

INTRODUCTION TO

PHILOSOPHY

I. INSTRUCTOR

Theodore Faulders, Ph.D.

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II. COURSE DESCRIPTION

The goal of the course is to investigate the texts of various philosophers in order to understand and appreciate the patterns that they observed. You are encouraged to spend your time reading and thinking about the original texts (the primary sources), rather than researching the secondary sources. Sometimes, however, you may want to pursue a line of thought that is puzzling or of special interest to you.

III. STUDENT OBJECTIVES

If the student passes the course, then he or she is expected:

To be able to read and understand a philosophical text;

To trust that philosophers discuss real-life problems;

To discover the problem discussed in a philosophical text;

To find the premises and reasons that support a philosopher's solution to a problem; a

To understand the differences between the various branches of philosophy.

IV. CLASS MEETINGS

Monday and Wednesday 2:00 – 3:20 PM • PHILOS 101 – 82946 • SCOH 201

August 22 – December 7 • Holiday: Labor day 09/05 • 31 classes and 46.5 hours

V. TEXTS

Donald Abel, *Fifty Readings Plus*, 2nd (San Francisco, 2010), ISBN 0073386720.

Francis Collins, *The Language of God* (New York, 2006), ISBN 1416542744.

VI. ASSIGNMENTS

We shall work through most of the chapters of the Abel text in class. You will please type answers the homework questions on the text by Francis Collins at home. The homework questions are found here: www.faulders-philosophy.com/introduction/.

Two papers are required according to my assigned format. Please look at other student essays and the format before writing a paper.

VII. GRADING

Homework (20%), Test One (10%), Test Two (15%), Final exam (30%), Class Participation (15%); Papers (10%). No makeup will be given except for a sufficient reason, such as health and family reasons. Please, no cell phones in class. The grading scale is as follows: A (100 - 90); B (89- 80); C (79 - 70); D (69 - 60).

VIII. EXAM SCHEDULE

Test 1 • Wednesday, September 21

Test 2 • Wednesday, October 19

Final exam • Wednesday, June 1

IX. STUDENT SERVICES

Chairperson, Department of Philosophy, Dr. Chris Blakey <chris.blakey@canyons.edu>

Dean, Department of Philosophy, Dr. Michael McMann

Career Service Center, <www.canyons.edu/offices/careercenter>

Last day to drop without receiving a "W": September 16

Last day to drop a course with a "W": October 14

X. REFERENCES

Aristotle, *The Basic Works of Aristotle*, ed. McKeon (1941); for serious studies in philosophy

Luann Brizendine, *The Female Brain* (2007); *The Male Brain* (2010) an intro. to neuroscience

Leon Lederman, *The God Particle* (1993); a good introduction to contemporary physics

Tom Rath, *Strengths Finder 2.0* (2007); the best tool I've seen for discovering one's focus

www.plato.stanford.edu.com (philosophy encyclopedia)

www.centerforcollegeaffordability.org/ (rising costs of college; student debt)

www.ratemyprofessors.com (teacher reviews)

www.fastweb.com (a good place to start for grants and scholarships)

XI. THE TEN BRANCHES OF PHILOSOPHY

1. Logic is the study of human thinking.
2. Ethics is the study of human activities.
3. Politics is the study of human communities.
4. Art is the study of human products.
5. Physics is the study of the motion of material things.
6. Mathematics is the study of the quantity of all material things.
7. Psychology is the study of the life in some material things.
8. Epistemology is the study of the human understanding.
9. Metaphysics is the study of material and immaterial things.
10. Natural theology is the study of immaterial, spiritual things.

HOMework SCHEDULE



Introduction to Philosophy 101 – 82946: Dr. Faulders

The homework questions are found here:

< www.faulders-philosophy.com/introduction/ >

I. FALL 2011

August 22 Syllabus, Calendar; Plato, p. 142
August 29 Anselm, p. 32; Aquinas, p. 39
September 5 Pascal, p. 116; Due: Collins Q.1
September 12 Hick, p. 105; Due: Collins Q.2
September 19 Stace, Ch. 31; Due: Collins Q.3
September 21 Test One
September 26 Paper One; Damasio, handout
October 3 Aristotle, p. 388; Due: Collins Q.4
October 10 Aquinas, p. 400; Due: Collins Q.5
October 17 Nietzsche, p. 440; Due: Collins, Q. 6
October 19 Test Two; Sartre, p. 449
October 24 Paper Two, Hobbes, p. 505
October 31 Locke, p. 515; Due: Collins Q.7
November 7 Mill, p. 549; Due: Collins Q. 8
November 14 Girard, handout; Due: Collins, Q. 9
November 21 King, p. 557; Collins, Q. 10
November 28 Review: Collins Q.11
December 7 Final Exam