

ALLIANCE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE



NAZARENE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

PHIL 203

Fall Semester 2006

Time: Tuesday & Thursday @ 2:30 – 3:45

Location: 501

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Associate Professor of Philosophy

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

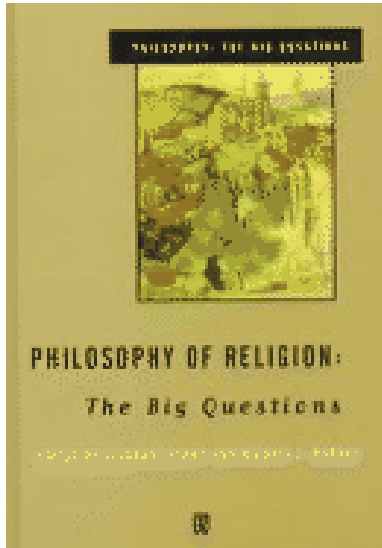
This course is a philosophical examination of religious topics and issues including but not limited to knowledge of God's existence, the problem of evil, the occurrence of miracles, the nature of revelation, the legitimacy of religious experience, and the place of religion in morality.

OBJECTIVES

1. Students should hone their skills in philosophical analysis and writing, improving their ability to think and write clearly, critically, and precisely.
2. Students should learn and understand the classical and enduring problems that have arisen as philosophers have grappled with the ideas of God's existence and God's relationships to the world and to human experience.
3. Students should become conversant with many of the religious and theological debates, arguments, and criticisms that persist at the intersection of faith and reason.
4. Students should develop a more refined appreciation of the significance of religious knowledge and experience.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Stump, E., & Murray, M. J. (Eds.). (1999). *Philosophy of Religion: The Big Questions*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing.



COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

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|--|------------|
| 1. Attendance and participation | 15% |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are expected to attend each class session with an engaged frame of mind, prepared to contribute meaningful conversation to the topics under discussion. Each absence from class merits an immediate .5% deduction and class participation is assessed on the balance. For example, if a student misses two classes and generally participates excellently in class he or she generally cannot achieve more than 14/15 for this portion of his or her evaluation. • Student participation will also be assessed on the basis of ‘posts’ within the online course ‘discussion room’. | |
| 2. Midterm Exam | 20% |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 24th | |
| 3. Research Paper | 25% |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due: December 8th @ 4:00 PM • Topics: See the Assignments link at the course website. | |

- **Submission Procedure:**

- Assignments are to be submitted as e-mail attachments. Printed copies are not required.

- **Format Requirements:**

- Required word processing format is @Microsoft Word. Attachments are to be named as follows: PH 203 last name, first initial
- E.g., PH 203 Jones A.doc
- Double spaced (not e.g., 1.25, 1.95, 2.5, etc.)
- Roughly 1 to 1.25 inch margins (2.5 to 3.0 cm).
- 12pt Font (not e.g., 11, 11.8, 12.5, etc.) of New Times Roman or equivalent (not Arial, etc.)
- New paragraphs should be indented with no additional separation between paragraphs.
- Sentences should be separated by two spaces, not just one.
- Papers must have a title page.
- Eight (8) pages of roughly 23 lines of text per page: 178—184 total lines of text. Footnotes do not count as text.
- Text pages must be numbered; title pages should not be numbered.
- Citation procedure must be consistent, efficient, and accurately facilitate the confirmation of research sources. Failure to cite sources accurately is a form of academic dishonesty.
- Failure to comply with any of the format requirements may result in a minimum of a 3-5% reduction in paper grade: e.g., a C+ paper will reduce to a C or C- .
- **Late Policy:** Late submissions (i.e., submissions after 4:00 PM on December 8th) are penalized 5% for every 24 hours they are not submitted. Submissions more than 5 days (120 hours) late receive a failing grade.
- **Extensions:** Extensions are granted very infrequently and only for very good reasons. (E.g., computer or other technological failures are not considered good reasons. Be sure to keep back up copies that enable you to write from various locations.) Extension requests must be made not less than 48 hours prior to the submission deadline.

4. Final Examination :

40%

- Exam period is December 15-20: precise time/date TBA
- Students must pass the final exam to ensure a passing grade in the course. A student who performs well during the term but performs very poorly on the final exam may fail the course.
- Students should refrain from scheduling flights or travel of any sort that will conflict with the Final Examination schedule. Final examinations will not be rescheduled to accommodate travel arrangements.

GRADING:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
A+		90-100
A	Excellent	95-99
A-		90-94
B+		87-89
B	Good	83-86
B-	(exceeds expectations)	80-82
C+		77-79
C	Satisfactory	73-76
C-	(meets expectations)	70-72
D+		55-59
D	Minimal Pass	50-54
F	Failure	0-49

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- Students are responsible to check their UC e-mail account regularly. E-mail may be used to notify students of cancelled classes or other important details relating to the course. It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to the academic policies as stated in the Student Handbook and Academic Calendar.
- Personal information, that is information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as a requirement as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@auc-nuc.ca.
- The last day to enter a course without permission and /or voluntary withdrawal from a course without financial penalty is September 15th, 2006.
- The last day to voluntarily withdraw from a course or change to audit without academic penalty is November 15th, 2006
- Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a "Course Extension." Alternative times for final examinations cannot be scheduled without prior approval. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the appropriate deadline. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."
- We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment or for an entire course. It may result in dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar and the Student Handbook that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean.
- Students are advised to retain this syllabus for their records.