

Philosophy 1
Introduction to Philosophy
Winter, 2015

Lecture: 1100 Social Sciences and Humanities, TR 12:10-1:30

Instructor: Dr. G. J. Matthey

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Office Hours: TBA

Teaching Assistants

Sylvia Chavarin

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Text: On-line readings, linked on the course Web site.

Web site: <http://hume.ucdavis.edu/matthey/phi001/index.html>

Important Dates:

First Paper Due: February 3

Second Paper Due: March 3

Final Examination: March 18, 6:00-8:00 P.M.

Topic: The course will be divided into two parts. In part one, we will examine important theories of ethics and politics, beginning with Socrates and ending with Jean-Paul Sartre. In part two, we will look at historically important philosophical accounts of knowledge and reality, beginning with Plato and ending with Bertrand Russell. Readings will be from famous philosophical writings.

Grades will be based on the following: a final examination (30%), two short papers (25% each), ten weekly quizzes (10%), and discussion-section participation (10%). The final will be in-class, with short-answer questions. Papers will involve textual analysis on assigned topics. Examinations must be taken, and papers turned in, at the scheduled time, unless prior authorization is given. Late papers will be penalized one grade quantum (for example, A- to B+) per two working days late. **The final, two papers, and the quizzes must be completed in order for the course to be passed.**

Courtesy in Class: The use of cell phones for texting during class is a distraction to the instructor and perhaps to other students. As a courtesy, please turn off your cell phones during class. You are free to leave the classroom if there is any message that you find important enough to check or answer during the class period.

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