

Philosophy 1
Introduction to Philosophy
Spring, 2017

Lecture: 2205 Haring Hall, TR 1:40-3:00

Instructor: Dr. G. J. Matthey

Office: 2298 Social Science and Humanities

Phone: (530) 754-0709

Office Hours: Thursday 12-1, Friday 2-3, and by appointment

Teaching Assistants

Ceth Lightfield

Megan Parks

Jacob Velazquez

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: May 2

Second Paper Due: May 30

Final Examination: June 14, 10:30 A.M. - 12:30 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. This is a General Education Writing Experience course, and as a result, 10% of paper grades will be based on the quality of writing. 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.

Version: June 5, 2017