December 15, 2015

Phil 234, 3 credits, Spring 2015, TBD.

Ancient Philosophy

Dr. Scott O'Connor
http://scoconno.github.io/Teaching/Ancient

09/01/2015–12/15/2015

Copyright

Catalog Description

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Course Description

Upon completing this course students will be able to (i) read philosophical texts, (ii) clearly and charitably explain viewpoints that are not their own, (iii) think critically and philosophically, (iv) write well-structured prose in which they clearly state a thesis and persuasively defend it, (v) demonstrate an understanding of the philosophies of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle.

Required Textbook

(Available in the campus book store and online retailers)

· There are three

Optional

Course Website

There is both a Blackboard site and website for this course (link on first page). Clicking the first link on the left panel within the Blackboard site will bring you to the course website. All assignments will be submitted through Blackboard. Readings, notes, etc. will be posted on the course website. Note that Blackboard difficulties are rare and automatically reported to instructors. Under no circumstance will a student's report of a Blackboard difficulty be reason for an extension. It is your responsibility to contact Blackboard support for help.

Requirements

· *Workload:* Expect to spend an average of 5–6 hours per week completing the readings and assignments.

· *Attendance:* Roll call will be taken. 0.5 point will be awarded per class up to a maximum of 10 points. Points will not be awarded during weeks 1 & 2.

· *4 Short essays* submitted through Blackboard. Sample answers will be made public to the entire class after the due date.

· *1 Final project* comprising a proposal, short presentation, and written submission in two drafts.

· *Grade Distribution:* Attendance–0.5 point per class (10 total); 3 Short Essays—10 points each (30 total); Essay–30 points; Final Project–10 for presentation, 10 for draft 1, 20 for written submission (40 points total)

· *Grade Breakdown:*

96–110	A		77–79	C+
90–95	A-		73–76	C
87-89	B+		70–72	C-
83–86	B		60–69	D
80–82	B -		0–59	F

Policies

· **Student Responsibility:** This syllabus outlines the required text, assignments, requirements, and policies for this course. By taking this course, you agree to read this syllabus and be bound by those requirements and policies.

· *Academic Integrity:* All the work you turn in (including papers, drafts, and discussion board posts) must be written by you specifically for this course. It must originate with you in form and content with all contributory sources fully and specifically acknowledged. Being a student at NJCU requires you to follow NJCU's Academic Integrity Policy. Penalties for violations are as follows: 1st infraction will result in a 0 for the assignment. 2nd infraction will result in a 0 for the entire course & application for permanent record on student's transcript. (Repeated violations can lead to expulsion from NJCU).

· *Attendance:* You are considered absent if you are (i) not present during roll call, (ii) leave early, (iii) leave without permission, or (iv) leave for an extended period of time. No excuses. No exceptions.

· *Communication:* To comply with Federal Privacy Laws (FERPA) and NJCU policies, all communication will be through Blackboard and/or official NJCU e-mail. Check both your NJCU e-mail and Blackboard daily. For further information see http://scoconno.github.io/Contact/.

· *Conduct:* Distracting and disrespectful behaviors, including but not limited to eating, leaving your seat, talking out of turn, and aggression are prohibited. Penalties include, but are not limited to, a loss of attendance points for the day of violation. Repeat offenders will be reported to the Dean of Students.

· *Electronic devices:* Use of electronic device, including, but not limited, to smartphones, dictaphones, tablets, and laptops, is prohibited. Recording a lecture is in violation of Copyright. Penalties include, but are not limited to, a loss of attendance points for the day of violation. Repeat offenders will be reported to the Dean of Students.

· *Format for Written Work:* Submit work to Blackboard either as a rich text or Microsoft Word file. All work must be typed. Your papers should be in 12-point Times New Roman font, double-spaced with margins set to one inch on all sides. If hard copies are requested, please staple or paperclip copies of papers and drafts.

· *Grading:* Grades will be available within 1 week of an assignment being submitted. See: http://scoconno.github.io/Teaching/Grading for further information.

· *Late work & Make-up Policy:* See the assignment schedule below. No make-ups or late work accepted under any circumstances. No exceptions. But note that there are 110 points available with 96+ being required for an A.

· *Statement for students with disabilities:* If you are a student with a disability and wish to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, please register with the Office of Specialized Services and Supplemental Instruction (OSS/SI). To begin this process, complete the registration form available on the OSS/SI website at www.njcu.edu/Specialized_Services.aspx (listed under Student Resources-Forms). Contact OSS/SI at 201-200-2091 or visit the office in Karnoutsos Hall, Room 102 for additional information.

Weekly Course Schedule

Dates refer to the first day of the week. Complete the readings before the first class of the week. Readings marked with a '**' can be found on the course website. Handouts can be found under the relevant modules on the course website. All other listed readings can be found in the required textbook. Changes to the syllabus will be announced in class and *via* your NJCU email address.

Module 0: Introduction

1. *Week 1* Introduction

Module 1: Socrates

1. *Week 2* Socrates in action
   a) 'Socrate', directed by Rossalini (in class)
   b) Euthyphro

2. *Week 3* Is Socrates a bad influence?
   a) Meno

3. *Week 4* Trial & Defense
   a) Apology

4. *Week 5* Should Socrates escape? (no class on Mon)
   a) 'Crito'

5. *Week 6* Socrates' death?
   a) 'Phaedo'...this was too long last time)
   b) (End of Rosselini)

Module 2: Plato

1. *Week 7* Glaucon's Challenge
   a) 'Republic', Book 2 (up until 368c)

2. **Spring Break**

3. *Week 8* Plato's answer
   a) Republic, 434d-445e
   b) Star Trek, TNG, 'The Masterpiece Society (maybe an assignment)

Module 3: Aristotle

1. *Week 9* The Good Life
   a) Nicomachean Ethics', Book 1, Book 2.1-6 & Book 3.1-5 (virtue)

2. *Week 10* The Best Life
   a) 'Nicomachean Ethics', Book 10.6-9

3. *Week 11* Physics

      a) Explaining Nature (mon), 'Physics', Book II, Ch.1-2.

      b) The Four Causes, Physics', Book II, Ch.3

      c) Teleology Physics', Book II, Ch.8

  4. *Week 12* The Soul

      a) De Anima', Book II, Ch.1–4

Module 4: Hellenistic Philosophy

  1. *Week 13* The Stoics

      a) TBD

  2. *Week 14* The Skeptics

      a) TBD

  3. *Week 15* Epicurus

      a) TBD

Assignment Schedule

Dates refer to the due date. All assignments must be submitted through Blackboard by 1:00pm. No late work accepted. No make-ups. No exceptions.

  1. *09/28/2015,* SW1