PHIL 2200
Ways of Knowing
Semester: Fall 2016
Location: Kennesaw Hall 1104 (Kennesaw Campus)
Time: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 12:30pm—1:45pm
CRN: 81405

Instructor: Damien Patrick Williams
Email: dwill255@kennesaw.edu
Phone: 470-578-6149
Office: Social Sciences Building, Room 4005 (Kennesaw Campus)
Office Hours: Mondays 12pm—3pm or by appointment

Course Communications:
Communication should be conducted via email except in the case of emergency, wherein phone communication may be used.

Electronic Communications:
The University provides all KSU students with an “official” email account with the address “students.kennesaw.edu.” As a result of federal laws protecting educational information and other data, this is the sole email account you should use to communicate with your instructor or other University officials.

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 general education 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 this 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=14&poid=1248
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 course is intensive in both reading and in-class discussion, and you **WILL BE RESPONSIBLE** for material which will only be available to you in class discussion, as well as material only in the text.

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.

**IN-COURSE EXAMS**: Tests Taken During Normal Class Meeting Time; Comprised of 30 Questions, A Mixture of Multiple Choice, Short Answer, and Short Essay.

**SHORT ESSAYS**:

- **Technical Requirements**: 350-750 words. 12-pt, Times New Roman (or equivalent), Double-Spaced, 0.00” before and after lines, Standard Margins. Your name, our class name, and our class time, in the upper corner. Use the MLA standard for citation and reference, which may be found here: [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/2/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/2/)
- Place a copy of your essay in the assigned D2l Bright Space Dropbox folder by **11:59pm on the day of the class on which the assignment is due**. **NO HAND-WRITTEN CRITICAL RESPONSES WILL BE ACCEPTED**.
- 10 points will be deducted for not meeting the minimum page requirement or exceeding the page requirement.
- One Short Essay will require that you visit the KSU writing center for a consultation and assistance.

The critical responses will require that you explain two specific arguments in support of the particular philosophical concept that we will have discussed in the foregoing two week time frame, and give critical responses to those arguments.
Most critical responses should be in this format:

1st: Briefly explain the concept discussed. For example, state what the study of Ethics is, and what it attempts to do, and then some of the varying perspectives on ethical theory. Be sure to include at least two quotes drawn from the class texts or links.

2nd: Critique two components discussed within the concept. Your critique can take many forms: contradictions arise in the position; there is a logical gap in the argument; etc. It is not appropriate to critique positions on the basis of later scientific findings.

3rd: Concluding statements.

Again, most critical responses will be in that format, but certain ones will differ. You will be given specific instructions for those differing responses.

FINAL EXAM: Between 10 and 15 questions, all essay format.

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, such as illness or injury. A doctor’s note, scanned, will be necessary.

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 for each class day it is late, starting on the due date.

The Final 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:
IN-COURSE EXAM 20%
SHORT ESSAYS= 40%
FINAL EXAM 40%
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:
Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section 5. C of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the university’s policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to university materials, misrepresentation/falsification of university records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the Department of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity (SCAI), which includes either an “informal” resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct’s minimum one semester suspension requirement. See also [https://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/ksu-student-code-conduct](https://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/ksu-student-code-conduct).

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

ADA Compliance:
Students with qualifying disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act who require “reasonable accommodation(s)” to complete the course may request those from Department of Student Success Services. Students requiring such accommodations are required to work with the University’s Department of Student Success Services rather than engaging in this discussion with individual faculty members or academic
departments. If, after reviewing the course syllabus, a student anticipates or should have anticipated a need for accommodation, he or she must submit documentation requesting an accommodation and permitting time for a determination prior to submitting assignments or taking course quizzes or exams. Students may not request retroactive accommodation for needs that were or should have been foreseeable. Students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations. For more information please visit their website, sss.kennesaw.edu/sds.

Contact information is as follows:
SDS Email: sds@kennesaw.edu
Primary number for Kennesaw campus: 470-578-2666
Primary number for Marietta campus: 678-915-7244

Course Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Graded Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 1</td>
<td>-Syllabus Overview</td>
<td>Have Read Chapter One: Pages 2—24</td>
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<td>Aug. 16th &amp; 18th</td>
<td>-PHILOSOPHY AND YOU</td>
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<td>WEEK 2</td>
<td>PHILOSOPHY AND YOU</td>
<td>Have Read Chapter One: Pages 25—53</td>
<td>Signed Syllabus Sheets Due the 21st</td>
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<td>23rd, 25th</td>
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<td>WEEK 3</td>
<td>ETHICS AND MORALITY</td>
<td>Have Read Chapter Three: Pages 122—142</td>
<td>Argumentation Response Papers Due</td>
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<td>Aug 30th, Sept. 1st</td>
<td>ETHICS AND MORALITY</td>
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<td>WEEK 4</td>
<td>ETHICS AND MORALITY</td>
<td>Have Read Chapter Three: Pages 142—185</td>
<td>ETHICS Response Due</td>
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<td>6th, 8th</td>
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<td>WEEK 5</td>
<td>QUESTIONS ABOUT GOD</td>
<td>Have Read Chapter Two: Pages 54—108</td>
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<td>13th, 15th</td>
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<td>WEEK 6</td>
<td>QUESTIONS ABOUT GOD</td>
<td>HINDUISM HANDOUT</td>
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<td>20th, 22nd</td>
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<td>WEEK 7</td>
<td>09/27/16: TEST REVIEW</td>
<td>Review Sheet</td>
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<td>09/29/16: Test 1</td>
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<td>Test 1</td>
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<td>WEEK 8</td>
<td>QUESTIONS ABOUT GOD</td>
<td>Have Read BUDDHISM HANDOUTS and Chapter Two Pages 108—121</td>
<td>PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION Response Due</td>
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<td>Oct. 4th, 6th</td>
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<td>Week</td>
<td>Dates</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>11th, 13th</td>
<td>Philosophy of Mind</td>
<td>Have Read Chapter Four: Pages 186—217</td>
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<td>PENALTY BUDDHISM Response Papers Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>18th, 20th</td>
<td>Philosophy of Mind</td>
<td>Have Read Chapter Four: Pages 186—217</td>
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<td>PENALTY PHIL. MIND Response Papers Due</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>25th, 27th</td>
<td>The Debate Over Free Will</td>
<td>Have Read Chapter Five: Pages 218—251</td>
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<td>PENALTY BLAME MIND Response Papers Due</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Nov. 1st, 3rd</td>
<td>The Debate Over Free Will</td>
<td>Have Read Chapter Five: Pages 218—251</td>
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<td>Have Read Chapter 6: Pages 252—277</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>8th, 10th</td>
<td>Epistemology</td>
<td>Term Paper Discussion</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>15th, 17th</td>
<td>Justice and Society</td>
<td>Have Read Chapter 7: Pages 326—362</td>
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<td>Have read: CONFUCIUS BIOGRAPHY Handout</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>11/21/16—11/27/16</td>
<td>FALL</td>
<td>BREAK. NO</td>
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<td>Term Paper due (1300—1500 words)</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Nov. 29th, Dec. 1st</td>
<td>Eastern Philosophies: Confucian Thought</td>
<td>Confucian Thought Taoism Zen</td>
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<td>Have read: CONFUCIUS Handouts THE CHUANG-TZU AND LAO-TZU Handouts ZEN Handouts.</td>
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<td>12/01/16</td>
<td>Last-Day-of Classes</td>
<td>Final Exam Review</td>
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<td>Term Paper due (1300—1500 words)</td>
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<td>Tuesday, December 06, 2016</td>
<td>Final</td>
<td>Exam</td>
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Scheduled Final Exam Date and Time: Tuesday, December 06, 2016: 1:00 pm—3:00 pm

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 (CRN)_________

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