

**Session B March 3 - May 1, 2008**  
**Thursday - 6:00-10:00 p.m.**  
**Room: D229**

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**PHI 201-70: Introduction to Philosophy (H4 900)**

- I. **Course** An introduction to some of the main philosophical problems of traditional Western thought, including ethics, metaphysics, epistemology, political philosophy, and philosophy of religion. (3 hours)
- II. **Textbook and Materials**  
Weekly handouts. These will also be available on reserve in the library.
- III. **Mission Statement**  
The mission of Springfield College in Illinois is to provide students the best liberal arts education in the Ursuline tradition of a nurturing faith-based environment. We prepare students for a life of learning, leadership and service in a diverse world.
- IV. **Goals, Objectives, and Outcomes**
- A. **Goals:**  
To develop an appreciation for philosophy
- To develop a general understanding of basic philosophical theories, their significance, and their implications.
- B. **Common Student Learning Objectives**
1. Know and apply the central concepts of the subject matter. (CK-1)
  2. Communicate effectively in oral and written forms (CS-1)
  3. Seek information and develop an in-depth knowledge base, grounded in research. (PS-2)
  4. Recognize the importance of diversity of opinion, abilities and cultures. (GP-1)
- C. **Course-based student learning objectives. (CBSLO)**
1. Be able to locate key geographical features. (CK-1), (GP-1)
  2. Describe the basic components of Western philosophy. This will include specifically but is not limited to the following topics: (CK-1), (PS-2)
    - a. metaphysical theories
    - b. epistemological theories
    - c. ethics
    - d. political philosophy
    - e. philosophy of religion
    - f. philosophy of science
    - g. logic
  3. Analyze how these theories help to constitute modern thought era and its impact on the modern world. (CK-1), (CS-1), (GP-1)
- V. **Teaching Methods**  
This course is designed to teach students to reason, to study, and to understand basic philosophical theories. Lecture, discussion, and assigned readings will be used to convey the theories. Discussion, exams, and papers will help to teach students to apply logical reasoning to philosophical problems.
- VI. **Course Requirements**
1. Class participation: (CS-1), (CBSLO-2), (CBSLO-3)  
Attendance and participation is required, and students must be prepared to discuss their readings in class to receive full credit for the day's attendance and participation. Students must also take notes to receive full credit for class participation.

Students **must submit a "Three Question Survey" at the end of each class to receive credit for attendance for the day.** For the Three Question Survey the student must provide a response about

three topics; 1) what they learned that day, 2) what they were uncertain about 3) what one question they would like answered. This survey provides an opportunity for reflection and understanding for the student, as well as valuable assessment information to the instructor.

Students must produce a written excuse for any classes missed in order to avoid losing attendance and participation points for that absence.

2. Paper 1: (CS-1), (CBSLO-2), (CBSLO-3) (any 2 of the 3 are required)

Using the Plato essay, students will write a 5-6 page essay due April 3. Details are attached. Papers must be submitted **in class on the day they are due**, or they will not be accepted and the student will receive a failing grade for the assignment. Only students who submit a verified medical excuse can make arrangements to submit the paper late. The assigned reading for this paper is Plato's *Apology* available in paperback collections of Plato's works or online at "The Internet Classics Archives" website at <http://classics.mit.edu/Plato/apology.html>.

We will be using SafeAssign for all paper assignments. More detail will be provided in class.

3. Paper 2: (CS-1), (CBSLO-2), (CBSLO-3) (any 2 of the 3 are required)

Using the Aristotle and Mill essays, students will write a 5-6 page essay due April 20. Details are attached. Papers must be submitted **in class on the day they are due**, or they will not be accepted and the student will receive a failing grade for the assignment. Students who submit a verified medical excuse can make arrangements to submit the paper late. A handout of the appropriate selections from the essays will be provided in class. The entire Aristotle essay is also available on-line at <http://classics.mit.edu/Aristotle/nicomachaen.html>. The entire Mill essay is available at [http://ebooks.adelaide.edu.au/m/mill/john\\_stuart/m645u/](http://ebooks.adelaide.edu.au/m/mill/john_stuart/m645u/).

4. Paper 3: (CS-1), (CBSLO-2), (CBSLO-3) (any 2 of the 3 are required)

Using the Hobbes and Mill essays, students will write a 5-6 page essay due May 1. Details are attached. Papers must be submitted **in class on the day they are due**, or they will not be accepted and the student will receive a failing grade for the assignment. Students who submit a verified medical excuse can make arrangements to submit the paper late. A handout of selections from the essays will be provided in class. The entire Hobbes's *Leviathan* is available on line at [http://oll.libertyfund.org/?option=com\\_staticxt&staticfile=show.php%3Ftitle=869](http://oll.libertyfund.org/?option=com_staticxt&staticfile=show.php%3Ftitle=869). The entire Mill essay is available at [http://www.serendipity.li/jsmill/on\\_lib.html](http://www.serendipity.li/jsmill/on_lib.html).

5. Exams: (CBSLO-1), (CBSLO-2), (CBSLO-3)

There will be four exams during the semester. Exams must be taken in class on the exam day. **They cannot be made up** unless the student presents a verified medical excuse.

6. Cheating on an exam or paper results in an **automatic failing** grade for that assignment.

7. Plagiarism will not be tolerated in this class. **Intentional plagiarism will result in an automatic failing grade for that assignment.**

Plagiarism is defined as follows: "The deliberate and knowing presentation of another person's original ideas or creative expressions as one's own. Generally, plagiarism is immoral but not illegal. If the expression's creator gives unrestricted permission for its use and the user claims the expression as original, the user commits plagiarism but does not violate copyright laws. If the original expression is copied without permission, the plagiarist may violate copyright laws, even if credit goes to the creator. And if the plagiarism results in material gain, it may be deemed a passing-off activity that violates the Lanham Act." Black's Law Dictionary, 8th ed. (2004), p. 1187. Also useful to establish guidelines for delineating plagiarism is Diana Hacker's definition: "Three different acts are considered plagiarism: (1) failing to cite quotations and borrowed ideas, (2) failing to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks, and (3) failing to put summaries and paraphrases in your own words." (A Writer's Reference, by Diana Hacker, Bedford St. Martin's Press, 2003, page 331.) Some instances of plagiarism may, in fact, be violations of copyright law and subject to prosecution. The SCI Student Handbook lists plagiarism as a serious breach of conduct standards and will result in disciplinary action.

VII. **Means of Evaluation of Outcomes**

Evaluation:

1. Evaluations will be made using the following point system:

attendance and participation, submission of "Three question survey":

Two of the three papers

exams

Logic assignments

6 pts. each day

50 pts. each

50 pts. each

20 pts.

2. The grade scale is as follows:

A 90-100% B 80-89% C 70-79% D 60-69% E below 60%

VIII. **Topical Course Outline**

|        | date: | discussion topic:                | assignment:               |
|--------|-------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Week 1 | 3/6   | Introduction, Logic, Metaphysics | Logic assignment in class |
| Week 2 | 3/13  | Logic and Metaphysics            | Logic assignment in class |
| Week 3 | 3/27  | Epistemology                     | Exam 1                    |
| Week 4 | 4/3   | Epistemology                     | Paper 1 due               |
| Week 5 | 4/10  | Ethics                           | Exam 2                    |
| Week 6 | 4/17  | Ethics                           | Paper 2 due               |
| Week 7 | 4/24  | Political Philosophy             | Exam 3                    |
| Week 8 | 5/1   | Political Philosophy             | Final Exam<br>Paper 3 due |

IX. **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)**

Springfield College in Illinois provides individuals with disabilities reasonable accommodations to participate in educational programs, activities, and services. Students with disabilities requiring accommodations to participate in college-sponsored programs, activities, and services or to meet course requirements should contact the Director of the Resource Center as early as possible.

X. **Assessment: Classroom Assessment Techniques**

Goals, objectives, and learning outcomes that will be assessed in the class are stated in this syllabus.

The instructor will use pre-tests and post-tests, Three Question Survey, and other Classroom Assessment Techniques as deemed necessary in order to provide continuous improvement of instruction. Students are required to take part in all assessment measures.

XI. **IAI statement**

PHI 201 has been approved by the Illinois Articulation Initiative as meeting the criteria stipulated for H4 900. The IAI course description is as follows:

**H4 900: Introduction to Philosophy (3 semester credits)**

A study of recurrent, persistent human principles and problems such as the validity of knowledge; the nature of truth; the nature of identity, free will and determination; moral and aesthetic values; and religious belief systems.

PHI 201-70  
Essay 1 Trial of Socrates  
due date: 4/3

Form:

- 5-6 pages in length
- Typed, double-spaced
- Standard essay format: introduction, body, conclusion
- Use your best writing and reasoning skills (this may even require editing and rewriting); about 40% of your grade will come from your writing and 60% from content
- Do not plagiarize - Intentional plagiarism is grounds for an automatic failing grade. **If you must use someone else's work, give them credit.** Since the only essay you will be using for this paper is the handout, to note that you paraphrased from it, simply write the page number in parentheses after the sentence(s), e.g. (78). If you quote directly, you must use quotation marks.

Plagiarism will not be tolerated in this class. **Intentional plagiarism will result in an automatic failing grade for that assignment.**

Plagiarism is defined as follows: "The deliberate and knowing presentation of another person's original ideas or creative expressions as one's own. Generally, plagiarism is immoral but not illegal. If the expression's creator gives unrestricted permission for its use and the user claims the expression as original, the user commits plagiarism but does not violate copyright laws. If the original expression is copied without permission, the plagiarist may violate copyright laws, even if credit goes to the creator. And if the plagiarism results in material gain, it may be deemed a passing-off activity that violates the Lanham Act." Black's Law Dictionary, 8th ed. (2004), p. 1187. Also useful to establish guidelines for delineating plagiarism is Diana Hacker's definition: "Three different acts are considered plagiarism: (1) failing to cite quotations and borrowed ideas, (2) failing to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks, and (3) failing to put summaries and paraphrases in your own words." (A Writer's Reference, by Diana Hacker, Bedford St. Martin's Press, 2003, page 331.) Some instances of plagiarism may, in fact, be violations of copyright law and subject to prosecution. The SCI Student Handbook lists plagiarism as a serious breach of conduct standards and will result in disciplinary action.

- Papers must be submitted **on the day they are due**, or they will not be accepted and the student will receive a failing grade for the assignment. Students who submit a verified medical excuse can make arrangements to submit the paper late.

- We will be using SafeAssign for all paper assignments. More detail will be provided in class.

Content:

- Read the Plato essay.
- Using the reading, discuss the trial of Socrates. Of what is Socrates charged? What is his response? What are your responses? Support your discussion with examples from the book.

PHI 201-70  
Essay 2  
due: 4/20

Form:

- 4-5 pages in length
- Typed, double-spaced
- Standard essay format: introduction, body, conclusion
- Use your best writing and reasoning skills (this may even require editing and rewriting); about 40% of your grade will come from your writing and 60% from content
- Do not plagiarize - Intentional plagiarism is grounds for an automatic failing grade. **If you must use someone else's work, give them credit.** Since the only books you will be using for this paper are the Plato essay and Mill essay handouts, to note that you paraphrased from them, simply write the author's last name and the page number in parentheses after the sentence(s), e.g. (Plato, 78). If you quote directly, you must use quotation marks.

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- Papers must be submitted **in class on the day they are due**, or they will not be accepted and the student will receive a failing grade for the assignment. Students who submit a verified medical excuse can make arrangements to submit the paper late.
- We will be using SafeAssign for all paper assignments. More detail will be provided in class.

Content:

- Read the Aristotle essay and the Mill essay provided in class.
- Using the readings, discuss the similarities and differences between the ethical views of the two philosophers. Support your discussion with examples from the book.

PHI 201-70

Essay 3

due: 5/1

Form:

- 4-5 pages in length
- Typed, double-spaced
- Standard essay format: introduction, body, conclusion
- Use your best writing and reasoning skills (this may even require editing and rewriting); about 40% of your grade will come from your writing and 60% from content
- Do not plagiarize - Intentional plagiarism is grounds for an automatic failing grade. **If you must use someone else's work, give them credit.** Since the only books you will be using for this paper are the Hobbes and Mill essays, to note that you paraphrased from them, simply write the author's last name and the page number in parentheses after the sentence(s), e.g. (Mill, 78). If you quote directly, you must use quotation marks.

Plagiarism will not be tolerated in this class. **Intentional plagiarism will result in an automatic failing grade for that assignment.**

Plagiarism is defined as follows: "The deliberate and knowing presentation of another person's original ideas or creative expressions as one's own. Generally, plagiarism is immoral but not illegal. If the expression's creator gives unrestricted permission for its use and the user claims the expression as original, the user commits plagiarism but does not violate copyright laws. If the original expression is copied without permission, the plagiarist may violate copyright laws, even if credit goes to the creator. And if the plagiarism results in material gain, it may be deemed a passing-off activity that violates the Lanham Act." Black's Law Dictionary, 8th ed. (2004), p. 1187. Also useful to establish guidelines for delineating plagiarism is Diana Hacker's definition: "Three different acts are considered plagiarism: (1) failing to cite quotations and borrowed ideas, (2) failing to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks, and (3) failing to put summaries and paraphrases in your own words." (A Writer's Reference, by Diana Hacker, Bedford St. Martin's Press, 2003, page 331.) Some instances of plagiarism may, in fact, be violations of copyright law and subject to prosecution. The SCI Student Handbook lists plagiarism as a serious breach of conduct standards and will result in disciplinary action.

- Papers must be submitted **in class on the day they are due**, or they will not be accepted and the student will receive a failing grade for the assignment. Students who submit a verified medical excuse can make arrangements to submit the paper late.

- We will be using SafeAssign for all paper assignments. More detail will be provided in class.

Content:

- Read the Hobbes essay and the Mill essay provided in class.
- Using the reading, discuss the viewpoints of each philosopher. Their political philosophies have a similar starting point, but then develop in different directions. Compare and contrast the two political philosophies

PHI 201-70 Exam 1 guide

Part I. Short Answer: Fully identify and state the historical significance of **four** of the following. Each should be a **paragraph** in length. (4 points each) A fifth can be done for up to 2 points of extra credit.

The philosophies of discipline

Socrates

Democritus

Plato's Theory of Forms

Aristotle's four cause theory

St. Augustine's Christianization of Platonic metaphysics

Skeptical arguments of Sextus Empiricus

refutations of skepticism

St. Thomas Aquinas's rational proofs of God's existence

Part II. Match the description with the branch of philosophy. (1 points each)

- |                             |    |
|-----------------------------|----|
| ___ 1. metaphysics          | A. |
| ___ 2. epistemology         | B. |
| ___ 3. ethics               | C. |
| ___ 4. social philosophy    | D. |
| ___ 5. political philosophy | E. |
| ___ 6. aesthetics           | F. |
| ___ 7. logic                | G. |

Part III. Match the characteristic with the Pre-Socratic philosopher. (1 points each)

- |                    |    |
|--------------------|----|
| ___ 1. Thales      | A. |
| ___ 2. Anaximenes  | B. |
| ___ 3. Anaximander | C. |
| ___ 4. Pythagoras  | A. |
| ___ 5. Heraclitus  | B. |
| ___ 6. Parmenides  | C. |
| ___ 7. Empedocles  | A. |
| ___ 8. Anaxogoras  | B. |
| ___ 9. Democritus  | C. |

Part IV. Logic. Choose whether the argument is deductive or inductive, then indicate if the argument is valid or invalid and sound or unsound, or alternatively strong or weak and provide your reasons. (2 points each)

1.

deductive

valid/invalid - explain:

inductive

strong/weak - explain:

sound/unsound - explain:

Part V. True / False. Indicate whether each statement is true or false. (1 point each)

Pythagoras

Heraclitus

Democritus

Sophists

Protagoras

Plotinus

universals and particulars

skepticism

teleological explanations

Ataraxia

Intro Philosophy  
Exam 2 guide

Part I. Short Answer: Identify and state the historical significance of five of the following. Each should be a **paragraph** in length. (4 points each) A fourth can be done for up to 2 points of extra credit.

Descartes's argument for dispelling skepticism  
Hobbes's metaphysics  
Leibniz and the problem of evil  
Hume's analysis of the efficacy of inductive reasoning  
Kant's transcendental idealism and phenomena vs. noumena  
Russel's Logical Atomism  
Locke's representative realism  
Berkeley's idealism  
Hume's epistemological view

Part III. Matching. Match the metaphysical /epistemological view with its chief characteristic. (1 point each)

|        |                |
|--------|----------------|
| ___ 1. | A. Dualism     |
| ___ 2. | B. Materialism |
| ___ 3. | C. Neutralism  |
| ___ 4. | D. Idealism    |
| ___ 5. | E. Skepticism  |

Part IV. Matching. Match each of the characteristics with the philosopher with whom it is best associated

A. René Descartes      B. Thomas Hobbes      C. Benedictus de Spinoza

\_\_\_ 1.  
\_\_\_ 2.  
\_\_\_ 3.  
\_\_\_ 4.  
\_\_\_ 5.  
\_\_\_ 6.

A. Immanuel Kant      B. G. W. F. Hegel      C. John Stuart Mill

\_\_\_ 7.  
\_\_\_ 8.  
\_\_\_ 9.  
\_\_\_ 10.  
\_\_\_ 11.  
\_\_\_ 12.

A. Bertrand Russel      B. Ludwig Wittgenstein      C. John Dewey

\_\_\_ 13.  
\_\_\_ 14.  
\_\_\_ 15.

Part V. True / False. Indicate whether each statement is true or false. (1 point each) - 6

Leibnizian monads  
William Paley's argument from design  
Kant's moral argument for the existence of God  
Phenomenalism  
representationalism  
W.V.O. Quine

Intro Philosophy  
Exam 3 Ethics guide

Part I. Short Answer: Identify and describe the ethical theories of five of the following. Each should be a **paragraph** in length. (4 points each) A sixth can be done for up to 2 points of extra credit.

Aristotle  
St. Augustine  
Epicurus  
St. Thomas Aquinas  
Thomas Hobbes  
David Hume  
Immanuel Kant  
John Stuart Mill  
Friedrich Nietzsche  
G.E. Moore  
Ayn Rand  
Jean Paul Sartre

Part II. Matching. Match the Ancient Greek or Roman ethical view with one of its chief characteristics. (1 point each)

- |        |                 |
|--------|-----------------|
| ___ 1. | A. Epicureanism |
| ___ 2. | B. Cynicism     |
| ___ 3. | C. Cyrenaicism  |
| ___ 4. | D. Stoicism     |

Part III. Matching. Match the modern ethical view with one of its chief characteristics. (1 point each)

- |        |                                       |
|--------|---------------------------------------|
| ___ 5. | A. Existentialism                     |
| ___ 6. | B. Ethical Skepticism                 |
| ___ 7. | C. cultural relativism                |
| ___ 8. | D. subjectivism/individual relativism |

Part IV. Matching. Given the ethical dilemma, match the solution to the theory or theorist that best fits that solution. (1 point each)

- A. Cultural Relativism
- B. Subjectivism
- C. Plato
- D. Cyrenaicism
- E. Thomas Hobbes
- F. David Hume
- G. Immanuel Kant
- H. Utilitarianism
- I. Ayn Rand

Part V. True / False. Indicate whether each statement is true or false. (1 point each)

naturalistic theory  
hedonism  
usury  
descriptive egoism  
prescriptive egoism  
hypothetical imperative  
categorical imperative  
deontological  
consequentialism  
the "Golden Rule"  
Divine Command Theory  
Christian Existentialism

Intro Philosophy  
Final Exam guide

Part I. Short Answer: Identify and describe the political philosophies of four of the following. Each should be a **paragraph** in length. (4 points each) A fifth can be done for up to 2 points of extra credit.

St. Thomas Aquinas  
Thomas Hobbes  
John Locke  
Karl Marx  
Herbert Marcuse  
Fascism

Part II. Matching. Match the political philosophy with one of its chief characteristics. (1 point each)

- \_\_\_ 1. Plato
- \_\_\_ 2. Aristotle
- \_\_\_ 3. Niccolo Machiavelli
- \_\_\_ 4. Jean Jacques Rousseau
- \_\_\_ 5. John Stuart Mill
- \_\_\_ 6. John Rawls
- \_\_\_ 7. Jurgen Habermas

Part III. True / False. Indicate whether each statement is true or false. (1 point each)

naturalistic theory  
social contract  
ends justify the means  
public good  
free rider  
separation of powers  
laissez faire  
tyranny of the majority  
anarchism  
original position  
ideal speech situation