

PHILOSOPHY 1100H

FALL 2023

ROOM: A&S 232

MW 2pm to 3:15

Prof. Robert N. Johnson

office hours: via Zoom

Email: johnsonrn at missouri dot edu

PLAN: This course is an introduction to ethical theory. During the semester, we will study the theories of four philosophers: Plato, Aristotle, Kant and Mill. What I hope that we will accomplish is this: We will develop the ability to read and write philosophical prose and think thoroughly and critically about philosophical arguments and moral viewpoints.

TEXTS: (available at the University Bookstore)

- Plato. The Republic of Plato. Reeve tr., (Hackett)
- Aristotle. The Nicomachean Ethics. T.H. Irwin, tr. Second Edition, (Hackett)
- Mill, J.S. Utilitarianism. Second Edition. (Hackett)
- Kant, Immanuel. Groundwork of the Metaphysic of Morals. Hill, Zweig, trs. (Oxford U. P.)

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Two 4-5 page papers.
2. One critique of a classmate's paper.
3. Three essay exams covering readings and lectures.
4. A final exam
5. Completing all of the above is necessary to pass this course.
6. Academic dishonesty on any assignment is a failure to complete that assignment.

GRADE PERCENTAGES

Your grade will be determined in the following way:

Papers (2)..... 15% ea.

Critique (1).....10%

Exams (3).....15% ea.

Final.....15%

MU GRADING STANDARDS:

A = performance of outstanding quality.

B = superior, but less than outstanding performance.

C = adequate performance.

D = performance that marginally meets minimum standards.

F = a level of performance that is unacceptable.

(ALL READING ASSIGNMENTS AND STUDY QUESTIONS ARE LOCATED UNDER 'MODULES')

DATES, READINGS, ASSIGNMENTS (SUBJECT TO REVISION!)

WEEK ONE. Aug. 28, 30

PLATO, 357a-383c

WEEK TWO. Sept. 6

PLATO, 357a-383c

WEEK THREE. Sept. 11, 13

PLATO, 386a-417b

SEPT.13: FIRST EXAM

HANDOUT FIRST PAPER TOPIC

WEEK FOUR. Sept. 18, 20

PLATO, 419a-445e

WEEK FIVE. Sept. 25 (Yom Kippur), 27

PLATO 543a-592b

SEPT. 27: EXCHANGE PAPERS

WEEK SIX. OCT. 2, 4

ARISTOTLE, 1094a1-1103a10

OCT. 4: RETURN PAPERS & CRITIQUES

WEEK SEVEN. OCT. 9, 11

ARISTOTLE, 1103a11 - 1109b25

OCT. 11: FIRST PAPER DUE, WITH FIRST VERSIONS & CRITIQUES

WEEK EIGHT. OCT. 16, 18

ARISTOTLE, 1109b26-111a5

OCT. 18: SECOND EXAM

WEEK NINE. OCT. 23, 25

MILL, pp. 6-25

OCT. 25: HANDOUT SECOND PAPER TOPIC

WEEK TEN. OCT. 30, NOV. 1

MILL pp. 6-25

WEEK ELEVEN. NOV. 6, 8

MILL, pp. 34-40

WEEK TWELVE. NOV. 13, 15

MILL, pp. 34-40

NOV.15: THIRD EXAM

WEEK THIRTEEN. NOV. 20, 22

KANT, pp. 189-207

WEEK FOURTEEN. **THANKSGIVING BREAK**

WEEK FIFTEEN: NOV. 27, 29

KANT, pp. 208-245

NOV. 29: SECOND PAPER DUE

WEEK SIXTEEN: DEC. 4, 6

KANT pp. 246-252

FINAL EXAM: Tuesday, December 12

7:30-9:30 a.m.