**Introduction to Philosophy**

Dr. Ted Toadvine, 411P Plumb Hall  
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Office Hours: MWF 1:00 - 2:00; T 2:00 - 4:00; and by appointment


**Course Goals & Topics**  
The main objective of this course is to introduce you to philosophical ways of thinking and train you to think and write critically about philosophical issues. In addition, the course will introduce you to a wide range of historical and contemporary perspectives on perennial philosophical questions: Is there an eternal self? How can I know what is right? What are our obligations to society? Is religious belief justified? Unlike courses which place emphasis on transmitting content to be memorized, this course will emphasize the important role of philosophical reflection in responding to significant issues which confront our society and you.

This course satisfies the General Education requirement in Literature and Ideas (Basic Skills VI) for certain majors and is a Multicultural Intensive Course.

**Course Requirements and Grading**  
Your final grade will be determined as follows:

- 5 quizzes @ 4% each = 20%
- 4 in-class examinations @ 20% = 80%

Quizzes, based on assigned readings and previous class discussions, will be unannounced. Passing these brief, open-book quizzes will require that you CAREFULLY read all assignments on time and attend class. No makeup quizzes will be given for those who are absent or late for class without a documented excuse.

In-class exams, including the non-cumulative final, will include an “objective” (true/false, multiple choice, and/or short answer) component and an essay component.

You are expected to attend class and to come prepared to discuss assigned material. Four absences will result in a full grade reduction. In the event of an absence when an exam is scheduled, you must notify me in advance of the absence or if there is an emergency as soon as possible after the emergency. If you miss because of an emergency, I expect you to document it. No make-ups will be given otherwise.

For help answering essay questions on exams, please read the Appendix in Hallman, "Writing Philosophically" (665-684). Further assistance is available from the Writing Center, 345 Southeast Morse Hall (341-5380). If you anticipate trouble with your writing, please consult with the Writing Center or myself as soon as possible during the semester. Students having trouble with writing fundamentals will be required to seek assistance from the writing center as a condition for continuing in the course.

Academic dishonest of any kind will not be tolerated. This includes plagiarism, the paraphrase or quotation of any published or unpublished source without full and clear acknowledgement. The university policy regarding academic dishonest, as explained in the Student Handbook (p. 37), will be strictly enforced.

If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations or emergency evacuation, please contact me as soon as possible.
Office Hours
As listed above, my office hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 1:00 to 2:00, and Tuesday, 2:00 to 4:00. I will be spending these hours in my office for the sole purpose of being available for your questions. If these times are not convenient for you, and there is something you need to discuss with me, please ask to make an appointment. Messages can be left with the Social Sciences secretary (PH 411) at 341-5462. You are also welcome to address inquiries to me via email at toadvint@emporia.edu.

Course Schedule
WEEK 1 (1/13-1/15): Introduction to course: requirements, syllabus
"Introduction," Hallman (xvii-xxiii)

WEEK 2 (1/18-1/22): HOLIDAY (Monday, 1/18)
Problems of Self and Identity (1-4)
The Upanishads and Buddhist scriptures (4-13)

WEEK 3 (1/25-1/29): Hume, Schopenhauer, Borges (13-24)

WEEK 4 (2/1-2/5): Plato (24-38), Spelman (44-57), Sartre (85-95)

WEEK 5 (2/8-2/12): Beauvoir, Zack (101-115)
TEST 1 (Friday, 2/12)

WEEK 6 (2/15-2/19): Introduction to Ethics (293-7)
Aristotle, Mencius, Kant (297-317)

WEEK 7 (2/22-2/26): Bentham (325-329), Schweitzer (336-341), McGaa (351-5)

WEEK 8 (3/1-3/5): Leopold (356-365), Hospers (383-392)
TEST 2 (Friday, 3/5)

WEEK 9 (3/8-3/12): Introduction to Politics (393-396)
Rousseau, Jefferson, Marx & Engels (405-434)


SPRING BREAK: 3/22 - 3/28

WEEK 11 (3/29-4/2): Camus (482-489), Carmichael (494-500)
HOLIDAY (Friday, April 2)

WEEK 12 (4/5-4/9): Hooks, Wong (500-516), Goldman (529-538)

WEEK 13 (4/12-4/16): TEST 3 (Monday, 4/12)
Introduction to Religion (539-542)
Augustine, Black Elk (543-555)

WEEK 14 (4/19-4/23): Buber, King (562-579), Starhawk (589-595)


WEEK 16 (5/3-5/7): Lin and Russell (644-664)

FINAL EXAM: Monday 5/10, 1:00 - 2:50