PHIL 2200
Ways of Knowing
Semester: Fall 2013
Location: Social Sciences Bldg- 3010
Time: MWF 11am-11:50am
CRN: 82351

Instructor: Damien P. Williams
Email: dwill255@kennesaw.edu
Phone: 770-423-6294
Office: Social Sciences Building, Room 4005
Office Hours: MWF 12pm-12:50pm, 3pm-3:30pm

Course Description:
A philosophical, critical examination of the different ways of knowing and thinking in the humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences including ethical and religious perspectives. Emphasis is on the nature and purpose of philosophical inquiry as applied to selected issues within philosophy and the broader implications of these methods and questions for other disciplines and in everyday contexts.

Learning Objectives:

PHIL 2200 satisfies one of Kennesaw State University’s general education program requirements. It addresses the Critical Thinking learning outcome. The learning outcome states: Students articulate a position on an issue and support it by evaluating evidence relevant to the position, considering opposing positions or evidence, and evaluating the implications and/or consequences of the issue. For more information about KSU’s General Education program requirements and associated learning outcomes, please visit http://catalog.kennesaw.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=10&poid=704

Required Reading:
- Handouts: "Cook Ting" and “In the World of Men,” from Chuang Tzu: Basic Writings, Burton Watson translator; Introduction and Chapters 1, 4, 11, and 67—69 from Lao-Tzu: Te-Tao Ching, Robert G Henricks translator; Excerpts from Zen Flesh, Zen Bones, including selections from “101 Zen Stories” and the introduction to and excerpts from “The Gateless Gate by Mu-Mon,” transcribed and translated by Nyogen Senzaki and Paul Reps.
Attendance Policy:
After the first week, no Attendance Will Be Taken, HOWEVER this is a course intensive in both reading and discussion, and you will be responsible for material which may only be available to you in class discussion.

Electronic Devices Policy:
Laptops and tablet PCs are acceptable for use during class hours, but smart phones, older cell phones, and other electronic devices are not, and should be silenced if not deactivated.

Course Assessments/Assignments:

SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS: Schedule of Assignments and due dates on following pages.

GRADE COMPOSITION:
MIDTERM EXAM 12%
SHORT ESSAYS 18%
TERM PAPER 30%
FINAL EXAM 30%
PARTICIPATION/ATTENDANCE 10%
TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS : 100%

MAKE-UP EXAM POLICY:
Make-up exams for the midterm or exams other than the final are not guaranteed and are possible only in cases of well-documented emergency

Note: The Department will host a day for makeup exams for students with excused absences at the end of each semester. Students will need to bring an ID to the makeup exam. This is not a required makeup solution. We hope that we will be able to share the responsibility of proctoring makeup exams over the course of the academic year.

LATENESS POLICY on assignments: Short Essays will be accepted up to one week (Seven Days) late, with 10 points deducted each class day it is late, starting on the due date.

The Term Paper will have its grade reduced one letter for each school day it is late. That is, if the paper is due on Thursday, it will be counted one day late on Friday, two days late on Monday and three days late on Tuesday. Hence, turning in an “A” paper on Tuesday that had been due the previous Thursday will result in a grade of “D.”

Grading:

Grade Calculations

Students are evaluated on the following scale:
GRADE COMPOSITION:
MIDTERM EXAM 12%
SHORT ESSAYS = 2% x 9 = 18%
TERM PAPER 30%
FINAL EXAM 30%
PARTICIPATION/ATTENDANCE 10%
TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS: 100%

Grading Scale
Students are evaluated on the following scale:
A = 90-100
B = 80-89
C = 70-79
D = 60-69
F = 0-59
I—Indicates an incomplete grade for the course, and will be awarded only when the student has done satisfactory work up to the last two weeks of the semester, but for nonacademic reasons beyond his/her control is unable to meet the full requirements of the course.
Incomplete grades are only valid after submission of the Incomplete Grade form (signed by both the instructor and student) to the Department Chair's office.

Academic Honesty:
The high quality of education at Kennesaw State University is reflected in the credits and degrees its students earn. The protection of high standards of academic integrity is crucial since the validity and equity of the University's grades and degrees depend upon it.

No student shall receive, attempt to receive, knowingly give or attempt to give unauthorized assistance in the preparation of any work required to be submitted for credit (including examinations, laboratory reports, essays, themes, term papers, etc.). Unless specifically authorized, the presence and/or use of electronic devices during an examination, quiz, or other class assignment is considered cheating. Engaging in any behavior which a professor prohibits as academic misconduct in the syllabus or in class discussion is cheating. When direct quotations are used, they should be indicated, and when the ideas, theories, data, figures, graphs, programs, electronic based information or illustrations of someone other than the student are incorporated into a paper or used in a project, they should be duly acknowledged. No student may submit the same, or substantially the same, paper or other assignment for credit in more than one class without the prior permission of the current professor(s).

Students suspected of violating the KSU statement of Academic Honesty will meet with the instructor to discuss the violation AND will be reported to the Department of Student Conduct according to the process outlined at the following link:
https://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/scai-misconduct-procedures

Academic dishonesty is a fundamental breach of trust between the student and the instructor which harms the trust the instructor has for the entire class. As a result of academic dishonesty,
more time is spent poring over papers with suspicion rather than devising interesting and compelling material for the class. Academic dishonesty is also a breach of contract, and will be treated as such. Course failure, suspension, and even expulsion, in the case of endemic behaviour, may all result from instances of academic dishonesty. In the long run, it is simply easier to just Do Your Own Work. Here are some resources to help you, in that direction:

http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/
http://plagiarism.org/
http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml
http://www.library.arizona.edu/help/tutorials/plagiarism/index.html

ADA Compliance:
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Public Law 101-336, gives civil rights protections to individuals with disabilities. This statute guarantees equal opportunity for this protected group in the areas of public accommodations, employment, transportation, state and local government services and telecommunications.

Should you require assistance or have further questions about the ADA, please contact: Ms. Nastassia Sanabria, ADA Compliance Officer for Students 770-423-6443.

Course Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Graded Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>-Syllabus Overview</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-Epistemic, Ontological, and Existential Threats</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>-Intro to Ethics: What should we do?</td>
<td>Have read pp. 1 — 34 in Philosophy: A Very Short Introduction and provided linked articles.</td>
<td>Signed Syllabus Sheets Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-What do I owe to others?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>-Ethics: Conclusion</td>
<td>Have read: pp. 177 — 220 (sections 5.1—5.13) in Thinking it Through and Section 5.6 (Feminist Ethics) in The Philosophical Journey</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO CLASS</td>
<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td>AUGUST 30</td>
<td>NO CLASS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Epistemology: How do we know what to do?</td>
<td>Have read: Introduction; pp. 39 — 78 (Sections 2.1—2.10) in Thinking It Through</td>
<td>Ethics Response Papers Due</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Week 5  | -Epistemology: Conclusion  
| -Philosophy of Mind: What Is the Self? | Have read:  
| | Section 2.7 (Feminist Epistemology) in *The Philosophical Journey*;  
| | pp. 35—44 in *Philosophy: A Very Short Introduction*;  
| | and Section 3.2 (Dualism) in *The Philosophical Journey* |  |
| Week 6  | -Philosophy of Mind: Is there an “I?” What is the Mind?  
| | Is the mind Determined or Free? | Have read:  
| | pp. 1—38 (Sections 1.1—1.13) in *Thinking it Through* and  
| | Section 3.8 in *The Philosophical Journey* | Epistemology Response Papers Due |
| Week 7  | -Metaphysics: What is Reality? | Have read:  
| | pp. 299—338 (Sections 8.1—8.13) in *Thinking it Through* | Philosophy of Mind Response Papers Due |
| Week 8  | -Metaphysics, conclusion | Have read:  
| | Sections 4.1—4.3 (“The Cosmological Argument for God,” “The Design Argument...,” and “The Ontological Argument for God”) in *The Philosophical Journey* |  |
| Week 8: 10/04/13 | -Test Review | Review Sheet | Metaphysics Response Papers Due |
| Week 9 10/07/13 | **Test 1** | **Test 1** |  |
| Week 9 10/11/13 | **LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW WITHOUT PENALTY** |  |  |
| Week 10 | Eastern Philosophies: Hinduism | Have read:  
| | First Half of Section 4.6 in *The Philosophical Journey* |  |
| Week 11 | Eastern Philosophies: Confucian Thought | Have read:  
| | Confucius Biography and Confucian Analects Handouts | Hinduism Response Papers Due |
| Week 12 | Eastern Philosophies: Taoism  
<p>| | Term Paper Discussion | Have read The Chuang-Tzu and Lao-Tzu Handouts | Confucianism Response Papers Due |
| Week 13 | Eastern Philosophies: Buddhism | Have Read the linked Buddhism Article and the second half of Section 4.6 in <em>The Philosophical Journey</em> | Taoism Response Papers Due |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 14</th>
<th>Eastern Philosophies: Zen</th>
<th>Have read the Zen Stories Handouts.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 15</td>
<td>Zen Buddhism: continued</td>
<td>Have read The Gateless Gate Handouts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 17</td>
<td>LAST-DAY-OF CLASSES</td>
<td>Final Exam Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/04/13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/11/13</td>
<td>Final Exam Review</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OTHER NOTES OF IMPORTANCE:
1. Anything in this syllabus is subject to change at the instructor’s discretion, with adequate notice.
2. Check your email and the class D2L page daily. These will be the best places to find posted any changes in assignments, due dates or office hours.
3. Some General Academic Hints and Tips:
   - Read assignments both before and after the accompanying lectures to get the most out of the material.
   - Formulate thoughtfully and carefully any questions you have during class.
   - Engage in, but do not monopolize class discussion. Make your point briefly and then give others the chance to speak. The instructor is available during office hours for extended questions or topics of greater depth.
   - Do not interrupt the instructor or your classmates, except by raising your hand if you have a question or comment. Thoughtful listening is one of the best ways to learn.
   - Do not talk or write emails when your instructor or classmates are speaking. It is discourteous and distracting to others. If you have a question, or didn’t quite hear something, please ask the instructor for clarification or repetition, not the person sitting next to you.
   - Bring tissue and cover your mouth & nose when coughing or sneezing. This can help reduce incidence of flu by 72%.

-------------------------------------------Return Signed Portion ----------------------------------------------

NAME____________________________________  COURSE NUMBER_________

I HAVE READ AND RECEIVED A COPY OF THE SYLLABUS AND REALIZE THAT I NEED TO CHECK MY EMAIL DAILY FOR ASSIGNMENT CHANGES OR OTHER INFORMATION.

____________________________________  DATE____________________

SIGNATURE