

# School of Arts & Science HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT

PHIL 206-01
The Good Life
Winter 2012

## COURSE OUTLINE

#### 1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Sandy Bannikoff	
(b)	Office Hours:	M & W 2:30 – 3:20, and T & Th 1-2	
(c)	Location:	Y320	
(d)	Phone:	250-370-3508	Alternative Phone:
(e)	Email:	bannikof@camosun.bc.ca	
(f)	Website:		

# 2. Intended Learning Outcomes

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

- 1. Critically assess the strengths and weaknesses of various conceptions of the good life.
- 2. Critically evaluate and discuss the major western moral theories in terms of their strengths and weaknesses as guides to western ideas of the good life.
- 3. Critically evaluate and discuss the major eastern moral theories in terms of their strengths and weaknesses as guides to eastern ideas of the good life.
- 4. Identify and describe the differences between western moral theories and eastern philosophies of life in terms of their methods and strategies for achieving a good life.

### 3. Required Materials

- (a) Text: Six Myths about the Good Life: Thinking about What has Value, by Joel Kupperman, Hackett Publishing, 2006.
- (b) Other: Coursepack, available at the Camosun Bookstore at Landsdown, "Philosophy 206, The Good Life"

#### 4. Course Content and Schedule

The lecture schedule will generally follow this pattern: on Thursdays, the lecture will introduce the paper that is assigned reading for the weekend; on Tuesdays, the lecture will focus on the content of the reading and assume that it has been studied by everyone. 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 Tuesday's lecture.

Caveat: This schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

# Week One

Administration, General Introduction Introduction to Hadot

Readings for week two: 1) Hadot "Philosophy as a Way of Life"

2) Kupperman, Chapter 1

## Week Two

Lecture on Hadot

Lecture on Chapter 1, Comfort and Pleasure

Reading for week three: John Stuart Mill, "Of Individuality" from On Liberty

# **Week Three**

Introduction to John Stuart Mill Lecture on John Stuart Mill

Reading for week four: Kupperman, Chapter 2

## Week Four

Lecture on Chapter 2, Happiness Introduction to Nietzsche

Reading for week five: Nietzsche 1) Preface

2) First Essay: "Good and Evil" and "Good

and Bad"

#### Week Five

Lecture on Nietzsche Lecture on Nietzsche

Reading for week six: Kupperman Chapter 3

### Week Six

Lecture on Chapter Three, Goals \*\* Reading Break: Feb. 16, 2012

Reading for week seven: 1) Jung, "Forward" to the I Ching

2) Kupperman, Chapter 4

### Week Seven

Lecture on Carl Jung's "Foreword" Lecture on Chapter 4, Reason over Emotion

Reading for week eight: Hori, "Koan and Kensho in the Rinzai Zen Curriculum"

# **Week Eight**

Introduction to Zen Koans Lecture on Hori

Reading for week nine: Hori, "Koan and Kensho in the Rinzai Zen Curriculum"

## **Week Nine**

Lecture on Hori Guest Lecture

Reading for week ten: Calhoun, "Standing for Something"

## Week Ten

Introduction to Calhoun Lecture on Calhoun

Reading for week eleven: Kupperman Chapter 5

## Week Eleven

Lecture on Chapter 5, Virtue does not lead to a good life Introduction to Plato

Readings for week twelve: 1) Plato "Apology"

2) Kupperman, Chapter 6

## **Week Twelve**

Lecture on Plato and Socrates Chapter 6, Virtue is Perfect

Readings for week thirteen: Wittgenstein's "Lecture on Ethics"

# **Week Thirteen**

Intro to Wittgenstein Lecture on Wittgenstein

Readings for week fourteen: 1) Wittgenstein "Lecture on Ethics"

2) Kupperman, Chapter 7

# Week Fourteen

Lecture on Wittgenstein Lecture on Chapter 7

# 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

- 1. Four papers, each worth ......20%
- 2. Seminar Participation ......20%

# 6. Grading System Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	Α		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	В		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	С		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
1	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, 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. (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.)
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.

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

<u>Communication</u> Students are welcome to e-mail me anytime. However, please know that all of your correspondence with me is professional. This means that your messages must be (basically) grammatically correct and without the shorthand that is common online and in texting.

### 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.

# 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.