

# School of Arts & Science HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT

Philosophy 102-001
Introduction to Philosophy: Ideas
Fall 2013

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

The Approved	Course	Description	า is availa	ble on the	web @

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:	Monday 12-2, and T	uesday & Thursday 1	-2
(c)	Location:	•	office has its own door just before the collec	
(d)	Phone:	370-3508	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	bannikof@camosun.bc.ca		
<b>(f)</b>	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.
- 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 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 paper and assume that it has been studied by everyone. Each seminar group will spend one seminar discussion on each reading/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 instructor's discretion.

Week One

Seminar Week 1: Current Events

Tuesday: Administration, General Introduction

Thursday: Introduction to Russell

Week Two

Reading for Week 2: Bertrand Russell, "Philosophy for Laymen"

Seminar Week 2: Russell

Tuesday: Lecture on Russell Thursday: Introduction to King

Week Three

Reading for Week 3: 1) Martin Luther King, Jr. "Letter from Birmingham Jail", and

2) Gandhi "Passive Resistance"

Seminar Week 3: King

Tuesday: Lecture on King Thursday: Introduction to Dea

Week Four

Reading for Week 4: Dea, "A Harm Reduction Approach to Abortion"

Seminar Week 4: Dea

Tuesday: Lecture on Dea Thursday: Review for Exam

Week Five: Exam One

**Exam Prep** 

Seminar Week 5: Question Period

Tuesday: Exam One

Thursday: Introduction to Peirce

Week Six

Reading for Week 6: Peirce, "The Fixation of Belief"

Seminar Week 6: Peirce

Tuesday: Lecture on Peirce Thursday: Introduction to James

Week Seven

Reading for Week 7: William James, "Religion and Neurology"

Seminar Week 7: James

Tuesday: Lecture on James

Thursday: Introduction to Feyerabend

Week Eight

Reading for Week 8: Paul Feyerabend "How to defend society against science?"

Seminar Week 8: Feyerabend

Tuesday: Lecture on Feyerabend Thursday: Introduction to Putnam

## **Week Nine**

Reading for Week 9: Putnam, "Meaning and Referece", read to pg. 706; the section

"Indexicality and Rigidity" is **not** assigned

Seminar Week 9: Putnam

Tuesday: Lecture on Putnam Thursday: Review for Exam Two

## Week Ten: Exam Two

Seminar Week 10: Question Period

Tuesday: Exam Two

Thursday: Introduction to Smullyan

# Week Eleven

Readings for Week 11: 1) Smullyan "Is God a Taoist?"; 2) "Chuang-Tzu"

Seminar Week 11: Taoism

Tuesday: Lecture on Smullyan Thursday: Introduction to Moore

## **Week Twelve**

Reading for Week 12: G.E. Moore "Proof of an External World"

Seminar Week 12: Moore

Tuesday: Lecture on Moore Thursday: Introduction to Borges

### Week Thirteen

Readings For Week 13: Jorge Louis Borges, "A New Refutation of Time"

Seminar Week 13: Borges

Tuesday: Lecture on Borges Thursday: Introduction to Zwicky

#### **Week Fourteen**

Readings For Week 14: Tuesday: Jan Zwicky, "Once Upon a Time in the West"

Seminar Week 14: Zwicky

Tuesday: Lecture on Zwicky

Reading for last class: William James "Philosophy and Its Critics"

Thursday: Lecture on James

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	30%
4.	Seminar Participation	15%

# **Seminar Grade**

There is a short written assignment for each seminar. You are to hand in and be prepared to pose 1) a question about the content of that week's lecture reading; 2) one positive comment about the reading or topic; and 3) one negative comment about the reading or topic. This written work will not be accepted as a substitute for your actual participation in the seminar.

## **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. In the case of a personal crisis, students will be referred to the Camosun Counseling services.

# 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	
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, 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

#### 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.

Students may not use recording devices in the classroom without the prior permission of the instructor. However, the instructor's permission is not required when the use of a recording device is sanctioned by the College's Resource Centre for Students with Disabilities in order to accommodate a student's disability and when the instructor has been provided with an instructor notification letter which specifies the use of a recording device. Recordings made in the classroom are for the student's personal use only, and distribution of recorded material is prohibited.

<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.