**PHL 180 E HUMANITIES PHILOSOPHY Fall 2021**

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

# Indiana Wesleyan University Professor: Steve Horst

**Course Description:** A study of philosophy within the seven major historical periods with primary consideration being given to outstanding thinkers and trends of thought such as rationalism, empiricism, idealism, realism, existentialism, and naturalism.

**Required Text:** Gaarder, Jostein. *Sophie's World: A Novel About the History of Philosophy*. Translated by Paulette Moller. NY: Berkley Books, 1994.

If interested in further study in philosophy:

Stumpf, Samuel E. and James Fieser. *Socrates to Sartre and Beyond: A History of Philosophy.* 8th ed. NY: McGraw-Hill College, 2008.

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Be able to describe the basic categories, periods, names, theories and issues of western philosophy.

Be able to identify and explain the primary theistic and atheistic philosophical arguments.

Be able to spot philosophical assumptions embedded in various expressions of contemporary culture.

**EVALUATION:** Your final grade for this class will be based on the following:

1. Daily class attendance and participation are expected. Points will be deducted for more than three (3) absences. 4%

2. Philosophical movie evaluation. 2 @ 4 pts. each= 8%

3. Unannounced quizzes- brief, random events which will evaluate how current you are with reading the assigned chapters in *Sophie’s World*. 10 @ 2 pts. each= 20%

4. Four (4) exams, each of which will count toward 17% of your grade= 68%

Total: 100%

**EXTRA CREDIT:**

Up to three (3) extra points can be obtained by writing a personal philosophy paper, in which you articulate your position concerning ultimate meaning/reality (ontology), how this reality is to be known (epistemology), and what implications this has for your life (ethics). In order for this paper to receive the full 3 points extra credit, it should be at least 1000 words in length and should reflect your interaction with the various philosophical proposals studied through the term.

My office is 214 in the School of Theology and Ministry, upper level of the Christian Ministries Building. My extension is x2242.

**GRADING SCALE:**

**A** 95-100 **B** 83-86 **C** 73-76 **D** 63-66

**A-** 90-94 **B-** 80-82 **C-** 70-72 **F** 62 and below

**B+** 87-89 **C+** 77-79 **D+** 67-69

“It’s the questions we can’t answer that teach us the most. They teach us how to think. If you give a man an answer, all he gains is a little fact. But give him a question and he’ll look for his own answers. That way, when he finds the answers, they’ll be precious to him. The harder the question, the harder we hunt. The harder we hunt, the more we learn. An impossible question . . .”

Patrick Rothfuss, *The Wise Man’s Fear,* p. 59

**PHL 180 HUMANITIES PHILOSOPHY TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF CLASSES**

**Assigned chapters in *Sophie’s World* are to be read before coming to class on that date!!!**

**September 3**  Introduction and Orientation

**6 Labor Day- no class**

**8** Chapters 1-3 The Garden of Eden, The Top Hat, & The Myths

**10** Chapter 4 The Natural Philosophers

**13** Chapter 4 The Natural Philosophers, continued

**15** Chapter 5 & 6 Democritus & Fate

**17** Chapter 7 Socrates

**20** Video: ***Barefoot in Athens***

**22** **First exam**

**24** Chapters 8 & 9 Athens & Plato

**27** Chapter 9 Plato, continued

**29** Chapters 10 & 11 The Major’s Cabin & Aristotle

**October** **1** Chapter 11 Aristotle, continued

**4** Chapter 12 Hellenism

**6**  Chapter 12 Hellenism, continued

**8** **Fall Break**

**11** Chapters 13 & 14 The Postcards & Two Cultures

**13** **Second Exam**

**15** Chapter 15 The Middle Ages

**18** Chapter 15 The Middle Ages, continued

**20** Chapter 16 The Renaissance

**22** Chapter 18 Descartes

**25**  Chapter 17 The Baroque

**27** Chapter 19 Spinoza & Leibniz

**29** Chapter 20 Locke

**November** **1** Chapter 21 Hume

**3**  Chapters 22 & 23 Berkeley & Bjerkely

**5 Third Exam**

**8** Chapter 24 The Enlightenment

**10** Chapter 25 Kant

**12** Chapter 25 Kant, continued

**15** Chapter 26 Romanticism

**17** Chapter 27 Hegel

**19** Chapter 28 Kierkegaard

**22**  Chapter 29 Marx

**24,26 Thanksgiving Break**

**29** Chapter 29 Marx, continued

**December 1** Chapters 30 & 31 Darwin & Freud

**3** Chapters 30 & 31 Darwin & Freud, continued

**6** Chapter 32 Our Own Time

**8** Chapter 33-35 Our Own Time, continued

**10** Wrapping Up

**16 Final Exam 12:00-1:50 pm**