



COURSE OUTLINE

Instructor	Dr. Justine Noel		
Office Hours	Tuesdays, 1:00 - 1:50 pm, Wednesdays, 11:00 - 11:50 am, Thursdays, 12:00 - 1:50 pm.		
Office	Young 312		
Phone	(250) 370-3951		
Email	noelju@camosun.bc.ca		

The course description is online @ <http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/phil.html>

Ω Please note: the College electronically stores this outline for five (5) years only. It is **strongly recommended** you keep a copy of this outline with your academic records. You will need this outline for any future application/s for transfer credit/s to other colleges/universities.

Course Schedule

- Lectures:** Mondays, 8:30 am - 9:20 am (Y-219)
 Wednesdays, 8:30 am - 9:20 am, (Y-317)
- Seminars:** Group A: Mondays, 9:30 am -10:20 am, (Y-219)
 Group B: Wednesdays, 9:30 am -10:20 am, (Y-317)

Intended Learning Outcomes - By the end of the course the student should 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.

Required Text: The Philosopher’s Way: Thinking Critically About Profound Ideas, John Chaffee, 4th edition

Basis of Student Assessment

- a) 3 in-class tests: 60% (20% each)
- b) final exam: 20% (date tba, final exam period)
- c) seminar attendance/class discussions/group work/in-class exercises: 10%
- d) seminar assignments: 10% (can only be submitted in seminar) 2=present in seminar with completed assignment 1=present in seminar, no assignment, 0=neither

Reading Assignments

Week 1: What is Philosophy?

9/9 - Why Study Philosophy? 1.1, Defining Philosophy, 1.2, Branches of P., 1.5

Week 2: What is the Philosopher's Way?

9/14 – Socrates: A Model for Humanity, 2.1 (pages 50, 57-61 only)

9/16 – Socrates' Central Concern: The Soul, 2.3, The Trial and Death of Socrates, 2.4

Seminar: Socrates' Legacy, 2.5, Q#1: Is Socrates relevant today? p.92

Week 3: Who Are You?

9/21 – Know Thyself? 3.1, Descartes' Modern Perspective on the Self, 3.4

9/23 – There is No Self, Hume, 3.6

Seminar: Buddhist Concepts of the Self, 3.12, Q#2: Do you know yourself? p.103

Week 4: Are You Free?

9/28 – **TEST #1**

9/30 – Determinism, 4.2 (p.176-181 only)

Seminar: Q#3: Do you feel free? What constraints are there on your freedom?

Week 5: Nature of Reality

10/5 – What is the Nature of Reality? 5.1, pages 228-231 (to end of top para.)

10/7 – Descartes, 5.4

Seminar: Q#4: What is your concept of reality?

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

10/12 – Thanksgiving, no class

10/14 – Plato's Forms, 5.2 (skip the Divided Line section on p.241-242)

Q#5: Provide a creative interpretation of Plato's Allegory of the Cave, p.245-249

DUE Oct.14, in class as there is no seminar this week.

Week 7: What is Real? What is True?

10/19 – Berkeley, 6.3

10/21 – Hume, 6.4

Seminar: Q#6: Are you searching for the truth? How would you know if you found it?

Week 8: Is There a Spiritual Reality?

10/26 – **TEST #2**

10/28 – Buddhism (p.369-370 only)

Seminar: Q#7: Are the Four Noble Truths True? (see pages 369-370)

Week 9: Is There a Spiritual Reality? cont.

11/2 – Can We Prove the Existence of God?, 7.4 (p.376-385 only)

11/4 – The Problem of Evil, 7.5, (p.388-394 only)

Seminar: Q#8: Do you think there is a spiritual reality of some kind?

Week 10: Are There Moral Truths?

11/9 – Character: Virtue Ethics, 9.2

11/11 - Remembrance Day, no class

Week 11: What are Right Actions?

11/16 – Egoism as a Universal Principle, 8.4 (p.454-460 only)

11/18 –Maxims: Duty to Moral Laws, 9.3 (p.493-494, 498-500 only)

Seminar: Q#9: What can you do to strengthen your moral character?

Week 12: Right Actions cont./Meaning and Purpose

11/23 – Consequences: Utilitarianism, 9.4 (p.506-511 only)

11/25 – **TEST #3**

Seminar: Q#10: What is the meaning or purpose of your life?

Week 13: How Do I Live My Life Authentically?

11/30 – Existentialist Ethics, Kierkegaard, Subjective Knowing: The Leap of Faith, p.419-421, 9.5 (p.523-530 only)

12/2 – Existentialist Ethics, Nietzsche, 9.5 (p.530-535 only)

Seminar: Q#11: Analyzing Kierkegaard on Authenticity, first question, p.530

Week 14: Existentialist Ethics cont.

12/7 – Authenticity: Existentialist Ethics, Sartre, 9.5 (p.535-538 end of top para. only)

12/9 – Authenticity: Existentialist Ethics - Camus, 9.5 (p.543-545)

Seminar: optional for those needing extra help

Policy on missed tests: make-up tests will be permitted only in cases of illness or personal crisis. A make-up test will not be scheduled until proper documentation is provided.

Cell phones: students are not permitted to use cell phones in class. **Remember to TURN OFF your cell phone for class.**

Laptop computers may be used for note taking only - watching sports, videos, etc., playing music, online chatting, doing email and so on is not permitted in class.

Missing classes: if you miss a class due to illness, or some other reason, it is not necessary to notify me, **unless** a test is missed. If classes are missed, it is the student’s responsibility to find out from another student what was covered.

Disruptive behaviour: while the instructor is speaking, students are not permitted to talk. Students who are unable to manage class etiquette will be asked to leave.

Grading System

(No changes are to be made to this section unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through the Education Council of Camosun College 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.

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 the College web site in the Policy Section.