

Introduction to Philosophy (Phil103/3) / Fall 2014

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Core Curriculum Learning Goal: This course meets goal 'o': "Examine critically philosophical and other theoretical issues concerning the nature of reality, human experience, knowledge, and value."

Course requirements: three exams (2nd exam is 40% of course grade, each other exam 30%)

Text: Feinberg and Shafer-Landau, *Reason and Responsibility*, 15th edition.

Tentative Schedule (subject to change):

9/3: The Value of Philosophy

9/8: Arguments: Feinberg (1 - 7), Russell (20 - 23)

Religion

9/10: Ontological Argument: Anselm, Gaunilo, Rowe (30 - 44)

9/15: Cosmological Argument: Aquinas, Clarke, Rowe (45 - 55)

9/17: Teleological Argument: Paley (56 - 61), Hume Part V (72 - 74)

9/22: Evil: Hume Parts X, XI (84 - 94), Dostoevsky, Mackie (94 - 107)

9/24: Evil: van Inwagen (108 - 116)

9/29: Faith: Pascal, Blackburn (142 - 151), Clifford, James (125 - 137)

10/1: Exam 1

Knowledge

10/6: Skepticism: Descartes (199 - 203)

10/8: Rationalism: Descartes (203 - 207)

10/13: Empiricism: Locke (231 - 238), Hume (249 - 257)

10/15: Induction: Salmon (274 - 292)

Minds

10/20: Dualism: Descartes (221 - 229),

10/22: Dualism: Gertler (312 - 323), Jackson (324 - 327)

10/27: Materialism: Caruthers (327 - 335)

10/29: Functionalism: Churchland (335 - 343)

11/3: Computers: Turing (343 - 351), Searle (351 - 358)

11/5: Personal Identity: Sider (364 - 370), Hume (375 - 377)

11/10: Exam 2

Freedom

11/12: Hard Determinism: Holbach (438 - 443)

11/17: Hard Determinism: Pereboom (443 - 455)

11/19: Libertarianism: van Inwagen (409 - 418), Kane (425 - 437)

11/24: Soft Determinism: Hume, Ayer (456 - 466), Wolf (482 - 492)

Value

12/1: Happiness: Aristotle (561 - 573)

12/3: Poverty: Singer (629 - 633)

12/8: The Absurd: Nagel (673 - 680)

12/10: tba