

Glenn Melancon <http://homepages.se.edu/gmelancon/>
PHIL 2113
Spring 2012

gmelancon@se.edu
(580)745-2342
CB141

I. General Information

Office Hours: MWF 8:30-10:00
 TT 8:30-9:30; 12:15-2:00

Outside Readings:

1. Hakim, Albert. Historical Introduction to Philosophy. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall
2. Excerpts on Reserve in SOSU Library

II. Course Objectives

This course will highlight the major trends in intellectual developments from pre-history to the present. The instructor will focus on three of the major questions in the history of ideas: What is the nature of knowledge?; What is the nature of the cosmos?; and What is the nature of human society? Using a wide range of primary sources, students will learn to identify some of the major schools of thought, including Pre-Socratic, Socratic, Platonic, Aristotelian, Confucian, Taoist, Buddhist, Stoic, Augustinian, Thomist, Hermetic, Rationalists, Empiricist, Newtonian, Marxist, Existentialist and Fundamentalist. By the end of the course each student will develop his/her own interpretation to explain the development of the knowledge, cosmos and society.

III. Grading System

2 one-hour unit exams at 100 pts each = 200

Any student making below a "C" on the first exam, is **REQUIRED** to meet with the instructors within two weeks after receiving the grade. The student **MUST** bring exam, notes, and book.

1 final exam at 200 pts = 200

The final exam will be composed of a final 100-point unit exam woven together with a 100-point comprehensive exam.

All exams include:

- 30% short answer (objective)
- 20% identification items (who or what, when, where and why important);
 choose four of five choices
- 50% essay; choose one essay of two choices

Semester Project at 100 pts = 100

Each student will explain his/her own interpretation of epistemological, cosmological and societal developments in an extended paper. The student will document both primary and secondary sources used to produce his/her own interpretation. DUE 4/26

Blackboard Postings = 50

TOTAL = 550pts

Grading Scale:

A	90s	Excellent	Original Thought
B	80s	Above Average	Clear Thought/Expression
C	70s	Average	Comprehension of Facts
D	60s	Below Average	Confusion
F		Unacceptable	

IV. General Course Policies

More than 5 unexcused absences will cause the student's grade to drop by a letter.

Any student wishing to drop the course must follow university regulations, or will receive an "F" for the course.

PLEASE PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE DEADLINE TO DROP WITH AN AUTOMATIC "W". If a student drops after that date, then the instructor has the authority to give a "WF" which is equivalent to an "F" on your transcript.

CHEATING and PLAGIARISM will not be tolerated. If any student does not know the meaning of these words, then please see the instructor immediately.

V. Method of Instruction

The majority of class periods will be a mixture of lectures and discussions. Since both the lectures and discussions will be based on the outside readings, the quality of the course will depend upon each student fulfilling his/her personal responsibilities. Each student will need to bring his/her copy of the readings to class as a reference. There may be a few class periods aided by an audio-visual program if appropriate.

Three-step method of preparation and study:

- 1) **Read/Study (1 ½ hour) required assignment before coming to class. Students should make margin notes for a quick system of reference, indicating answers to the major questions and points of interests to the student. "Highlighting" the text is discouraged. Post a paragraph on Blackboard.**
- 2) **Listen in class for answers to the three major questions and how those answers are related to each other.**
- 3) **COMPARE and CONTRAST outside readings with class notes (1 ½ hour) and Blackboard posting.**

VI. Tentative Course Outline and Calendar

1st Exam	TH 02/21
last day for an automatic "W"	F 03/09
2nd Exam	TH 04/03
Semester Project	TH 04/29
Final	http://www.se.edu/registrar/final-exam-schedule

VII. Syllabus Statement

Any student needing special accommodations due to a disability should contact the Coordinator of Student Disability Services, Student Union, Suite 204 or call (580) 745-2254 (TDD# 745-2704). It is the responsibility of each student to make an official request to the Coordinator for academic accommodations.