Martin Luther King, Jr. "Letter from Birmingham Jail"

### **Week Six**

Lecture on King / Introduction to Hobbes

### **Readings**

1. "Thomas Hobbes, 1588-1679"
2. Hobbes, selections from the Leviathan

### **Week Seven**

Lecture on Hobbes  
Introduction to Goldman

**Reading:** Emma Goldman, "Anarchism: What it Really Stands For"

### **Week Eight**

Lecture on Goldman  
Introduction to Anscombe

**Reading:** Elizabeth Anscombe, "Two Kinds of Error in Action"

### **Week Nine**

Lecture on Anscombe  
Review for Exam

### **Week Ten**

Exam Two  
Introduction to Smullyan

**Reading:** Raymond Smullyan, "Is God a Taoist?"

### **Week Eleven**

Lecture on Smullyan  
Introduction to Borges

### **Readings**

1. "George Berkeley, 1685-1753"
2. "David Hume, 1711-1776"
3. Jorge Louis Borges, "A New Refutation of Time"

### **Week Twelve**

Lecture on Borges  
Intro to Zwicky

### **Readings**

1. "G.W.F. Hegel, 1770-1831"
2. "Martin Heidegger, 1889-1976"
3. Jan Zwicky, "Once Upon a Time in the West"

### **Week Thirteen**

Lecture on Zwicky  
Introduction to Monk

### **Readings**

1. Hans Bynagle, "Twentieth-Century Philosophy"
2. "Edmond Husserl, 1859-1938"
3. "Ludwig Wittgenstein, 1889-1951"
4. Ray Monk, "What is Analytical Philosophy?"

### **Week Fourteen**

Lecture on Monk  
Review for Final Exam

**The final exam will be scheduled during the final exam period.**

## 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

1. Exam One..... 25%
2. Exam Two..... 30%
3. Exam Three ..... 35%
4. Participation ..... 10%

### **Seminar Grade**

Each student is required to bring a short typed comment to each seminar. These comments will form the basis of our discussion and the basis of your seminar grade. 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 an exam or have missed an exam. My phone number and e-mail are on the first page of this outline. Make-ups will be permitted only in cases of confirmed illness or crisis.

## 6. Grading System

### **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](http://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.

<b>IP</b>	<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 3<sup>rd</sup> course attempt or at the point of course completion.)</i>
<b>CW</b>	<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

**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. 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.

**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 [camosun.ca](http://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.