

SPRING 2007

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**ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHY
(PHIL 243)**

**LINC CATEGORY: U2 (MORAL LIFE)
TIME: MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY, 2:20-3:30 PM
INSTRUCTOR: SHALAHUDIN KAFRAWI
CLASSROOM: COMENIUS 309**

CONTENT:

The course deals with the history of philosophy from the pre-Socratics to Aquinas. A special attention is given to the works of Plato, Aristotle, Plotinus, Avicenna, Maimonides and Aquinas. Themes include ethical concerns, nature of reality, and relationships of reason, religion and authority.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

At the end of the course, students are expected to achieve the following objectives:

1. to explain major philosophical themes in ancient and medieval periods;
2. to distinguish major characteristics of philosophy in ancient and medieval periods from those of philosophy in other periods;
3. to explore the views of major philosophers in ancient and medieval periods on the question of Being;
4. to discuss the relation between reality and knowledge in ancient and medieval periods;
5. to explore the ethical views of major philosophers in ancient and medieval periods.

GRADING FORMAT:

1. Participation (20 points);
2. Structured paper (20 points);
3. Research paper (8-15 pages; 30 points): research proposal (5 points) and first draft (5 points) of the paper are required prior to final submission (15 points);
4. Presentation on a book or a part of a book from the works of Plato, Aristotle, Plotinus, Avicenna, Maimonides, or Aquinas (15-20 minutes; 30 points): 10 points for a prepared paper; 10 points for actual presentation and 10 points for handling questions and comments;
5. Complete attendance (5 extra points).

Students will accumulate the points—there will be no conversion of points into grades—until the end of the semester. Below is the table of point conversion for the final grade:

Points	Final Grade	4-point conversion
95-100	A	4
90-95	A-	3.7
87-90	B+	3.3
84-87	B	3
80-84	B-	2.7
77-80	C+	2.3
74-77	C	2
70-74	C-	1.7
67-70	D+	1.3
64-67	D	1
60-64	D-	0.7
0-60	F	0

PARTICIPATION:

Students' participation is highly valued. Active participation includes any input that enables the achievement of the course objectives. It includes—but not limited to—making comments about the reading, asking questions about the reading or the themes under discussion, answering questions posed by the instructor or the class, and suggesting alternative views on the issues in class discussion. Participation in discussions on the Blackboard can be counted toward active participation.

All students are required to participate in a public lecture by Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer on Thursday, January 18, 2006 at 7:30 PM. Attending a lecture(s) on philosophy, whenever applicable, can also be counted toward increasing the participation grade. Complete attendance without any form of participation indicated above will give students a participation grade of no more four points.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

Students are required to honor academic integrity. The course imposes the application of Moravian College's Academic Honesty Policy. The policy is to be found at Moravian College's *Student Handbook: 2006-2007*, pp. 26-31.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Students are encouraged to attend all scheduled meetings for this course. Those with complete attendance will receive A (worth 5 extra points of the total). Students have the liberty to miss four classes without any reason. Those who miss more than the allowed four absences will be downgraded by five points for each additional missed class. Those who miss

a class with written justifiable reason(s) may be waived from absence if they write a report on the reading when they missed the class. Complete attendance does not guarantee a good participation grade.

PAPER SUBMISSIONS:

Assignments are posted electronically on the Blackboard. All papers—including (1) structured paper, (2) written material for presentation, (3) research proposal, (4) draft of research paper and (5) final research paper—should be electronically submitted through Blackboard on or before the indicated dates. If for some reason there is a problem with electronic submission, the printed copy of the paper should be submitted to the instructor's office on the same day. Late submissions will be downgraded for that specific assignment by one point per day.

Students are encouraged to rewrite the structured paper, proposal, and the draft of research paper. Final research papers cannot be rewritten. The rewritten papers are due within a week after the papers are electronically distributed. Since the grades of the rewritten papers can be better or worse than the originally submitted papers, the best grades will be counted toward the final.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Office: Zinzendorf 201
Phone: (610) 861-1628
E-mail: skafrawi@moravian.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday: 10:45-11:15 AM; Wednesday: 9:30 AM-12:30 PM;
or by appointment.

READINGS AVAILABLE AT THE COLLEGE BOOKSTORE:

- Maimonides. *The Guide of The Perplexed: Abridged, with Introduction and Commentary*. Translated by Julius Guttmann. Indianapolis and Cambridge: Hackett Publishing Company, 2006.
- Avicenna. *The Metaphysics of the Healing: A parallel English-Arabic Text*. Translated, introduced and annotated by Michael E. Marmura. Provo: Brigham Young University Press, 2005.
- Plato. *Complete Works*. Edited with Introduction and Notes by John M. Cooper. Indianapolis and Cambridge: Hackett Publishing Company, 1997.
- Aristotle. *The Complete Works of Aristotle*. Vol. 1. Edited by Jonathan Barnes. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1984.

READINGS AVAILABLE AT THE REEVES LIBRARY RESERVES:

- Aquinas, Thomas. *Nature and Grace: Selections From the Summa Theologica of Thomas Aquinas*. A. M. Fairweather, ed. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1978. [The electronic version of this book is available from Reeves' Worldcat.]
- Aristotle. *Eudemian Ethics*. In *The Complete Works of Aristotle*. Vol. 2. Edited by Jonathan Barnes. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1984. 1922-1981.

_____. *Nicomachean Ethics*. In *The Complete Works of Aristotle*. Vol. 2. Edited by Jonathan Barnes. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1984. 1781-1825.
 Curd, Patricia, ed. *A Presocratic Reader: Selected Fragments and Testimonia*. Trans. Richard D. McKirahan. Indianapolis; Cambridge: Hackett Publishing Company, 1996.
 Plotinus. *Enneads*. New York: Larson Publications, 1992.

SCHEDULE:

No.	Date	Topic and Reading	Due date
1	01/15/07	Introduction [Reading: Syllabus]	
2	01/17/07	Pre-Socratics 1: [Reading: Curd and McKirahan, <i>A Presocratics Reader</i> , pp. 1-51.]	
	01/18/07	Public lecture by Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer	
3	01/22/07	Pre-Socratics 2: [Reading: Curd and McKirahan, <i>A Presocratics Reader</i> , pp. 53-88]	
4	01/24/07	Plato 1 [Reading: Plato, <i>Euthyphro</i> , <i>Apology</i> and <i>Crito</i> , 1-48.]	
5	01/29/07	Plato 2 [Reading: Plato, <i>Phaedo</i> , 49-100.]	
7	01/31/07	Plato 3 [Reading: Plato, <i>Theaetetus</i> , 157-234.]	
8	02/05/07	Plato 4 [Reading: Plato, <i>Republic</i> , 971-1223.]	Structured Paper
9	02/07/07	Aristotle 1 [Reading: Aristotle, <i>Categories</i> , 3-24.]	
10	02/12/07	Preparation for Research Paper	
11	02/14/07	Aristotle 2 [Reading: Aristotle, <i>Eudemian Ethics</i> , 1922-1981.]	Research Proposal
12	02/19/07	Aristotle 3 [Reading: Aristotle, <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , Books 1-2 and 5-7, 1781-1825.]	
13	02/21/07	Aristotle 4 [Reading: Aristotle, <i>On the Soul</i> , 641-692.]	Presentation paper
	02/23/07	Mid-Term	
14	02/26/07	Plotinus 1 [Reading: Plotinus, <i>Enneads</i> , 23-63]	
15	02/28/07	Plotinus 2 [Reading: Plotinus, <i>Enneads</i> , 64-90]	
	03/05/07	Spring Recess; March 5-11	
	03/07/07	Spring Recess; March 5-11	
16	03/12/07	Avicenna 1	Presentation

		[Reading: Avicenna, Book 1 of <i>Metaphysics of The Healing</i> , 1-44.]	starts
17	03/14/07	Avicenna 2 [Reading: Avicenna, Book 2-3 of <i>Metaphysics of The Healing</i> , 45-122.]	Draft of Research Paper
18	03/19/07	Avicenna 3 [Reading: Avicenna, Book 4-5 of <i>Metaphysics of The Healing</i> , 124-192.]	
19	03/21/07	Avicenna 4 [Reading: Avicenna, Book 6 of <i>Metaphysics of The Healing</i> , 194-234.]	
20	03/26/07	Maimonides 1 [Reading: Maimonides, Selections from Book 1 of <i>The Guide of the Perplexed</i> , 51-87.]	
21	03/28/07	Maimonides 2 [Reading: Maimonides, Selections from Book 2 of <i>The Guide of the Perplexed</i> , 89-129.]	
22	04/02/07	Maimonides 3 [Reading: Maimonides, Selections from Book 2 of <i>The Guide of the Perplexed</i> , 129-147.]	
23	04/04/07	Maimonides 4 [Reading: Maimonides, Selections from Book 3 of <i>The Guide of the Perplexed</i> , 149-202.]	
	04/09/07	Easter Recess; April 6-9	
24	04/11/07	Aquinas 1 [Reading: Aquinas, <i>Nature and Grace</i> , 35-59.]	
25	04/16/07	Aquinas 2 [Reading: Aquinas, <i>Nature and Grace</i> , 60-100.]	Research Paper
26	04/18/07	Aquinas 3 [Reading: Aquinas, <i>Nature and Grace</i> , 219-277.]	
27	04/23/07	Aquinas 4 [Reading: Aquinas, <i>Nature and Grace</i> , 310-335.]	
28	04/25/07	Concluding Remarks	
		Final Exams April 30-May 4	