

| | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| PHIL101.008: Introduction to Philosophical Problems | Fall 2006 |
| T 4:00–6:30 pm | HUM 216 |
| Instructor: Richard Hayes | Office hours: Th 1:00–3:00pm |
| Office: Humanities 525 | Telephone: 277–8232 |
| | Or by appointment rhayes@unm.edu |

Textbooks

Required

Descartes, René. *Meditations on First Philosophy In Which The Existence of God And the Distinction of the Soul from the Body Are Demonstrated*. Translated from the Latin by Donald A. Cress. Third edition. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing Company, 1993.

Hume, David. *Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion*. Edited, with an introduction, by Richard H. Popkin. Second edition. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing Company, 1998.

James, William. *Pragmatism*. Edited, with an introduction, by Bruce Kucklick. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing Company, 2001.

Plato. *Five Dialogues*. Translated by G. M. A. Grube, revised by John M. Cooper. Second edition. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing Company, 2002.

Welchman, Jennifer, editor. *The Practice of Virtue: Classic and Contemporary Readings in Virtue Ethics*. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing Company, 2006.

Recommended

Vaughan, Lewis. *Writing Philosophy: A Student's Guide to Writing Philosophy Essays*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2006.

Assignments and evaluation

1. Although most of the discipline of philosophy is about thinking and evaluating arguments, there is also a certain amount of information one should have. To help you acquire this information, there will be a short quiz given every week. These quizzes will cover material from the preceding week's classes.
2. The main part of your grade will be based on writing three short essays, the topics of which will be given to you during the semester.
3. Finally, there will be a final examination.

The weight and due dates of assignments are as follows:

| Assignment | Date Due | Weight |
|--------------|------------------------------------|--------|
| Quizzes | weekly, except when essays are due | 10% |
| First essay | September 19 | 20% |
| Second essay | October 31 | 20% |
| Third essay | December 5 | 20% |
| Final exam | December 12 (5:30–7:30) | 30% |
| | | 100% |

Deadlines Please note that all deadlines are firm and work not submitted on time will receive a penalty of one-third grade per day late. Suppose, for example, an essay is due Tuesday but is turned in Wednesday. If its original evaluation is *A*, the grade will be recorded as *A–*. The same essay handed in on Thursday would be recorded as *B+*. **All essays must be submitted in hard copy form; no essay submitted to me by e-mail will be graded.** If you are not present for a quiz, you simply miss it. Quizzes cannot be made up.

Policy on plagiarism or other academic dishonesty The on-line Pathfinder-Student Handbook states:

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students; misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or without the University; and nondisclosure or misrepresentation in filling out applications or other University records.

The policy in this course for academic dishonesty will be that a work found in violation of the regulations will receive a grade of zero. In addition, the incident will be reported to the Dean of Students and could result in further discipline by the University.

Classroom work

Courtesy The enterprise of philosophy takes place most effectively in a peaceful environment in which everyone is thoughtful of the needs of others. Most of the material covered in class is difficult and will therefore require concentration. As a courtesy to your fellow students, and to me, please remember to turn off all mobile telephones before entering the classroom, and try to avoid any behavior that will make it difficult for others to listen and to think.

Schedule of lectures and discussions

| Date | Topic |
|--------|--|
| Aug 22 | Introduction to course and requirements. Tips on writing a philosophical essay. |
| 29 | Euthyphro and Apology in Plato, pp. 1–44 |
| Sep 5 | Crito and Meno in Plato, pp. 45–92 |
| 12 | Phaedo in Plato, pp. 93–154 |
| 19 | Aristotle in Welchman, pp. 1–38 First essay due |
| 26 | Seneca in Welchman, pp. 39–57, and Julia Annas in Welchman, pp. 156–159 |
| Oct 3 | René Descartes, <i>Meditations</i> pp. 1–57 |
| 10 | David Hume, <i>Dialogues</i> parts 1–7, pp. 1–48 |
| 17 | Hume, <i>Dialogues</i> parts 8–12, pp. 49–89 |
| 24 | Hume, unpublished essays and “Of Miracles,” pp. 91–125 |
| 31 | David Hume in Welchman, pp. 82–108, and Jacqueline Taylor in Welchman, pp. 183–203. Second essay due |
| Nov 7 | Friedrich Nietzsche in Welchman, pp. 109–134, and Clancy W. Martin in Welchman, pp. 204–224 |
| 14 | William James, <i>Pragmatism</i> , pp. 7–57 |
| 21 | William James, <i>Pragmatism</i> , pp. 61–105 |
| 28 | William James, <i>Pragmatism</i> , pp. 109–134, and Charles Sanders Peirce, “The Fixation of Belief” (download from WebCT) |
| Dec 5 | Review. Third essay due. |