



FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 601 – Seminar in Selected Problems
Lec 01, Topic 01 - “Proseminar”

Fall Term 2010

Course Outline

Lectures: Tu/Th 9:30-10:45 in SS 1253

Instructor: Jeremy Fantl

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Office Hours: Tuesdays, 12:30-2:00

Course Description

The course will introduce students to issues in a number of major sub-disciplines of philosophy and guide the students through the development, presentation, and completion of a professional-style philosophy paper.

Required Texts

Course packet, available at Bound and Copied.

Evaluation

- One final term paper, worth 60% of the grade, due on December 16th.
- One APA-style paper presentation, worth 30% of the grade, to be conducted in class between November 23rd and December 7th.
- Quality of preparedness and discussion, worth 10% of the grade.
- One rough draft, due on November 9th. The draft is not graded, though late or missing drafts can reduce the grade of your polished essay (see the policy on late drafts, below).
- One draft conference, held between November 9th and November 18th. Your performance in this conference is not graded. Missed conferences will not be rescheduled.
- There will NOT be a Registrar-scheduled final exam.

Grading Method

Letter Grades translate to numerical values according to the following scheme:

A+: 98.33	B+: 88.33	C+: 78.33	D+: 68.33	F: 55
A+/A: 96.67	B+/B: 86.67	C+/C: 76.67	D+/D: 66.67	
A: 95	B: 85	C: 75	D: 65	
A/A-: 93.33	B/B-: 83.33	C/C-: 73.33	D/D-: 63.33	
A-: 91.67	B-: 81.67	C-: 71.67	D-: 61.67	
A-/B+: 90	B-/C+: 80	C-/D+: 70		

Final Grades are computed by rounding to the nearest recognized letter grade.

Policy on Late Assignments

Unexcused late essays lose one full letter grade for each day the essay is late, to a maximum of 4 full letter grades. Unexcused late drafts will reduce the grade of the polished essay 1/3 of a letter grade for each day the draft is late, to a maximum of 2 full letter grades. Missing drafts receive a 0.

SYLLABUS

Date	Topic and Class Activity
9/14, Tues:	Introduction
9/16, Thurs:	Library Orientation

Part I: Sub-disciplines of Philosophy

9/21, Tues:	Philosophical Methodology Gendler, "Philosophical Intuitions"
9/23, Thurs:	Epistemology Conee, "Heeding Misleading Evidence"
9/28, Tues:	Philosophical Logic Edgington, "Do conditionals have truth values?"
9/30, Thurs:	Philosophy of Language Braun and Sider, "Vague, so Untrue"
10/5, Tues:	Philosophy of Mind Kim, "Causality, Identity, and Supervenience in the Mind-Body Problem"
10/7, Thurs:	Philosophy of Science Cartwright, "Do the Laws of Physics State the Facts?"
10/12, Tues:	History of Philosophy Congleton, "Two Kinds of Lawlessness"
10/14, Thurs:	Philosophy of Religion La Croix, "The Impossibility of Defining 'Omnipotence'"
10/19, Tues:	Ethics Sinnott-Armstrong, "'Ought' Conversationally Implies 'Can'"

Part II: Writing Your Draft

10/21, Thurs:	Student Choice
10/26, Tues:	Student Choice
10/28, Thurs:	Student Choice
11/2, Tues:	Student Choice
11/4, Thurs:	Student Choice

Part III: Refining Your Presentation

11/9, Tues:	Drafts Due. No class: conferences
11/16, Tues:	No class: conference
11/18, Thurs:	Comments Due. No class: conferences

Part IV: Presentations

11/23, Tues:	APA-style presentation
11/25, Thurs:	APA-style presentation
11/30, Tues:	APA-style presentation
12/2, Thurs:	APA-style presentation
12/7, Tues:	APA-style presentation
12/9, Thurs:	Wrap-up
12/16, Fri:	Final Paper Due