**GST 212: Introduction to Philosophy**

Assignment Title: The Alphabet of Philosophy

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Date: 8th April 2025

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# THE ALPHABET OF PHILOSOPHY

A – Absolute: The unconditioned and ultimate reality in metaphysics.

B – Being: That which exists, either in itself or through another.

C – Cause: The principle or reason through which something comes into existence.

D – Determinism: The doctrine that all events are caused and therefore inevitable.

E – Essence: The fundamental nature or reality of a thing that makes it what it is.

F – Form: The essential nature or structure of something, especially in metaphysics.

G – Good: That which is desirable, valuable, or morally right.

H – Hylomorphism: The doctrine that physical objects result from the combination of matter and form.

I – Idealism: The philosophical view that reality is fundamentally mental or immaterial.

J – Justice: The principle of moral rightness and equity.

K – Knowledge: Justified true belief or the awareness and understanding of facts and truths.

L – Logic: The systematic study of valid inference, reasoning, and argument.

M – Metaphysics: The branch of philosophy concerned with the nature of reality and existence.

N – Nihilism: The rejection of all religious and moral principles, often in the belief that life is meaningless.

O – Ontology: The philosophical study of being and existence.

P – Phenomenology: The study of structures of consciousness as experienced from the first-person point of view.

Q – Qualia: The subjective, conscious experiences of perception and sensation.

R – Rationalism: The epistemological view that reason is the chief source of knowledge.

S – Substance: That which exists independently and underlies all properties and changes.

T – Teleology: The explanation of phenomena by the purpose they serve rather than by postulated causes.

U – Universals: Abstract properties or qualities that multiple things can have in common.

V – Virtue: Moral excellence and righteousness; a foundational concept in ethics.

W – Will: The capacity to make choices or decisions; often central in ethics and metaphysics.

X – Xenophilia: Philosophical openness or love of the unfamiliar or foreign (used philosophically).

Y – Yin-Yang: The philosophical concept of dualism in balance, used metaphorically in metaphysics.

Z – Zeno's Paradoxes: Philosophical problems that challenge the notions of motion and plurality.