

MORAVIAN COLLEGE
COURSE SYLLABUS
Spring 2014

PHIL 241 Ancient Philosophy

Instructor: Dr. Bernie Cantens

TR 1:00–2:20PM

Classroom: Comenius Hall 005

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Web Page: <http://berniephilosophy.com/>

Office: Comenius Hall 107

Office Hours: TR 8:30-10:00

All assignments and papers should be sent to berniecantens@markupsync.com

Texts

Plato, *The Collected Dialogues*

Aristotle, *Aristotle's Collected Works*

Course Description

A critical examination of the history of Greek philosophy including the pre-Socratics, Thales, Anaxagoras, Parmenides, Heraclitus, Empedocles, Plato and Aristotle.

Learning Outcomes

Students that successfully complete this course should:

1. Write and speak clearly about the nature of ancient Greek philosophy.
2. Critically explain the nature of some of the most prominent philosophical principles, doctrines and concepts in ancient Greek philosophy.
3. Write and speak clearly about Plato's central epistemological, metaphysical and ethical principles and doctrines.
4. Write and speak clearly about Aristotle's central epistemological, metaphysical and ethical principles and doctrines.
5. Construct well-developed and articulated arguments in support or critique of Plato's and Aristotle's philosophies.
6. Exercise scholarly creativity, fairness and tolerance toward different conflicting views.

Grading/Measures of evaluations:

Exam 1	25%
Exam 2	25%
Paper 1	25%
4 Assignments	25%

Exams (50%)

There will be two exams throughout the semester. Each exam is worth 25 % of the final grade. The exam will be composed of essays and short answers. It is within the

instructor's purview to apply qualitative judgment in determining grades for an assignment or for the course.

Exam 1: February 13, 2014

Exam 2: April 30, 2014 (8:30AM)

Papers (25%) March 27, 2014

Students will complete three philosophical writing assignments on a topic *directly* related to this course and assigned readings. The writing assignment is a *top-down, thesis-governed paper* approximately 3-5 pages long, double-spaced and 12-Times New Roman font. A thesis-governed paper is a more formal academic style paper – “the prototypical structure of academic prose. Such writing begins with the presentation of a problem to be addressed; near the end of the introduction, after the writer has presented the problem, the writer states his or her thesis, often accompanied by a purpose statement or a blueprint statement that gives the reader an overview of the whole essay. The body of the paper then supports the thesis with appropriate arguments and evidence” (John C. Bean, *Engaging Ideas*, 87). The students will be graded according to four criteria: (1) whether the introduction has a clear and explicit thesis and organized developing statements; (2) whether the paper is well organized and demonstrates a logical flow of ideas (in accordance with the introduction); (3) whether there are well constructed and developed arguments and/or critical explanations of philosophical problems and solutions; and (4) whether the writing skills, such as word use, sentence structure, grammar, and punctuation are correct.

The Writing Center is located in a building that is not accessible to persons with mobility impairments. If you need the services of the Writing Center, please call 610-861-1392.

4 Required Assignments 25%

Due Dates

January 30, 2014

February 6, 2014

March 20, 2014

April 10, 2014

April 24, 2014

A=100-94; A- =93-90; B+=89-87; B=86-84; B- = 83-80; C+=79-77; C = 76-70; D=69-60; F=<59

Class Participation

Attendance will be taken every class period and students will be marked down for unexcused absences. Students will lose 1 point for every unexcused absence up to a possible 5 points.

Extra Credit

Students can earn 3 extra points by attending 3 Philosophy Club meetings or other Philosophy department related events.

Academic Dishonesty Policy

See Student Handbook pp. 32 – 38.

Students Disability Policy

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Elaine Mara, assistant director of learning services for academic and disability support at 1307 Main Street, or by calling 610-861-1510. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center”

Student Behavior:

See Student Handbook pp. 38 – 40.

PROGRAM AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

WEEK	TOPIC	READINGS & ASSIGNMENTS
WEEK 1	INTRODUCTION	
January 14	Introduction	
January 16	Apology	
WEEK 2		
January 21	Crito	
January 23	Crito	
WEEK 3		
January 28	Phaedo	
January 30	Phaedo	Assignment 1
WEEK 4		

Feb 4	Republic	
Feb 6	Republic	Assignment 2
WEEK 5		
Feb11	Review	
Feb13	EXAM 1	
WEEK 6		
Feb 17	Symposium	
Feb 20	Symposium	
WEEK 7		
Feb 25	Symposium	
Feb 27	No Class	
WEEK 8		
March 4	Spring Break	
March 6	Spring Break	
WEEK 9	ARISTOTLE	
March 11	Introduction	
March 13	Physics	Assignment 3

WEEK 10		
March 18	Physics	
March 20	Physics	
WEEK 11		
March 25	De Anima	
March 27	De Anima	Paper Due
WEEK 12		
April 1	Metaphysics	
April 3	Metaphysics	
WEEK 13	PAPER	
April 8	Metaphysics	
April 10	Nicomachean Ethics	Assignment 4
WEEK 14		
April 15	Nicomachean Ethics	
April 17	No Class	
WEEK 15		
April 22	Nicomachean Ethics	

April 24	Nicomachean Ethics	Assignment 5
Wed., April 30 8:30AM	Exam	