

PHIL 2200: Ways of Knowing

Semester: Fall 2017

Location: W. Clair Harris Textile Center 137

Meeting Time: Mon./Wed. 3:30pm-4:45pm

Instructor: Justin Downey

Email: jwd7171@kennesaw.edu

Office: Atrium Building (J)-305

Office Hours: Mon. 2:00pm-3:15pm, Wed. 3:30pm-4:45pm

Course Communication:

Do not hesitate to contact me with any questions, concerns, quibbles, comments, contentions, cash offers, etc. **The best way by far to reach me is through a message on D2L.** (Since D2L will forward a copy of your message to my email, I'll be sure to see it no matter where I look. An email sent directly to my email, on the other hand, will not be forwarded to me on D2L, which makes by chances of seeing it sooner slightly less. I strive to check both email and D2L for messages each day; however, I find that things are easiest when you contact me by D2L.)

Although office hours are listed above, I'll be able to meet with you in person on campus outside of those hours if the need arises. Just let me know that you need to speak with me and we will arrange a mutually convenient time to do so.

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. **Please note, however, that your instructor is also available via the messaging system on D2L and that this is preferred means of contact for this course.**

Course Description:

From Catalog at: <http://catalog.kennesaw.edu/content.php?catoid=34&navoid=2699>

Learning Objectives:

PHIL 2200 satisfies one of Kennesaw State University's general education program requirements. It addresses the **CRITICAL THINKING** general education learning outcome(s). The learning outcome states: Students will evaluate and synthesize information to support ideas and perspectives.

For more information about KSU's General Education program requirements and associated learning outcomes, please visit http://catalog.kennesaw.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=34&poid=3977

Required Reading:

All readings for the course except for two are available for free on D2L.

The two readings not available on D2L are at the KSU Bookstore or easy to find on Amazon.com, etc. They are:

1. ***The Spell of the Sensuous*** by David Abram, ISBN 0679776397
2. ***The Book on the Taboo Against Knowing Who You Are*** by Alan Watts, ISBN 0679723005

Attendance Policy:

Students are solely responsible for managing their enrollment status in a class; nonattendance does not constitute a withdrawal.

Routine attendance is necessary and will comprise a noteworthy portion of your final grade for the semester. You will be allowed two unexcused absences without penalty, after which you will begin to incur a deduction of points from the attendance portion of your final grade (outlined below). Each absence will mean a loss of 4 points (see points system below) until all the possible points for attendance reaches zero.

Of course, life does happen, despite our damndest efforts, and so you may speak with me if circumstances outside your control make your absence unavoidable. So long as you can provide some verification of events, your absence will be excused and no points will be lost.

Electronic Devices Policy:

DO NOT USE CELLPHONES DURING CLASS. It is rude and only works against your performance. It is an absence despite physical presence in the classroom and will be treated as such.

Course Assessments/Assignments:

Your overall grade will have three components to it: attendance, five take-home exams, and unannounced reading/lectures quizzes that you'll be given every so often throughout the semester. There will also be extra credit available.

The five take-home exams will be combinations of multiple choice and short-answer questions. Details about each particular exam will be given to you at the time that the exam is formally announced and introduced to you in class. You will have two full weeks to complete each exam, (except for the last one, which you'll have a week and a half to complete).

The unannounced reading/lecture quizzes will consist of two to three questions designed merely to test whether you actually read the reading due for that day or paid attention to the previous session's lecture/conversation. Answers to these questions will usually have to be no more than a single sentence long, and the questions themselves will be purely objective; you will not be asked to assess or interpret the reading in any specific fashion, but only to prove that you read it. These quizzes will be brief and in-class. There are no chances to make them up. If you miss a day when one is administered, you simply miss out on those points. (With a verified excused absence, however, you will be able to take the missed quiz either before or after class.)

You will have extra credit available to you in the form of watching videos (up to three) that will be linked to you in a folder marked Extra Credit on D2L. After watching the video, you will be issued a brief quiz on it. You can earn 2pts back on your final grade for each video quiz, meaning you can earn up to 6pts on your final grade in total. These can be done at any time throughout the semester. Please see me if you have questions.

Makeup Exams and Late Assignments:

As explained above, you may make up quizzes by showing a documentation of some kind for your absence.

As for the exams, please be sure to let me know if turning any of them in by the respective due dates (see the calendar below) will pose a problem so we can work out an agreeable due date for you. Naturally, you'll again have to provide some form of official excuse.

Grading:

A simple points system will be how your final grade is calculated. There are 100 possible points you can earn in total. Each of the three components of your final grade is worth a certain percentage of these possible points. Attendance is worth 10% (or 10 points), the unannounced reading/lecture quizzes are worth 30% (or 30 points), and the five take-home exams are worth 60% (or 60 points) altogether (making each exam individually worth 12% or 12 points).

As stated above, each unexcused absence after the two free ones will constitute a loss of 4 points from the 10 possible points for attendance in your final grade. This continues until you reach zero out of that 10 possible points (that is, 3 absences).

Grade Calculations

Attendance – 10 points

Unannounced reading/lecture quizzes – 30 points

Take-home exams (5) – 12 points apiece (12x5=60 points altogether)

10+30+60=100 possible points

Grading Scale

Students are evaluated on the following scale:

A – 90% or higher

B – 80% - 89%

C – 70% - 79%

D – 60% - 69%

F – below 60%

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 Integrity Statement:

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>.

Anyone caught plagiarizing work, copying answers, or otherwise breaking the rules of proper academic conduct will be reported to the Office of Academic Affairs and will receive an F for the course.

Some websites on plagiarism:

<http://plagiarism.org/>

<http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml>

<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](tel:470-578-2666)

Primary number for Marietta campus: [678-915-7244](tel:678-915-7244)

Course Schedule:

See calendar below.

Final Exam:

The final exam will be on Dec. 11th from 3:30pm to 5:30pm.

AUGUST

14 – **First Day of Classes – INTRO TO COURSE (Review Policies, Syllabus, etc.)**

16 – Introduction to Mythic World (**No Reading Due**)

21 – Mythic Time (**No Reading Due**)

23 – Ritual Logic (**No Reading Due**)

28 – More Ritual Logic, Myth and Nature (Read Eliade, *The Sacred and the Profane*: pp 116-121, 128-132, 138-159)

30 – Archetypes (Read “**Butterfly**” & Eliade, *Cosmos and History*: pp 44-48)

SEPTEMBER

4 – **Labor Day – NO CLASSES**

6 – Archetypes (**No Reading Due**)

11 – Archetypes (**No Reading Due**) – **EXAM I POSTED**

13 – Science (Read “**Cause and Effect**”)

18 – Science Continued (Read “**Nietzsche Excerpt**”)

20 – Nazis, Gangs, and Drugs (Watch “**Ritual**” Video [Link on D2L]) (Read Campbell, *The Hero with a Thousand Faces*: file marked “**first page**” and then pp 4-42)

25 – Jung and Others, Review of Mythic World (Read “**Jung and Others Excerpts**”) –

EXAM I DUE – EXAM II POSTED

27 – History of Western Philosophy (**No Reading Due**)

OCTOBER

2 – Introduction to Platonic Thought (Read “**Logos Reviews 1 & 2**”)

4 – Platonic Thought Continued - **Last Day to Withdraw without Academic Penalty**

9 – Platonic Thought Continued – **EXAM II DUE – EXAM III POSTED**

11 – Lifecycles and Declines of Cultures (**No Reading Due**)

16 – Phenomenology (Read Abram, *The Spell of the Sensuous*: chapter 2, pp31-53)

18 – Phenomenology Continued (Read Abram, *The Spell of the Sensuous*: chapter 2, pp 53-72)

- 23 – Animism Revisited (Read Abram, *The Spell of the Sensuous*: chapter 3)
– **EXAM III DUE**
- 25 – The Alphabet and Writing Systems (Read Abram, *The Spell of the Sensuous*: chapter 4,
pp 95-102, 123-135 & Coomaraswamy, “The Bugbear of Literacy”)
- 30 – Language and Landscape (Read Abram, *The Spell of the Sensuous*: chapter 5: pp137-
163, 172-179 & chapter 6, pp 181-201)

NOVEMBER

- 1 – Language and Landscape Continued (Read Abram, *The Spell of the Sensuous*: chapter 6,
pp 201-223) – **EXAM IV POSTED**
- 6 – Self (Read Watts, *The Book on the Taboo*, chapter 1)
- 8 – Buddhist Autology (**No Reading Due**)
- 13 – Black and White (Read Watts, *The Book on the Taboo*, chapter 2)
- 15 – (Read Watts, *The Book on the Taboo*, chapter 3)
- 20 – **Fall Break – NO CLASSES**
- 22 – **Fall Break – NO CLASSES**
- 27 – Double Bind (Read Watts, *The Book on the Taboo*, chapter 3) – **EXAM IV DUE**
- 29 – (Read Watts, *The Book on the Taboo*, chapter 4) – **EXAM V POSTED**

DECEMBER

- 4 – **Last Day of Classes** – (Read Watts, *The Book on the Taboo*, chapters 5 and 6 &
“Campbell Interview”)
- 11 – **Final Exam - 3:30pm - 5:30pm – EXAM V DUE**