Philosophy 102
Theory of Knowledge
Fall, 2009

Lecture: 168 Hoagland, MWF 1:10-2:00
Instructor: Dr. G. J. Mattey
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Phone: (530) 554-4950
Office Hours: M 10-10:50, F 2-3

Section A01: M 5:10-6:00, 235 Wellman
Section A02: M 4:10-5:00, 235 Wellman
Teaching Assistant: Lucas Halpin
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Office Hours:


Topic: A survey of the main themes in the study of knowledge. Emphasis will be on the main disputes between partisans of rival accounts of knowledge. Topics will include: the methodology of the theory of knowledge, norms or standards of knowledge, the analysis of knowledge attributions, the acquisition of knowledge, and the skeptical denial of knowledge.

Readings: All readings for the course will be found on the class Web page.

Assignments: All reading and paper assignments will be posted on the class Web page.

Final Examination: Friday, December 11, 10:30 A.M.

Grading: Grades will be based on the following: a final examination (30%), two short papers (30% each), discussion section participation (10%). The final will be in-class, with short-answer questions. Papers will be based 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 per two working days late. Both the final and the two papers must be completed in order for the course to be passed.

Cell Phone Policy: Cell phones must be turned off while class is in session, unless the student obtains prior permission from the instructor to leave his or her phone on. Students observed using cell phones during class will be asked to turn them off. Subsequent use will result in the student being asked to leave the class for the rest of the session.

Furlough Days. The course instructor must take a number of furlough days during this academic year, for which he will not be paid. Furlough days will be announced in class. On furlough days, the instructor will not be on campus and will not answer any phone calls to his university number or e-mail involving university business.