Philosophy 115  
Philosophy of the Human Person  
Spring 2014

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Meeting Time: TTh 8 to 9:40  
4 Feb through 15 May 2014  
PHIL 115.19  
4 Credits

URL: http://courseweb.StThomas.edu/KWKemp/PHIL115

Opening Prayer

O Ineffable Creator, true Fountain of light and wisdom, shed the brightness of Thy light upon the darkness of my understanding. Grant me acuteness in understanding what I read, power to remember it, readiness in learning it, subtlety in interpreting it, and clearness in expressing it. Order the beginnings of my work, direct its progress, and bring it to fulfillment. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

—St. Thomas Aquinas

General

The course objectives will be achieved by a combination of readings, lectures, class discussions, written homework, and examinations.

Students are expected to attend every class meeting. Absences will count against the final grade. Students must bring university-authorized absences and other legitimate excuses to the attention of the instructor.

Students are expected to do about two hours of work outside of class for each hour in class. This will include reading, written homework, review, preparing for examinations, &c.

Required Readings

Required readings can be found:

in books (on sale in the bookstore)
   Plato, Five Dialogues
   John Searle, Minds, Brains, & Science
in a packet of readings (also on sale in the bookstore)
on the Reserve Section of the O’Shaughnessy-Frey Library or
on the Worldwide Web (with links on the course web-site)
Examinations

The first (logic) examination will require students to define and give examples of fundamental logical terms and concepts and to apply their knowledge of logic to examples of argumentative reasoning.

The other two examinations will include short-answer and essay questions. Students will be expected to state the principal points made by the authors studied, define key terms, and present the arguments offered by these authors in support of their conclusions and objections to those arguments.

Grading

The final grade will be assigned on the basis of

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Attendance &amp; Participation</th>
<th>50 points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>50 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three Examinations @100 points each</td>
<td>300 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>400 points</td>
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Homework will include logic exercises and may also include other brief assignments (such as reflections on assigned readings) added at the discretion of the instructor.

Course grades will be assigned on the basis of the percent of possible points earned in accordance with the following schedule:

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<tr>
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<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>≥ 90%</td>
<td>80–90%</td>
<td>70–80%</td>
<td>60–70%</td>
<td>&lt; 60%</td>
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(“Plus” and “minus” may be attached to grades at the discretion of the instructor.)