Course Co-ordinator: John Wright  
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Consultation hours: Tue 3-5

Course Overview

PHIL1020 - Philosophy 1A  
(MEREWETHER HIGH SCHOOL)

Course Outline

Course Coordinator  John Wright  
Semester  Semester 1 - 2009  
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 half hour per week for full term  
Tutorials begin week 1  
Lecture begins week 1

Course Outline Issued and Correct as at: Week 1, Semester 1 - 2009  
CTS Download Date: 20.2.09
Learning Materials/Texts
Readings for “Existentialism” (Arrangements for access to be announced).

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 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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Essays / Written Assignments</th>
<th>Two essays, each of approximately one thousand words. Due dates for submission to be announced. Each essay will be worth 25% of final mark.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Examination: Formal</td>
<td>2 hour written examination, 50%, end of semester.</td>
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</table>

Assumed Knowledge
There is no assumed knowledge.

Merewether High School Timetable
PHIL1020
INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY A.
Enquiries: School of Humanities and Social Science
Semester 1 – 2009
Lecture Fridays 2.30pm to 4.30pm Throughout term
and Tutorial Fridays 4.30 to 5.00pm Throughout term

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 Student Academic Integrity 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 uses an electronic text matching 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 text matching service (which may then retain a copy of the item on its database for the purpose of future 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.

Marks and Grades Released During Term
All marks and grades released during the term, are indicative only until formally approved by the Head of School on the recommendation of the School Assessment body.

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 following the instructions provided in the Special Circumstances Affecting Assessment Procedure - Policy 000641.

Note: different procedures apply for minor and major assessment tasks.

Please go to the Policy at http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000641.html for further information, particularly for information on the options available to you.

Students should be aware of the following important deadlines:

- **Requests for Special Consideration** must be lodged no later than 3 working days after the due 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 received no later than ten working days prior the first date of the examination period

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

Changing your Enrolment
If students are enrolled after the census dates listed below they are liable for the full cost of their student
contribution or fees for that term.
For semester 1 courses: 31 March 2009
For semester 2 courses: 31 August 2009
For Trimester 1 courses: 18 February 2009
For Trimester 2 courses: 9 June 2009
For Trimester 3 courses: 22 September 2009

**Singapore Census Dates**
For Trimester 1 Singapore courses: 27 January 2009
For Trimester 2 Singapore courses: 26 May 2009
For Trimester 3 Singapore courses: 22 September 2009.

**Block Census Dates**
Block 1: 16 January 2009
Block 2: 13 March 2009
Block 3: 15 May 2009
Block 4: 10 July 2009
Block 5: 11 September 2009
Block 6: 16 November 2009

Students may withdraw from a course without academic penalty on or before the last day of term. Any withdrawal from a course after the last day of term will result in a fail grade.

Students cannot enrol in a new course after the second week of term, except under exceptional circumstances. Any application to add a course after the second week of term must be on the appropriate form, and should be discussed with staff in the Student Hubs or with your Program Executive at PSB if you are a Singapore student.

To check or change your enrolment online, please refer to myHub - Self Service for Students

https://myhub.newcastle.edu.au

**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 studying in Australia.

The four Student Hubs are located at:

**Callaghan Campus**
- Shortland Hub: Level 3, Shortland Building
- Hunter Hub: Level 2, Student Services Centre

**City Precinct**
- City Hub and Information Common: Ground Floor, University House

**Central Coast Campus (Ourimbah)**
- Student Hub: Opposite the Main Cafeteria

For Port Macquarie students, contact your program officer or EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au, phone 4921 5000

For Singapore students, your first point of contact is your PSB Program Executive

**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](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/services/disability)

Online Tutorial Registration:

Students are required to enrol in the Lecture and a specific Tutorial time for this course via the Online Registration system. Refer - [http://studinfo1.newcastle.edu.au/rego/stud_choose_login.cfm](http://studinfo1.newcastle.edu.au/rego/stud_choose_login.cfm)

NB: Registrations close at the end of week 2 of semester.

**Studentmail and Blackboard:** Refer - [www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/](http://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.

**Important Additional Information**

Details about the following topics are available on your course Blackboard site (where relevant). Refer - [www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/](http://www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/)

- Written Assignment Presentation and Submission Details
- Online copy submission to Turnitin
- Penalties for Late Assignments
- Special Circumstances
- No Assignment Re-submission
- Re-marks & Moderations
- Return of Assignments
- Preferred Referencing Style
- Student Representatives
- Student Communication
- Essential Online Information for Students
Schedule of lectures.
PHIL 1020 comprises two segments: “History of Philosophy” and “Existentialism”. The schedule of lectures is as follows: Please note, this schedule is only intended as a guideline.

History of Philosophy
Week 1: Animism. The Beginnings of Philosophy. From Thales to Aristotle.
Week 2: Aquinas and the first cause argument. The argument from contingency.
Week 3: The ontological argument. The Argument from Design.
Week 4: The problem of evil. Empiricism and Rationalism.
Week 5: Descartes and Locke.

Week 8: Introduction: What is Existentialism? Kierkegaard: the discovery of the individual
Reading: Kierkegaard, ‘Truth is Subjectivity’, from Concluding Unscientific Postscript
Week 9: Sartre: Existentialism is a Humanism
Reading: Sartre, ‘Existentialism is a Humanism’, from Solomon (ed.), Existentialism Bad Faith and Authenticity
Reading: Patterns of Bad Faith’, from Being and Nothingness
Week 10: The Existence of Others and the Look
Reading: Sartre, ‘The Look’, and ‘Intersubjectivity’, from Being and Nothingness
Existentialist Freedom
Reading: Sartre, ‘Freedom and Facticity: The Situation’, from Being and Nothingness
Week 11: Authenticity and Ethics
Reading: de Beauvoir, The Ethics of Ambiguity (extract)
Camus and the Absurd
Reading: Camus, The Myth of Sisyphus (extract)
Week 12: Dostoevsky, Freedom and Happiness
Reading: Dostoevsky, ‘The Grand Inquisitor’, from The Brothers Karamazov
De Beauvoir and Feminism
Reading: de Beauvoir, The Second Sex (extract)
Week 13: Fanon and Racism
Reading: Black Skin, White Masks (extract); Sartre, ‘Black Orpheus’
: Sartre and Marxism
Reading: Sartre, 'Justice and the State', from Life/Situations
Week 14: Summary