PHIL 1213: Philosophies of Life  
Spring 2019  ::  CNR 30138

Instructor: Anthony M. Valentine 
Office: 213 Life Sciences East 
Office Phone: 405.744.5658 
E-Mail: anthony.valentine@okstate.edu 
Office Hours: Mon - Fri: 
10:00 - 11:30 AM; 
1:30 - 4:00 PM 
By appointment; please call

Required texts will be provided by the instructor and posted on Brightspace (D2L).

Recommended text: 
(Not required)

Course Description: 
*PHIL 1213: Philosophies of Life (H)* 
Introduction to selected views of living a meaningful life in light of morality, social values, truth and freedom.

Policies: 
Naturally, communication and diligence are essential in any online course. You should make an effort to log in and carefully review online material a few times a week. Please carefully note my contact information and e-mail me as soon as questions arise. Please give me 24 hours to respond to your messages. Messages sent on Saturday or Sunday will likely not be replied to until the following Monday.

This course's effectiveness relies upon your careful reflection on the assigned readings and videos, as well as your thoughtful writing for exams and reflections.

I expect each student to participate in class each week, *reading assigned materials, watching videos, and developing thoughtful, critical reviews* of that material in a reflections journal. Assigned course readings are brief but complex, so I expect each student to *carefully read each assignment at least once*.

You will be required to upload pages from a digital Reflection Journal at least three times over the semester. Due dates are in the course schedule. You will simply upload pages for the assigned period to the Dropbox no later than the assigned due date. Each week’s entry should be at least a full page, showing thoughtful and critical review of the readings and ideas presented therein. I will provide a grading rubric for these journal assignments.

Twenty-five percent (25%) of your course grade will be constituted by Reflections.

Grading: 
Grades will be based on two, two- to three-page essays (topics assigned by instructor), a final exam paper (three pages), and the Reflection Journal.
Overall grades/points break down as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reflections:</th>
<th>250</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Set 1</td>
<td>70</td>
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<tr>
<td>Set 2</td>
<td>70</td>
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<tr>
<td>Set 3</td>
<td>70</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Reflection</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay 1:</td>
<td>250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay 2:</td>
<td>250</td>
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<td>Final Paper:</td>
<td>250</td>
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**Policies on Missed Exams and Incompletes:**
Failure to submit an essay or exam will result in a grade of zero (0) for that assignment. Students who miss exams without prior notification will not typically be allowed to make up the exam.

Incompletes will not be routinely assigned for unfinished course work. In order to receive an incomplete the student must consult the instructor before final exam week, and provide an acceptable reason why the course work cannot be completed.

**Drop deadline:**
The last day to withdraw from this course with a grade of "W" is Friday, Apr 12, 2019.

**Accommodation:**
According to the ADA, each student with a disability is responsible for notifying the University of his/her disability and requesting accommodations. If you think you have a qualified disability and need classroom accommodations, contact the office of Student Disability Services (SU 315). Please advise the instructor of your disability as soon as possible, to ensure timely implementation of appropriate accommodations. Faculty have an obligation to respond when they receive official notice of a disability from SDS but are under no obligation to provide retroactive accommodations. To receive services, you must submit appropriate documentation and complete an intake process during which the existence of a qualified disability is verified and reasonable accommodations are identified. Call 744-7116 v/t for more information.

**Academic Integrity:**
Oklahoma State University is committed to the maintenance of the highest standards of integrity and ethical conduct of its members. This level of ethical behavior and integrity will be maintained in this course. Participating in a behavior that violates academic integrity (e.g., unauthorized collaboration, plagiarism, multiple submissions, cheating on examinations, fabricating information, helping another person cheat, unauthorized advance access to examinations, altering or destroying the work of others, and fraudulently altering academic records) will result in your being sanctioned. Violations may subject you to disciplinary action including the following: receiving a failing grade on an assignment, examination or course, receiving a notation of a violation of academic integrity on your transcript (FI), and being suspended from the University. You have the right to appeal the charge. Contact the Office of Academic Affairs, 101 Whitehurst, 405-744-5627, academicintegrity.okstate.edu.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignment (Readings from...)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. 14 Jan</td>
<td>What is Philosophy? Ethics &amp; Morality Establishing definitions</td>
<td>See Assignments module, Week 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>II. 21 Jan</td>
<td>The Value of Philosophy What is an Argument? Why ask why?</td>
<td>Russell's <em>The Value of Philosophy</em> (Full text available in Content)</td>
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<td>III. 28 Jan</td>
<td>The Life and Trial of Socrates What kind of person ought I to be? The Good Life</td>
<td>Plato's <em>Apology</em> (Full text available in Content)</td>
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<td>IV. 04 Feb</td>
<td>Relativism: Everything new is old again Socrates v. the Sophists Plato's Realism</td>
<td>Plato's <em>Republic</em>, Bk I, 336b–354c, <a href="#">Reflection Journal due</a> in Dropbox Monday, 6:00 PM</td>
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<td>VI. 18 Feb</td>
<td>Plato &amp; the Just person The Platonic, Cardinal Virtues The Tripartite Soul Essay I</td>
<td>Due 20 Feb by 6:00 PM on D2L Dropbox</td>
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<td>VII. 25 Feb</td>
<td>What is the highest goal? Virtue and the Good Life Defining virtue</td>
<td>Aristotle's <em>Nicomachean Ethics</em>, Bk I</td>
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<td>VIII. 04 Mar</td>
<td>The Ethics of Consequences: J.S. Mill Pleasure and Happiness Utilitarianism and the Greatest Good</td>
<td>Mill's <em>Utilitarianism</em>, Ch. 2, <a href="#">Reflection Journal due</a> in Dropbox Monday, 6:00 PM</td>
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| IX.  | The Ethics of Intention: Immanuel Kant  
11 Mar Reason and Happiness  
The Good Will | Kant’s *Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals*, Section I |
| X.   | Spring Break |  |
| XI.  | The Ethics of Duty: Kant (continued)  
25 Mar Moral Decision Making  
The Categorical Imperative | Kant’s *Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals*, Section I  
Begin Essay II |
| XII. | 19th Century Social and Moral Philosophy  
01 Apr Kierkegaard, Nietzsche & the Individual |  |
|      | Essay II | Due 3 Apr by 6:00 PM on D2L Dropbox |
| XIII.| John Paul Sartre and Existentialism  
08 Apr Condemned to Freedom  
Responsibility and Good Faith | Sartre’s "Existentialism is a Humanism"  
**Reflection Journal due** in Dropbox  
Monday, 6:00 PM |
| XIV. | Non-Western views on the Good Life  
15 Apr China: Confucius & the Tao  
India: Suffering & the Buddha | Confucius, *The Great Learning*  
Lao-tze, *Tao te Ching* |
| XV.  | The 20th century & American philosophy  
22 Apr Pragmatism  
Meaning, use, and value | Assignment: James’ *What Pragmatism Means* |
| XVI. | Final Reflection due, Monday, 6:00 PM  
29 Apr Begin Final Exam |  |

**Finals Week:** Final exam due in D2L Dropbox no later than 6:00 PM, Thursday, May 9

W Drop/Withdraw Deadline: **Friday, Apr 12**