

COURSE POLICIES AND SYLLABUS

PHL 360 – Philosophy of the Middle Ages

Professor Charles Echelbarger

REQUIRED TEXTS

- Lawhead, William F. *The Voyage of Discovery: A Historical Introduction to Philosophy: The Medieval Voyage*. Wadsworth, 2002.
- Kaufmann, Walter and F. E. Baird (eds), *Philosophical Classics, vol. II: Medieval Philosophy*. Prentice-Hall 1994.

TERM PAPER

Two term papers. Each paper should be about ten pages long, not including footnotes and bibliography. The final drafts of these papers are due on **October 22** and **December 3** respectively. (25% + 25%).

Any lateness on these final drafts may result in a penalty on the grades earned.

Complete rough drafts of each paper are due on **October 15** and **November 24**. The instructor will write comments and suggestions for revision and then return the drafts with grades that will automatically become the final grades on the papers unless the author makes revisions consistent with the instructor's suggestions. Revisions are strongly encouraged since they often improve the grade on the paper.

On September 22, students must choose a topic for the first term paper. This topic must be submitted in writing to the instructor at this time.

On October 1, students must submit brief descriptions or explanations (about one page long) of what the paper will be about, of the overall plan of the paper, of a statement of the author's goals for the paper and of how these goals will be accomplished. An outline and bibliography are also required together with these descriptions.

On November 12, students must choose a topic for the second term paper. This topic must be submitted in writing to the instructor at this time.

On November 19, students must submit brief descriptions or explanations (about one page long) of what the paper will be about, of the overall plan of the paper, of a statement of the author's goals for the paper and of how these goals will be accomplished. An outline and bibliography are also required together with these descriptions.

Further guidelines on writing term papers for this course will be provided in the form of handouts.

Examinations:

There will be one in-class mid-term exam and a Final examination.

The mid-term exam will be given on October 22 (20%).

The final exam will be given in class on December 17 at 8:00AM - 10:00AM (20%).

Journal article summaries:

All students are required to find appropriate (from professional philosophy journals) journal articles and then write brief summaries of them. In a separate handout, the instructor will provide a list of journals that are generally relevant to the contents of this course. It often happens that, in perusing these articles, students think of topics they would be interested in writing about. A brief summary of the author's main topics, claims and arguments in the article are generally sufficient. All of these summaries will be due on the same dates as those of the rough drafts of the term papers. However, they may be handed in on earlier dates. (5% + 5%).

Extra credit opportunities:

Students may earn extra credit by:

- (a) doing more than two journal article summaries. (5% for each additional summary)
A handout designed to guide students in writing these summaries will be provided soon after the beginning of the semester, or
- (b) writing one or more brief papers on the items on closed reserve in Penfield Library for this course. (15% for each additional extra credit paper).

Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory. The instructor will keep a record of absences and it will be used in computing the course grade in borderline situations.

Class participation:

Students are expected to participate in class discussions on a regular basis. It is expected that students will stay current with the reading assignments and that they will demonstrate this currency by the quality and frequency of their participation. When discussion of specific primary texts is scheduled, students should bring their copies of the Kaufmann text to class. They should be prepared to discuss particular passages and to comment and analyze them together.

The Office of Disability Services is available to assist students who have a legally documented disability or students who suspect that they may have a disability. If you have a disabling condition that may interfere with your ability to successfully complete this course, please contact the Office of Disability Services. (Alternative testing for students with learning disabilities is available through Disability Services.)

Intellectual integrity on the part of all students is basic to individual growth and development through college course work. When academic dishonesty occurs, the teaching/learning climate is seriously undermined and student growth and development are impeded. For these reasons, any form of intellectual dishonesty is a serious concern and is therefore prohibited.

For more information see:

http://www.oswego.edu/administration/registrar/policy_text.html#cpii