Introduction to Philosophy  (Phil103/3) / Fall 2015
Eva Bodanszky  /  e-mail: bodanszk@rci.rutgers.edu  /  Office hours by appointment

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 consisting of medium-length essay questions.

Tentative Schedule (subject to change):

9/2:  The Value of Philosophy:  Russell ( 20 - 23 )
9/8:  Arguments:  Feinberg (1 - 7)

Religion
9/9:  Ontological Argument:  Anselm, Gaunilo, Rowe ( 30 - 44 )
9/14:  Cosmological Argument:  Aquinas, Clarke, Rowe (45 - 55 )
9/16:  Teleological Argument:  Paley (56 - 61), Hume Part V (72 - 74)
9/21:  Evil:  Hume Parts X, XI (84 -94), Dostoevsky, Mackie ( 94 - 107)
9/23:  Evil:  van Inwagen (108 - 116)
9/28:  Faith:  Pascal, Blackburn (142 - 151), Clifford, James (125 - 137)
9/30:  Exam 1

Knowledge
10/5:  Skepticism:  Descartes (199 - 203)
10/7:  Rationalism:  Descartes (203 - 207)
10/12:  Empiricism:  Locke (231 - 238), Hume (249 - 257)
10/14:  Induction:  Salmon ( 274 – 292 )

Minds
10/19:  Dualism:  Descartes (221 - 229 ),
10/21:  Dualism:  Gertler (312 - 323), Jackson (324 - 327)
10/26:  Materialism:  Caruthers (327 - 335)
10/28:  Functionalism:  Churchland ( 335 - 343)
11/2:  Computers:  Turing (343 - 351), Searle (351 - 358 )
11/4:  Personal Identity:  Sider (364 - 370 ), Hume (375 - 377 )
11/9:  Exam 2

Freedom
11/11:  Hard Determinism:  Holbach (438 - 443)
11/16:  Hard Determinism:  Pereboom (443 - 455)
11/18:  Libertarianism:  van Inwagen (409 - 418), Kane (425 - 437)

Value
11/30:  Happiness:  Aristotle (561 - 573)
12/2:  Poverty:  Singer ( 629 - 633 )
12/7:  The Absurd:  Nagel (673 - 680)
12/9:  tba