



Academic Inquiries: Jinan University

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JINAN UNIVERSITY

Introduction to Philosophy

Lecturer: Irene A Wolf

Time: Monday through Friday (June 18, 2018-July 20, 2018)

Teaching hour: 50

Office hours: 2 hours (according to the teaching schedule)

Total Contact Hour: 60 (50 minutes each)

Credit: 4

Location: Huiquan Building

Office: Huiquan Building 518

E-mail: iaw1@psu.edu

Overview:

This course introduces the general nature of philosophical thought, and its basic methods and goals. The material covered includes selections by both current and historically important philosophers (e.g., Plato, Augustine, Descartes, Marx, Musachi and Heidegger) on such classic philosophical topics as the existence of God, the nature of right and wrong, and the possibility of knowledge. Through our readings and discussions we will also attempt to reach a clearer understanding of ourselves (personal identity), our relationship to other people (moral responsibility), and our relationship to the world around us (freedom of the will). Some of the general skills students will develop include the formulating and defending of theoretical positions and the ability to think critically about difficult and abstract issues.

Required Book:

All copies of books will be online. Readings from Plato's "Republic" and "Meno", Augustine, "On Free Choice of the Will", Descartes "Discourse on Method", Marx's "Communist Manifesto", Musachi on "Five Rings" and Heidegger "Discourse on

Thinking”

Course Hours

The course has 25 sessions in total. Each class session is 120 minutes in length. The course meets from Monday to Friday. Total 50 contact hours.

Exams:

There will be three exams over the five week term, Each exam will be worth 30% of the final grade.

Attendance and Participation:

The remaining 10% of the student’s grade will be determined by regular attendance and participation in class. You are allowed 3 absences maximum for the course before dropping a letter grade. Full and prepared participation is expected. Attendance is mandatory in the class. Respect towards the instructor and classmates are expected. Unjustified absences, disrespectful behavior in the classroom and lack of participation in class will have a negative impact on the final grade.

Grading Scale

The instructor will use the grading system as applied by JNU:

Definition	Letter Grade	Score
Excellent	A	90-100
Good	B	80-89
Satisfactory	C	70-79
Poor	D	60-69
Failed	E	Below 60

Cheating

Cheating is the use of inappropriate and unacknowledged materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise. The use of books, notes, calculators and conversation with others is restricted or forbidden in certain academic exercises. Their use in these cases constitutes cheating. Similarly, students must not request others (including commercial term paper companies) to conduct research or prepare any work for them, nor may they submit identical work or portions thereof for credit or honors more than once without prior approval of the instructor.

Fabrication

Fabrication is the falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. “Invented” information may not be used in any laboratory experiment or other academic exercise without authorization from the instructor. It is improper, for example, to analyze one sample in an experiment and covertly “invent” data based on that single experiment for several more required analyses. The student must also acknowledge reliance upon the actual source from which cited information was obtained. A writer should not, for example, reproduce a quotation from a book review and indicate that the quotation was obtained from the book itself.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the representation of the words or idea of another as one’s own in any academic exercise. To avoid plagiarism, every direct quotation must be identified by quotation marks or by appropriate indentation and must be properly cited in the text or in a footnote. Acknowledgment is required when material from another source stored in print, electronic or other medium is paraphrased or summarized in whole or in part in one’s own words. Information which is common knowledge such as names of leaders of prominent nations, basic scientific laws, etc. need not be footnoted; however, all facts or information obtained in reading or research that are not common knowledge among students in the course must be acknowledged.

Course Schedule

Week 1

Monday	Introduction to the course
Tuesday	Plato’s “Meno”
Wednesday	Plato’s “Meno”
Thursday	Plato” Republic”, sections on Allegory of Cave and Divided Line
Friday	Review of Materials

Week 2

Monday	Continue with Plato’s Divided Line and Allegory of Cave
Tuesday	Exam # 1 on Plato and Commence with Augustine
Wednesday	Augustine Continue “Free Choice of Will”
Thursday	Augustine on Free Choice of the Will
Friday	Review of Materials

Week 3

Monday	Descartes on “Discourse on Method”
Tuesday	Continue with Descartes
Wednesday	Discussion and Application of Descartes’ Method
Thursday	Exam #2 on Augustine and Descartes
Friday	Review of Materials

Week 4

Monday	Karl Marx on “Communist Manifesto”
Tuesday	Marx Continue on Communist Manifesto”
Wednesday	Finish Marx and Commence with Musachi
Thursday	Musachi :Five Rings”
Friday	Review of Materials

Week 5

Monday	Finish Musachi
Tuesday	Heidegger on “Discourse on Thinking”
Wednesday	Heidegger on “Discourse on Thinking”
Thursday	Exam # III on Marx, Musachi and Heidegger
Friday	Summation of Course

Academic Honesty

Jinan University defines academic misconduct as any act by a student that misrepresents the students’ own academic work or that compromises the academic work of another scholastic misconduct includes (but is not limited to) cheating on assignments or examinations; plagiarizing, i.e. misrepresenting as one’s own work any work done by another; submitting the same paper, or substantially similar papers, to meet the requirements of more than one course without the approval and consent of the instructors concerned; sabotaging another’s work within these general definitions, however, Instructors determine what constitutes academic misconduct in the courses they teach. Students found guilty of academic misconduct in any portion of the academic work face penalties ranging from lowering of their course grade to awarding a grade of E for the entire course.