Introduction to Philosophy
Philosophy 110
Fall Term 2014 – Purdue University
Instructor: Daniel Kelly
Teaching Assistants: Tiffany Montoya and Zach Murphy

Syllabus

1. Course Description

There are two main goals of this course. The first is to introduce students to the Western philosophical tradition, its major figures and defining themes. Those themes include religion and the existence of God, perception and the nature of knowledge, the nature of the self, the mind-body problem, free will, and morality. The second is to provide students with the tools to think clearly, articulate their own views, and evaluate the arguments of others.

2. Class Meetings

Class lectures meet Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30pm – 1:20pm in Room 172 of the Wetherill Hall of Chemistry. Recitation sections are as follows:

REC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REC</th>
<th>25205</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>8:30 – 9:20a</th>
<th>BRNG B268</th>
<th>Zach Murphy</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>005</td>
<td>25207</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>9:30 – 10:20a</td>
<td>BRNG B268</td>
<td>Zach Murphy</td>
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<tr>
<td>004</td>
<td>25203</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>10:30 – 11:20a</td>
<td>BRNG B268</td>
<td>Zach Murphy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>003</td>
<td>25206</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>11:30–12:20p</td>
<td>BRNG B268</td>
<td>Zach Murphy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>002</td>
<td>25202</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>12:30 – 1:30p</td>
<td>BRNG B268</td>
<td>Tiffany Montoya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>006</td>
<td>25204</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>1:30 – 2:30p</td>
<td>BRNG B268</td>
<td>Tiffany Montoya</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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3. Office Hours and Contact Information

Professor Kelly
- Office: 7126 Beering Hall
- Office Phone: 765-494-4290
- Email: drkelly@purdue.edu
- Office Hours: 11:00am – 1:00pm Wednesdays and by appointment

Tiffany Montoya
- Office: 7143 Beering Hall
- Email: tmontoy@purdue.edu
- Office Hours: 9:00am – 11:00am Monday and by appointment

Zach Murphy
- Office: 7145 Beering Hall
- Email: murph167@purdue.edu
- Office Hours: 10:30am – 12:30pm Tuesday/Thursdays and by appointment

4. Course Requirements and Grading
Grades on papers and exams will be given on the standard 0-100 point grading scale:

- 100-93: A
- 92-90: A-
- 89-87: B+
- 86-83: B
- 82-80: B-
- 79-77: C+
- 76-73: C
- 72-70: C-
- 69-60: D
- 59-0: F

Final grades will be determined by 3 papers, a midterm, and a final exam. They will be weighted roughly as follows:

- Three Papers: 20% each (60% total)
- Midterm: 15%
- Final Exam: 25%

The date and time for the Final Exam are not scheduled yet.

Exams will be closed book, short essay format. A list of potential exam questions will be made available before both the midterm and the final.

Papers will be 4 – 5 pages, and paper topics will be posted roughly 2 weeks before they are due. EMAILED AND ELECTRONICALLY SUBMITTED PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Papers not turned in by the end of class the day they are due are LATE. For each day late, 7 points will be deducted.

5. Course Policies

**Lectures:** I will try to begin on time, and will usually go right up until the end of the class session. Please come on time. Do not pack up your materials until class has been dismissed. Talking during lectures will not be tolerated. Repeat offenders will be asked to leave.

**Laptop computers:** I would prefer that you exercise enough self-restraint to keep from texting for the 50 minutes that lectures are in session, but since a formal prohibition would be too difficult to enforce, this remains a preference. Use of laptop computers and iPads during lectures will not be allowed, however.

**Attendance:** See Attendance Policy for details.

**Emergencies:** (See end of Syllabus for full Purdue attachment on Emergency Procedures). In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances. Information about emergencies changes in the course can be gotten by contacting either instructor via email or phone, or by consulting the course website (see above for that information). Purdue’s Emergency Procedures Handbook and other important emergency planning information is available online at
To obtain updates regarding an ongoing emergency, and to sign up for Purdue Alert text messages, go to

www.purdue.edu/ea

For the full document of Wetherill Hall Building Emergency Plan


Plagiarism: With the advent of the internet, plagiarism has become an increasingly serious problem at universities around the country, particularly in classes like this one, where papers determine a substantial part of the grade.

In order to avoid plagiarizing from a source, both direct quotations and paraphrases or summaries of material found in traditional print media or on the internet must be acknowledged. If you have any questions about how this definition will be interpreted, please do not hesitate to discuss the matter with me or your TA.

Plagiarism and cheating on exams undermines the integrity of the academic community. When undetected, it gives the perpetrator an unfair advantage over students who are graded on the basis of their own work. In this class we will do our best to detect plagiarism and cheating. Students who are aware of violations by others should bring this to my attention. This is the right thing to do. It is also in your own self-interest.

There will be zero tolerance for plagiarism in this course. Plagiarized papers will receive a 0, the student will automatically fail the course, and their name will be handed given to the university authorities. For more on the Purdue University policy on plagiarism, see the following websites:

http://www.purdue.edu/univregs/pages/stu_conduct/stu_regulations.html
http://www.purdue.edu/odos/osrr/academicintegritybrochure.php

With each paper assignment, a handful of students may be selected at random to submit their papers to TurnItIn, an online service that maintains an enormous database of papers that it uses to check for instances of plagiarism.

External Sources: Using sources not listed on the syllabus in researching and writing your papers is fine, as long as they are both to the point, and are properly cited. And at all times, when in doubt, cite your sources! It is the best way to avoid being accused of plagiarism.

This is probably the best place to make this point, too: Wikipedia can be useful for getting a very broad grasp of positions and debates, but when it gets into details, especially on philosophic topics, it can just as often be horrible – sketchy, convoluted, misinformed, and often simply wrong. If you wish to consult online resources, I suggest you use some of the other, much better sites. Most prominent is the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, but others are useful as well:

Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy http://plato.stanford.edu/
6. Website

Information and comments will often be posted on the website, which can be reached via my homepage:

http://web.ics.purdue.edu/~drkelly/

To go directly to this course’s website, the address is:

http://web.ics.purdue.edu/~drkelly/KellyIntroPhilFall2014.html

7. Topics and Readings

Here is a tentative schedule of topics and readings. Depending how fast we are going, amendments and alterations will be announced in class as we go, on the webpage. Since reminders and other information will be posted on the course website, make sure you check that website on a fairly regular basis.

Week 1: August 25th
Introduction & Overview of the Course
Readings: Russell, “The Value of Philosophy”; Plato 1st reading, Apology,
New Chapter: Philosophy of Religion: Groundwork, Questions, and Distinctions
Readings: Aquinas, The Summa Theologica; Anselm, Proslogium, Or Discourse on the Existence of God

Week 2: September 1st: No Class Monday 9/1 – Labor Day (Doesn’t affect us)
Philosophy of Religion: 3 Arguments for the Existence of God (cont.)
Readings: Anselm, Proslogium, Or Discourse on the Existence of God; Paley, Natural Theology; Hume 1st Reading, Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion; Dennett 1st reading, “Show Me the Science”

Week 3: September 8th
Philosophy of Religion: The Problem of Evil, and Pascal’s Wager
Readings: Hume 2nd reading, Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion; Mackie, Free Will and the Problem of Evil; Pascal, Notes on Natural Religion and Other Subjects

Week 4: September 15th
Finish up Philosophy of Religion: Epistemic Arguments
Readings: James, The Will to Believe; Plantinga, An Interview with Alvin Plantiga

Week 5: September 22nd
New Chapter: Epistemology – The External World
Readings: Descartes 1st reading, Meditations on First Philosophy

First Paper due in Lecture Thursday September 25th

Week 6: September 29th
Epistemology: The External World
Readings: Locke 1st reading, An Essay Concerning Human Understanding; Berkeley, Three Dialogues Between Hylas and Philonous
Epistemology: The Problem of Induction
Readings: Hume 3rd reading, An Inquiry Concerning Human Understanding; Salmon, An Encounter with David Hume

Week 7: October 6th
Epistemology: Finish up The Problem of Induction
Readings: Hume 3rd reading, An Inquiry Concerning Human Understanding; Salmon, An Encounter with David Hume

Week 8: October 13th No Class 10/13 and 10/14 – Fall Break
Midterm Exam Thursday October 16th

Week 9: October 20th
**New Chapter:** The Mind-Body Problem: Dualism and Reductive Materialism
**Readings:** Descartes 2nd reading, Meditations on First Philosophy
The Mind-Body Problem: Alternatives to Dualism
**Readings:** Lycan, The Mind-Body Problem; Fodor, The Mind-Body Problem

Week 10: October 27th
The Mind-Body Problem: The Limits of Materialism
**Readings:** Searle, Minds, Brains, and Programs; Nagel, What is it Like to be a Bat?

Week 11: November 3rd
**New Chapter:** Free Will, Responsibility, and Determinism: Compatibilism and Libertarianism
**Readings:** Timpe, Free Will; Holmstrom, Firming Up Soft Determinism; Nahmias, Neuroscience and the Death of Free Will?

Week 12: November 10th
Free Will, Responsibility, and Determinism: Compatibilism and Libertarianism
**Readings:** James, The Dilemma of Determinism

Second Paper due in Lecture Thursday November 13th

Week 13: November 17th
**New Chapter:** Personal Identity: Selves and Souls, Memories and Brains
**Readings:** Perry 1st reading, A Dialogue on Personal Identity and Immortality; Locke, 2nd reading, Of Identity and Diversity; Perry 2nd reading, A Dialogue on Personal Identity and Immortality

Week 14: November 24th No Class 11/27 and 11/28 – Thanksgiving Break
Personal Identity: Memories and Brains
**Readings:** Perry 2nd reading, A Dialogue on Personal Identity and Immortality

**New Chapter:** MetaEthics: The Meaning of Morality
**Readings:** Plato 2nd reading, Euthyphro; Rachels 1st reading, Does Morality Depend on Religion?; Antony, Good Minus God

Week 15: December 1st
MetaEthics: The Meaning of Morality
**Readings:** Rachels 2nd reading, Subjectivism in Ethics; Rachel’s 3rd reading, The Challenge of Cultural Relativism

MetaEthics: The Meaning of Morality
**Readings:** Rachel’s 3rd reading, The Challenge of Cultural Relativism

Week 16: December 8th
Normative Ethics: Utilitarianism (Time permitting)
**Readings:** Mill, Utilitarianism

Third Paper Due in Lecture Thursday December 11th

Final Exam:
Time and Date TBA, Room 172 in the Wetherill Lab of Chemistry
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS SYLLABUS ATTACHMENT

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES are based on a simple concept – if you hear a fire alarm inside, proceed outside. If you hear a siren outside, proceed inside.

• Indoor Fire Alarms mean to stop class or research and immediately evacuate the building.

  Proceed to your Emergency Assembly Area away from building doors. Remain outside until police, fire, or other emergency response personnel provide additional guidance or tell you it is safe to leave.

• All Hazards Outdoor Emergency Warning Sirens mean to immediately seek shelter (Shelter in Place) in a safe location within the closest building.

  “Shelter in place” means seeking immediate shelter inside a building or University residence. This course of action may need to be taken during a tornado, a civil disturbance including a shooting or release of hazardous materials in the outside air. Once safely inside, find out more details about the emergency*. Remain in place until police, fire, or other emergency response personnel provide additional guidance or tell you it is safe to leave.

*In both cases, you should seek additional clarifying information by all means possible...Purdue Home page, email alert, TV, radio, etc...review the Purdue Emergency Warning Notification System multi-communication layers at http://www.purdue.edu/ebps/emergency_preparedness/warning-system.html
EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROCEDURES:

• Review the Emergency Procedures Guidelines
  https://www.purdue.edu/emergency_preparedness/flipchart/index.html

• Review the Building Emergency Plan (available from the building deputy) for:

  Evacuation routes, exit points, and emergency assembly area
  when and how to evacuate the building
  Shelter in place procedures and locations
  Additional building specific procedures and requirements.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AWARENESS VIDEOS

• "Shots Fired on Campus: When Lightning Strikes," is a 20-minute active shooter awareness video that illustrates what to look for and how to prepare and react to this type of incident.

  See: http://www.purdue.edu/securePurdue/news/2010/emergency-preparedness-shots-fired-on-campus-video.cfm (Link is also located on the EP website)

MORE INFORMATION

Reference the Emergency Preparedness web site for additional information:

http://www.purdue.edu/emergency_preparedness