

## Introduction to Philosophy PHIL 120B

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**Required Text:** *Introduction to Philosophy*, Perry & Bratman ed. 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition

**Course Goal:** This course will provide the student a solid foundation in the principle areas of traditional Anglo-American (Analytic) philosophy. Although a wide range of topics will be covered, the aim is to familiarise the student with the basic questions in philosophy so that a general idea of the study of philosophy can be gleaned as well as facilitating further study in the fields covered. Most importantly, students will be introduced and become practised in the type of thinking philosophy requires, and this will be of service regardless if the students choose to pursue philosophy further. The areas covered will be Philosophy of Religion, Metaphysics, Philosophy of Mind, Ethics, Epistemology, and Philosophy of Science.

**Expectations:** All readings must be completed prior to the class period in which they will be discussed. All assignments must be turned in at the beginning of class on the due date. No late work will be accepted without a dean's approval. I am not an arbiter of excuses, so if you think your absence is warranted, talk to your dean, then your dean can talk to me. There is no extra credit. The grade of A is for exceptional work, B for good work, C for average work, and D and F for failure.

**Grades:** 40% (Quizzes)—the quizzes can be given at any time and will cover only the material assigned for the day the quiz is taken. The two lowest quiz grades will be dropped. Exams: (60%)—there will be three exams over the course of the semester and each will count for 20% of your final grade. The exams will be short-essay question format.

**Week One: General Introduction and Philosophy as a Discipline**

Aug 30<sup>th</sup>-Sept 1<sup>st</sup>- Russell 9-11, Smart 12-19

**Week Two: Problem of Evil**

Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>-Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>- Hume 57-90, Pike 93-102. Mackie 103-110

**Week Three: Epistemology**

Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>-Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>- Descartes 116-138, Hume 176-189

**Week Four: Philosophy of Mind and Metaphysics**

Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>-Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>- Ryle 316-323, Armstrong 324-330, Lewis 331-336, Dennett 337- 348, Churchland 349-353

**Week Five: M&M Cont.**

Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>-Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>- Putnam 354, Turing 355-367, Searle 368-281

**Week Six: M&M Cont.**

Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>- Nagel 382-389, Jackson 390-393, Lewis 394-395

Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>- **1<sup>st</sup> Exam**

**Week Seven: M&M Cont.**

Oct 11<sup>th</sup>- Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>- Perry 396-416, Taylor 437-449, Strawson 460-474

**Week Eight: M&M and Ethics**

Oct.18<sup>th</sup>-Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>- Bentham and Mill 483-502, Smart 505-511, Williams 512-520

**Week Nine: Ethics Cont.**

Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>-Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>- Singer 521-528, Kant 529-545

**Week Ten: Ethics Cont.**

Nov 1<sup>st</sup>-Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>- O'Neill and Nagel 546-563, Rawls and Nozick 598-618

**Week Eleven: Ethics Cont.**

Nov 8<sup>th</sup>- Cohen and Scheffler 619-649

Nov 10<sup>th</sup>- **2<sup>nd</sup> Exam**

**Week Twelve: Exam and Ethics Cont.**

Nov 15<sup>th</sup>-Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>- Hume 715-738, Gauthier and Mackie 739-752

**Week Thirteen: Thanksgiving**

Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>-Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>- **No Class**

**Week Fourteen: Ethics Cont. and Philosophy of Science**

Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>-Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>- Harman and Sturgeon 765-784, Salmon 230-251, Goodman 791

**Week Fifteen: Philosophy of Science**

Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>-Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>- Anscombe 252-262, Anderson 284-304

**Final Exam Dec. 15th**