

CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS
PHIL 1000-02 Introduction to Philosophy

Semester/Year: Fall 2008

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab Hours: 0

Credit Hours: 3

Class Time: 9:30-10:45 a.m.

Days: TTH

Room: AD 167

Instructor: Bridget Veauthier

Office: AD 287

Home Phone: 333-2496

Additional Contact Information: Leave a message with Kathy Coe at 268-2533.

Email: bveauthier@yahoo.com

Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description: An introduction to some of the main problems confronting the philosophical thinker, including those concerning truth, knowledge, language, morality, the existence of God, the nature of reality, freedom, and the meaning of life. Possible solutions to these problems will be considered.

Statement of Prerequisites: ENGL 1020 or permission of the instructor.

Goal: The purpose of this course is to familiarize students with the major thinkers who have influenced Western Civilization from the Classical period to our own day and to reflect on the questions raised by these figures.

Outcomes: To study writings by philosophers from the Classical period to our own day as they reason about issues of perennial interest to anyone seeking to live “the examined life.”

Methodology: The Professor lectures and leads in-class discussions

Evaluation Criteria: Students will be evaluated according to the frequency of in-class participation and discussion, performance on objective or essay in-class exams, and short essays, response papers, or exams written in or out of class.

Required Text, Readings, and Materials: Plato’s Dialogues, selections; Aristotle’s *Nicomachean Ethics*; *On the Restitution of Man: C.S. Lewis and the Case Against Scientism* by Michael Aeschliman; handouts on a variety of topics.

Class Policies

Last Date to Change to Audit Status or to Withdraw with a W Grade: November 14, 2008.

Classroom Expectations: Please notify me in advance of any necessary absence or failure to meet a deadline. If you have a genuine emergency and cannot meet a deadline, make arrangements with me to schedule make-up assignments. Exams will be given the day you return and essays are to be no more than one week late.

NO CELL PHONES/ NO PORTABLE ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Be respectful of the discussion taking place within the classroom. Please do not engage in side conversations or otherwise disrupt the class.

I am available to meet with you immediately following class or at a time that is mutually acceptable. If you need clarification on a topic or assignment covered do not hesitate to ask.

Grading: All assigned essays and exams are required in order to pass this class. Letter grades are based on a four-point scale:

A= 4	B+ = 3.5	C+ = 2.5	D+ = 1.5	F+ = .5
A= 3.8	B = 3.0	C = 2.0	D = 1.0	F = 0
A- = 3.6	B- = 2.6	C- = 1.6	D- = .6	

Essays or exams given in class or completed out of class will be graded according to this scale:

A = 100 – 94%
B = 93 – 86%
C = 85 – 78%
D = 77 – 70%
F = 69 – 0%

In Class Participation: There will be several opportunities for group participation or individual participation. Excessive absences will limit your ability to earn participation points.

Response/ Self- Reflection Papers: There will be six opportunities to write a one-page, self-reflective response paper. You will be required to complete **three** out of the six, one page response/ reflection papers over the course of the semester. A thematic focus for each paper will be given out the class prior to the reading selections for that topic. The due dates are marked on the syllabus.

The final grade for this course will be based on the following:

Response Papers & In-class Participation	= 10%
In Class Exams (5 total)	= 50%
Midterm Exam	= 20%
Final Exam	= 20%

Student Rights and Responsibilities: Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student.

Chain of Command: If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor in order to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take your problem through the appropriate chain of command starting with the department head, then the division chair, and lastly the vice president for academic affairs.

Academic Dishonesty - Cheating & Plagiarism: Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct.

ADA Accommodations Policy: It is the policy of Casper College to provide appropriate accommodations to any student with a documented disability. If you have a need for accommodation in this course, please make an appointment to see me at your earliest convenience.

Calendar or schedule indicating course content:

(30 Class Meeting Schedule- Section 02) Remember **three** of the six response papers are required.

August	26 th	1. Introduction to the course
	28 th	2. “ <i>Two Types of Problems</i> ”, Schumacher handout.
September	2 nd	3. <i>Euthyphro</i> , Plato pp. 170-174. Discussion of heroic society and ancient Greek World.
	4 th	4. <i>Euthyphro</i> , Plato pp. 174-85
	9 th	5. <i>Euthyphro</i> , Exam ; thematic focus for response paper on <i>Apology</i> given out.
	11 th	6. <i>Apology</i> , Plato pp. 3-16
	16 th	7. <i>Apology</i> , Plato pp. 16-23
	18 th	8. <i>Apology</i> , Exam ; One page Response Paper Due
	23 rd	9. <i>Crito</i> , Plato pp.27-39 all
	25 th	10. <i>Crito</i> , Exam ; thematic focus for response paper on <i>Republic</i> given out
	30 th	11. <i>The Republic</i> , Plato pp. tba
October	2 nd	12. <i>The Republic</i> , Plato
	7 th	13. <i>The Republic</i> , Plato
	9 th	14. <i>The Republic</i> , Plato One page Response Paper due. Take home portion of Midterm given out, due Thursday 10/16.
	14 th	15. Midterm in-class Review and Questions
	16 th	16. Midterm In-Class Exam; take home portion due. Thematic focus for response paper on Bloom given out + Bloom handouts.
	23 rd	17. Bloom on Music, “ <i>Closing of the American Mind at 20</i> ”, handouts
	28 th	18. <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , Aristotle, Book I. Bloom One Page Response Paper due. Thematic focus for response paper on <i>N. Ethics</i> given out.

- 30th 19. *Nicomachean Ethics*, Aristotle, Book I & II
- November 4th 20. *Nicomachean Ethics*, Aristotle, Book II
- 6th 21. *Nicomachean Ethics*, **Exam**. One Page Response Paper Due. Thematic Focus for response paper on Adler given out.
- 11th 22. “*Moral and Political Philosophy*,” Adler. Handout. Current Politics discussion.
- 13th 23. *The Stoic and Epicurean Philosophers*. Handout. Begin Aquinas. One Page Response Paper Due for Adler.
- 18th 24. Aquinas. Handout. Medieval Philosophers and other handouts TBA
- 20th 25. Aquinas and medieval philosophers. **Exam**. Thematic Focus for Response Paper on Scientism given out.
- 25th 26. Scientism. Handout.
- December 2nd 27. Scientism; *On the Restitution of Man*, Aeschliman
- 4th 28. *On the Restitution of Man*, Aeschliman. Scientism discussion.
- 9th 29. *On the Restitution of Man*, Aeschliman. One Page Response Paper due.
- 11th 30. *Everything Bad is Good for You*, excerpt, Johnson. More on the Culture Wars. Final Exam In-Class Review & Questions
31. **Final Exam**