

## Introduction to Philosophy: 730:103

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Class communication: 103-Fall14@rams.rutgers.edu

Office hours: W 2.30-3.30 in the Philosophy Department – room 537.

### Web Page:

<https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B5cuU4jm6e8kRnJROGtDQldQTUk&usp=sharing>

**This course is designed to introduce students to a variety of topics and techniques in Philosophy.**

**Organization:** Study questions and readings will be assigned as we proceed. Students will be expected to discuss the questions and explicate the text in class.

**Requirements:** There will be a mid-term and a final. Your grade will be based on the mid-term (30%) and the final (70%) or the final alone (100%), whichever is better. Please note: MAKE UP EXAMINATIONS ARE NOT OFFERED IN THIS COURSE.

**Miscellaneous:** It will not be possible to pass this course without attending class. You can eat, sleep, daydream or do anything else you like in class as long as it does not distract other students or me. The readings for this course are quite limited; however, philosophy is not easy to read. All assignments should be studied at least twice before the discussion meeting. In order to avoid distraction, no electronic equipment may be used in class.

**Please familiarize yourself with college rules on plagiarism and cheating.**

### Topics:

1. Substantive proof in Philosophy - God (2 weeks)
2. Philosophy as explication - piety (1)
3. Explication and proof - knowledge (3)
4. The idea of evidence (1)
5. Reference (2)
6. The distinction between the empirical and the non-empirical (1)
7. Personal Identity (2)
8. Our moral lives (2)

**Text:** All papers are available on the website for the class but should be printed up in hard copy to bring to class.

### Readings:

- Anselm, Proslogium [Topic 1]  
Aquinas, The Summa Theologica [1]  
Dennett, "Where am I?" [7]  
Descartes, Rene. Meditations on First Philosophy [3]  
Gettier, Edmund L. "Is True Justified Belief Knowledge?" [3]  
Goodman, Fact, Fiction, and Forecast [4]  
Hume, An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding [4]  
Kant, Foundations of the Metaphysics of Morals [8]  
Locke, Essay Concerning Human Understanding [3]

Mill, Utilitarianism [8]

Plato, "Euthyphro" [2]

Quine, "Two Dogmas of Empiricism" [6]