PHIL1020 - Philosophy 1A
Course Outline

Course Co-ordinator: John Wright  
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Consultation hours: TBA

Course Overview
Semester: Semester 1 - 2007  
Unit Weighting: 10  
Teaching Methods: Lecture  
Tutorial

Brief Course Description
Introduces students to areas, themes or problems in philosophy in a manner 
designed to provide them with a basic grasp of the nature and scope of the discipline.

Contact Hours
Lecture for 2 Hours per Week for the Full Term  
Tutorial for 2 Hours per Fortnight for 10 Weeks  
Tutorials begin week 2  
Lecture begins week 1

Learning Materials/Texts

Course Objectives
(1) Impart to students familiarity with, and knowledge of, the main issues addressed 
and approaches taken by philosophers.  
(2) Impart to students, critical skills to deal with these issues and employ these 
approaches in their assessment of their own culture and societal life, and in thinking 
about their own personal lives.  
(3) Develop high level written and oral skills in analysing and presenting philosophical

Course Outline Issued and Correct as at: Week 1, Semester 1 - 2007

CTS Download Date: 5 February 2007
issues.
(4) Develop a capacity to appreciate the philosophical positions involved in how people approach ways of living and evaluating life situations.

Course Content
Specific content will vary from year to year, and typically covers two major philosophical areas, themes or problems. The course may focus on one particular philosophy, for instance Plato, or it may survey several under a selected theme, such as freedom and responsibility, or under a selected problem, such as the nature of mind. These will be chosen so as to complement those for PHIL1030 so that the two courses together provide a balanced coverage of the core areas of the discipline: metaphysics, epistemology, rationality, ethics/value.

Assessment Items

| Essays / Written Assignments | Essay 1,000 words, 30%. The essay will require the student to explain the central concepts of the philosophies studied. Some library research will be required, but it is expected that assigned readings will form the bulk of the material to be read. |
| Essays / Written Assignments | Tutorial presentation and assignment, 500 words, 10%, assignment due one week after presentation. The tutorial assignment designed to give students initial written feedback on their capacity for formal analysis and argument. |
| Examination: Formal | 2 hour written examination, 50%, end of semester. |
| Group/tutorial participation and contribution | Tutorial participation, 10% ongoing. Tutorials will assess how well students are coming to grips with the basic issues and concepts of the course. Tutorial participation provides continual assessment and feedback on individual student ability to properly engage the subject matter. |
| Other: (please specify) | For particular dates and times refer to course guide available from school office. |

Assumed Knowledge
There is no assumed knowledge.

Callaghan Campus Timetable
PHIL1020
INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY A.
Enquiries: School of Humanities and Social Science
Semester 1 - 2007
Lecture Tuesday 10:00 - 12:00 [GP2-1] Wks1-5 & 7-13 only
and Tutorial Monday 15:00 - 17:00 [MCLG42] Wks 2,4,6,8,10,12
or Monday 15:00 - 17:00 [MCLG42] Wks 3,5,7,9,11,13
or Thursday 11:00 - 13:00 [W218] Wks 2,4,6,8,10,12
or Thursday 17:00 - 19:00 [W218] Wks 2,4,6,8,10 & 12.
or Thursday 11:00 - 13:00 [W218] Wks 3,5,7,9,11,13
Plagiarism

University policy prohibits students plagiarising any material under any circumstances. A student plagiarises if he or she presents the thoughts or works of another as one’s own. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it may include:

- copying or paraphrasing material from any source without due acknowledgment;
- using another’s ideas without due acknowledgment;
- working with others without permission and presenting the resulting work as though it was completed independently.

Plagiarism is not only related to written works, but also to material such as data, images, music, formulae, websites and computer programs.

Aiding another student to plagiarise is also a violation of the Plagiarism Policy and may invoke a penalty.

For further information on the University policy on plagiarism, please refer to the Policy on Student Academic Integrity at the following link -


The University has established a software plagiarism detection system called Turnitin. When you submit assessment items please be aware that for the purpose of assessing any assessment item the University may -

- Reproduce this assessment item and provide a copy to another member of the University; and/or
- Communicate a copy of this assessment item to a plagiarism checking service (which may then retain a copy of the item on its database for the purpose of future plagiarism checking).
- Submit the assessment item to other forms of plagiarism checking

Written Assessment Items

Students may be required to provide written assessment items in electronic form as well as hard copy.

Extension of Time for Assessment Items, Deferred Assessment and Special Consideration for Assessment Items or Formal Written Examinations

Students are required to submit assessment items by the due date, as advised in the Course Outline, unless the Course Coordinator approves an extension of time for submission of the item. University policy is that an assessment item submitted after the due date, without an approved extension, will be penalised.

Any student:
1. who is applying for an extension of time for submission of an assessment item on the basis of medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment; or

2. whose attendance at or performance in an assessment item or formal written examination has been or will be affected by medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment;

must report the circumstances, with supporting documentation, to the appropriate officer on the prescribed form.

Please go to the Policy and the on-line form for further information, particularly for information on the options available to you, at:


Students should be aware of the following important deadlines:

- Requests for Special Consideration must be lodged no later than 3 working days after the date of submission or examination.
- Requests for Extensions of Time on Assessment Items must be lodged no later than the due date of the item.
- Requests for Rescheduling Exams must be lodged no later than 5 working days before the date of the examination.

Your application may not be accepted if it is received after the deadline. Students who are unable to meet the above deadlines due to extenuating circumstances should speak to their Program Officer in the first instance.

Changing your Enrolment

The last dates to withdraw without financial or academic penalty (called the HECS Census Dates) are:

For semester 1 courses: 31 March 2007
For semester 2 courses: 31 August 2007
For Trimester 1 courses: 17 February 2007
For Trimester 2 courses: 9 June 2007

Students may withdraw from a course without academic penalty on or before the last day of semester and prior to the commencement of the formal exam period. Any withdrawal from a course after the last day of semester will result in a fail grade.
Students cannot enrol in a new course after the second week of semester/trimester, except under exceptional circumstances. Any application to add a course after the second week of semester/trimester must be on the appropriate form, and should be discussed with the Student Enquiry Centre.

To change your enrolment online, please refer to

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/enrolment/changingenrolment.html

Faculty Information

The Student Hubs are a one-stop shop for the delivery of student related services and are the first point of contact for students on campus.

The four Student Hubs are located at:

**Callaghan campus**

• Shortland Hub: Level 3, Shortland Union Building
• Hunter Hub: Student Services Centre, Hunter side of campus

**City Precinct**

• City Hub & Information Common: University House, ground floor in combination with an Information Common for the City Precinct

**Ourimbah campus**

• Ourimbah Hub: Administration Building

Faculty websites

**Faculty of Business and Law**


**Faculty of Education and Arts**

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/education-arts/

**Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment**

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/engineering/

**Faculty of Health**

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/health/

**Faculty of Science and Information Technology**

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/science-it/
Contact details

Callaghan, City and Port Macquarie
Phone: 02 4921 5000
Email: EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au

Ourimbah
Phone: 02 4348 4030
Email: EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au

The Dean of Students
Resolution Precinct
Phone: 02 4921 5806
Fax: 02 4921 7151
Email: resolutionprecinct@newcastle.edu.au

Deputy Dean of Students (Ourimbah)
Phone: 02 4348 4123
Fax: 02 4348 4145
Email: resolutionprecinct@newcastle.edu.au

Various services are offered by the University Student Support Unit:

Alteration of this Course Outline

No change to this course outline will be permitted after the end of the second week of the term except in exceptional circumstances and with Head of School approval. Students will be notified in advance of any approved changes to this outline.

Web Address for Rules Governing Undergraduate Academic Awards

Web Address for Rules Governing Postgraduate Academic Awards

Web Address for Rules Governing Professional Doctorate Awards

STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY OR CHRONIC ILLNESS

The University is committed to providing a range of support services for students with a disability or chronic illness.

If you have a disability or chronic illness which you feel may impact on your studies, please feel free to discuss your support needs with your lecturer or course coordinator.
Disability Support may also be provided by the Student Support Service (Disability). Students must be registered to receive this type of support. To register please contact the Disability Liaison Officer on 02 4921 5766, or via email at: student-disability@newcastle.edu.au

As some forms of support can take a few weeks to implement it is extremely important that you discuss your needs with your lecturer, course coordinator or Student Support Service staff at the beginning of each semester.

For more information related to confidentiality and documentation please visit the Student Support Service (Disability) website at: www.newcastle.edu.au/services/disability

Studentmail and Blackboard: www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/
This course uses Blackboard and studentmail to contact students, so you are advised to keep your email accounts within the quota to ensure you receive essential messages. To receive an expedited response to queries, post questions on the Blackboard discussion forum if there is one, or if emailing staff directly use the course code in the subject line of your email. Students are advised to check their studentmail and the course Blackboard site on a weekly basis.

Written Assignment Presentation and Submission Details.
Students are required to submit assessment items by the due date.

Hard copy submission:
- **Type your assignments:** All work must be typewritten in 11 or 12 point black font. Leave a wide margin for marker’s comments, use 1.5 or double spacing, and include page numbers.
- **Word length:** The word limit of all assessment items should be strictly followed – 10% above or below is acceptable, otherwise penalties may apply.
- **Proof read your work** because spelling, grammatical and referencing mistakes will be penalised.
- **Staple the pages** of your assignment together (do not use pins or paper clips).
- **University Assessment Item Coversheet:** All assignments must be submitted with the University coversheet available at: http://www.newcastle.edu.au/school/hss/studentlinks/studentform.html
- **By arrangement with the relevant lecturer, assignments may be submitted at any Student Hub located at:**
  - Level 3, Shortland Union, Callaghan
  - Level 2, Student Services Centre, Callaghan
  - Ground Floor, University House, City
  - Ground Floor, Administration Building, Ourimbah
- **Date-stamping assignments:** All students must date-stamp their own assignments using the machine provided at each Student Hub. Mailed assignments are accepted from the date posted, confirmed by a Post Office date-stamp; they are also date-stamped upon receipt by Schools.
- **Do not fax or email assignments:** Only hard copies of assignments will be considered for assessment. Inability to physically submit a hard copy of an assignment by the deadline due to other commitments or distance from campus is an unacceptable excuse.
- **Keep a copy of all assignments:** It is the student’s responsibility to produce a copy of their work if the assignment goes astray after submission. Students are advised to keep updated back-ups in electronic and hard copy formats.
Online copy submission to Turnitin
In addition to hard copy submission, students are required to submit an electronic version of the following assignments to Turnitin via the course Blackboard website:
- Tutorial paper, 500 words. Essay, 1,000 words
- It is acknowledged some assignments are not able to be processed by Turnitin

Prior to final submission, all students have the opportunity to submit one draft of their assignment to Turnitin to self-check their referencing. Assignments will not be marked until both hard copy and online versions have been submitted. Marks may be deducted for late submission of either version.

Penalties for Late Assignments
Assignments submitted after the due date, without an approved extension of time will be penalised by the reduction of 5% of the possible maximum mark for the assessment item for each day or part day that the item is late. Weekends count as one day in determining the penalty. Assessment items submitted more than ten days after the due date will be awarded zero marks.

Remarks
Students can request to have their work re-marked by the Course Coordinator or Discipline Convenor (or their delegate); three outcomes are possible: the same grade, a lower grade, or a higher grade being awarded. Students may also appeal against their final result for a course. Please consult the University policy at: http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/forms/

Return of Assignments
Students can collect assignments from a nominated Student Hub during office hours. Students will be informed during class which Hub to go to and the earliest date that assignments will be available for collection. Students must present their student identification card to collect their assignment.

Preferred Referencing Style
Students may use any referencing style, provided it is clear and consistent.

An in-text citation names the author of the source, gives the date of publication, and for a direct quote includes a page number, in parentheses. At the end of the paper, a list of references provides publication information about the source; the list is alphabetised by authors’ last names (or by titles for works without authors). Further information on referencing and general study skills can be obtained from:

Student Representatives
Student Representatives are a major channel of communication between students and the School. Contact details of Student Representatives can be found on School websites.

Student Communication
Students should discuss any course related matters with their Tutor, Lecturer, or Course Coordinator in the first instance and then the relevant Discipline or Program Convenor. If this proves unsatisfactory, they should then contact the Head of School if required. Contact details can be found on the School website.
Essential Online Information for Students
Information on Class and Exam Timetables, Tutorial Online Registration, Learning Support, Campus Maps, Careers information, Counselling, the Health Service and a range of free Student Support Services can be found at:


Additional information about course

The lectures for PHIL 1020 will comprise two strands: “History of Philosophy” and “Moral Theory”. The proposed schedule of lectures is as follows:

### History of Philosophy

**Week One:** General introduction. Outline of course. Animistic Thought.

**Week Two:** The beginnings of Philosophy. Thales. Aristotle and Explanation.

**Week Three:** Aristotle and the “unmoved mover”. The beginnings of Medieval Philosophy. Aquinas and the first cause argument.

**Week Four:** The Argument from Contingency

**Week Five:** The Ontological Argument.

**Week Six:** The Arguments from Design

**Week Seven:** The Problem of Evil.

**Week Eight:** Empiricism and Rationalism

**Week Nine:** Descartes

**Week Ten:** Locke

**Week Eleven:** The Mind-body problem. Dualism.

**Week Twelve:** Criticism of dualism. The Identity Theory.

**Week Thirteen:** Behaviourism and functionalism. The problem of consciousness.

### Moral Theory

**Lectures**

**PART 1: The Ethical Problem**

**Week One:** Ethics, What?
Week Two: Ethics: Why?

PART II: The Good.

Week Three: Hedonism

Week Four: Self-Actualisation

Week Five: Passionate Love

Week Six: Desire-Satisfaction

PART III: Some Moral Problems

Week Seven: Vegetarianism

Week Eight: Abortion

Week Nine: War

Week Ten: Terrorism

PART IV: The Right

Week Eleven: Egoism: Does the Good Life involve right action?

Week Twelve: Utilitarian Theories

Week Thirteen: Deontological Theories

Tutorials

Please note: Tutorial groups only meet every second week. Some tutorial groups meet on EVEN NUMBERED weeks, other tutorial groups meet on ODD NUMBERED weeks.

TUTORIAL PROGRAMME

Weeks 2 and 3: Introductory Issues.

Weeks 4 and 5: Topics in Moral Theory

Weeks 6 and 7: Topics in History of Philosophy

Weeks 8 and 9: Topics in Moral Philosophy

Weeks 10 and 11: Topics in History of Philosophy
**Weeks 12 and 13: Topics in Moral Theory and History of Philosophy**

Specific topics for the tutorials will be made available in the first tutorial. It is very important that students go to the first tutorial.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading guide</th>
<th>Mark</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>49% or less</td>
<td>Fail (FF)</td>
<td>An unacceptable effort, including non-completion. The student has not understood the basic principles of the subject matter and/or has been unable to express their understanding in a comprehensible way. Deficient in terms of answering the question, research, referencing and correct presentation (spelling, grammar etc). May include extensive plagiarism.</td>
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<tr>
<td>50% to 64%</td>
<td>Pass (P)</td>
<td>The work demonstrates a reasonable attempt to answer the question, shows some grasp of the basic principles of the subject matter and a basic knowledge of the required readings, is comprehensible, accurate and adequately referenced.</td>
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<tr>
<td>65% to 74%</td>
<td>Credit (C)</td>
<td>The work demonstrates a clear understanding of the question, a capacity to integrate research into the discussion, and a critical appreciation of a range of different theoretical perspectives. A deficiency in any of the above may be compensated by evidence of independent thought. The work is coherent and accurate.</td>
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<tr>
<td>75% to 84%</td>
<td>Distinction (D)</td>
<td>Evidence of substantial additional reading and/or research, and evidence of the ability to generalise from the theoretical content to develop an argument in an informed and original manner. The work is well organised, clearly expressed and shows a capacity for critical analysis.</td>
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<tr>
<td>85% upwards</td>
<td>High Distinction (HD)</td>
<td>All of the above, plus a thorough understanding of the subject matter based on substantial additional reading and/or research. The work shows a high level of independent thought, presents informed and insightful discussion of the topic, particularly the theoretical issues involved, and demonstrates a well-developed capacity for critical analysis.</td>
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