

**Ways of Knowing – Honors Introduction to Philosophy 2200**  
**(Tuesday and Thursdays at 11:00-12:15) Fall 2017**

Social Sciences Building- 2033

**Professor:** Dr. David Jones

**Office:** 4082 Social Science Building

**Consultation Times:** Tuesday and Thursday from 12:15-12:45 or by appointment

**Phone:** 470.578.6596

**E-Mail:** [djones@kennesaw.edu](mailto:djones@kennesaw.edu) (best means of communication outside of class)

**Web Site:** <http://ksuweb.kennesaw.edu/~djones/courses.htm>

**Course Communication:** All emails must be sent to [djones@kennesaw.edu](mailto:djones@kennesaw.edu). Please allow 72 hours for a reply. Face-to-face meetings can be scheduled on either Tuesdays or Thursdays between 12:30 and 1:30, and must be scheduled at least 48 hours in advance.

**Course Description:**

Philosophy 2200 is an honors introductory course in philosophy that explores a variety of issues from a philosophical perspective. The approach of the class will be historical and comparative. Some of the problems and issues we will be investigating this semester include: the differences between philosophical questions, religious questions, and scientific questions; how values are established and how they change over time; the relationship between faith and reason; the nature of reality; and what ways of knowing do we develop to address these types of questions. These questions (and more) will spin off from a more fundamental question that is the major focus of the course: what is the nature of the human soul/self and its relation to other selves and the external world? We will address Socrates' challenge to know ourselves through various contexts and relationships. Also, students are introduced to the vocabulary of philosophy and how it applies to other disciplines, to the values and objectives of thinking critically, and alternative ways of knowing the self and world through chronologically and comparatively presented worldviews. Ways of knowing our world and ourselves are presented in the context of the following worldviews: Mythic/Primitive, Presocratic, Platonic, Chinese, Modern Western, and Postmodern Western. Historical representatives of each worldview are presented.

**As an honors course, content will be covered in greater depth and scope than in non-honors sections.**

**Course Objectives:**

1. To develop an understanding of philosophy, its traditions, and relation to subsequent disciplines and forms of inquiries emerging from them
2. To develop a working philosophical vocabulary, one that is especially appropriate for other disciplines
3. To achieve a level of competence when dealing with a philosophical problem within philosophical, social scientific, and scientific contexts
4. To understand and appreciate the origin and development of values and knowledge
5. To develop the necessary critical faculties to deal with philosophical problems and issues in a written and verbal format
6. To develop critical skills applicable to all facets of life
7. To incorporate the philosophical and ethical perspective into one's professional and personal life
8. To develop one's conceptual abilities and expand ways of knowing
9. To develop the "whole person"—one who is not narrowly defined

**Course Format:**

Classroom sessions will consist of delivery of material and discussion with the strong emphasis placed on discussion. This honors section differs in format from traditional sections by emphasizing close reading of the texts and a stronger use of the Socratic Method. You should be prepared to engage in substantive discussions of readings for every class meeting. The smaller class size of the honors section allows for greater professor-to-student and student-to-student interaction as well as an in-depth treatment of course

content. Students are expected to ask questions and must be prepared each class to discuss the problems and issues of the readings. As an honors course, all reading must be completed before class and re-read after class. In this honors course, there will be more reading than in a traditional course. This class will not have power point presentations, study guides, or other types of learning crutches.

### **Course and Classroom Policies:**

All work completed outside of class must be word-processed. There are no provisions for extra-credit in Philosophy 2200 beyond what may be assigned. In addition, there will be no makeup examinations or late submissions in this course. Participation and attendance are mandatory and are essential for a good grade. Active cellular telephones are not permitted in class. Also, in order to enhance critical listening skills, no audio or visual taping of lectures is permitted without the instructor's approval. If students are using laptops for note taking, use is permitted only for classroom content. Arrive to class on time. All contents of lectures, including written materials distributed to the class, are under copyright protection by the professor.

### **Attendance Policy**

There are no excused absences at the university level. Students are responsible for all material covered in the course, which includes lectures and discussions, readings, documentary presentations, and everything covered in class and outside assignments. Please see academic penalties for absences below.

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

### **Class Notes Policy**

Notes or recordings made by students in this class based on my lectures, discussion group or class discussions are not permitted. Permission to make notes or recordings falls within my discretion as the instructor and as informed by instructional purposes, classroom order, property interests and other reasonable considerations arising in the academic context. Notes and illicit recordings of this class may not be exchanged or distributed for any commercial purpose, for compensation, or for any purpose other than your personal study. Unless authorized by the University in advance and explicitly and in writing permitted by me, commercial or any non-personal use of class notes or recordings constitutes an unauthorized commercial activity in violation of the Student Conduct Code, and students who violate this policy are subject to University discipline. As the instructor in this course, I retain intellectual property rights in the lecture material pursuant to U.S. copyright law and Georgia Civil Code. Misuse of course notes or recordings derived from lecture material may also subject you to legal proceedings.

**Electronic Devices Policy:** The volume on all electronic devices should be turned off in class. *The use of cell phones is strictly prohibited in class.* Students are welcome to use laptops for note-taking purposes only (no web based activity—only if required). No recordings, of any kind, are allowed in class. Any violation of this policy will negatively affect students' grades.

### **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>.

No student shall receive, attempt to receive, knowingly give or attempt to give unauthorized assistance in the preparation of any work required 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 that a professor prohibits as academic misconduct in the syllabus or in class discussion is cheating. When direct quotations are used, they must 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 must 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.

Examples of Plagiarism Avoidance websites:

<http://plagiarism.org/>

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

<http://www.library.arizona.edu/help/tutorials/plagiarism/index.html>

### **Special Note on Academic Integrity**

If any student plagiarizes in writing a paper, that is, copies or closely paraphrases from a source without proper quotation and acknowledgment of the source, that student will be given a failing grade in the course.

### **Writing Center**

The KSU Writing Center is a free service offered to all students. Experienced writing assistants work with you throughout the writing process (on concerns such as topic development, revision, research, documentation, grammar, and mechanics) although assistants cannot edit or proofread your paper for you. Appointments are strongly encouraged. For more information or to make an appointment, visit <http://www.kennesaw.edu/english/WritingCenter>, or stop by Room 242 in the English Building.

### **Other Resources for writing a philosophy paper:**

<http://writingcenter.unc.edu/handouts/philosophy/>

<http://www.sfu.ca/philosophy/resources/writing.html>

[http://oregonstate.edu/cla/shpr/sites/default/files/images/phil\\_writing\\_guide.pdf](http://oregonstate.edu/cla/shpr/sites/default/files/images/phil_writing_guide.pdf)

[http://las.depaul.edu/philosophy/Programs/Undergraduate/Paper\\_Writing\\_Suggestions.asp](http://las.depaul.edu/philosophy/Programs/Undergraduate/Paper_Writing_Suggestions.asp)

### **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 Office of Student Disability Services. Students requiring such accommodations are required to work with the University’s Office of Student Disability 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. Student Disability Services is located in the Carmichael Student Center in Suite 267. Please visit the Student Disabilities Services website at [www.kennesaw.edu/stu\\_dev/sds](http://www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/sds) for more information, or call the office at 470-578-6443.

### **Grading**

For honors students: Because this is an honors section and you are considered by the University to be high-ability students, you will be held to higher standards for quality of thought, grammar, mechanics, style, and performance. My expectations of your work will be high and well beyond what I have in typical non-honors

courses at Kennesaw State University.

There will be three cumulative mid-term examinations/papers and a comprehensive final assignment. Extra credit **may** be earned from Mike Ryan Lecture Series assignments and approved philosophy events at the discretion of the professor. Exams will consist of questions that assess information acquisition and distinction making, short essays, and extended essays. Extended essays will be evaluated on organization, development and coherence of ideas, clarity of expression, grammar, and style. Although students may anticipate an exam prior to the last date to drop this class, the instructor reserves the right to adjust the course syllabus according to the pace of the class.

Exam 1 = 20 Points

Exam 2 = 25 Points

Exam 3 = 20 Points

Final Exam = 25 Points

Participation and attendance are required. On the second absence final grades will be lowered by one letter grade. There are no exceptions to this attendance policy. Up to 3 points may be added by the discretion of the instructor for a student's quality participation in classroom discussion.

Grading will be strictly based on the following scale:

90+ = A

80-89 = B

65-79 = C

55-64 = D

-55 = F

**Texts:**

- *The Last Days of Socrates*, Hugh Trednennick (Penguin Books ISBN: 014 04.4037 2)
- *Symposium*, Alexander Nehamas and Paul Woodruff (Hackett ISBN: 0-87220-076-0)
- *The Analects of Confucius: A Philosophical Translation*, Roger Ames and Henry Rosemont (Ballantine Books ISBN: 0-345-40154-9)
- *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*, Graham Parkes trans. (Oxford University Press ISBN: 0192805835)
- *Zhuangzi: The Essential Writings*, Brook Ziporyn trans.(Hackett Publishing Company ISBN-10: 0872209113)
- *Meditations on First Philosophy*, Laurence J. Lafleur trans. (Prentice Hall ISBN-13: 978-0023671708)

\* Students may be required to purchase additional readings during the course.

\* All texts are available at the KSU Book Store and many retail bookstores.

# INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY SYLLABUS - *Ways of Knowing* Fall 2017

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**E-Mail:** [djones@kennesaw.edu](mailto:djones@kennesaw.edu)

## Topics Discussed in Order - Dates may be adjusted Read assignments prior to class meetings.

- Aug. 16 – Sept. 7** Introduction to course; Introduction to Philosophy  
The Mythic/Primitive World View  
Hesiod's *Theogony*; Homeric Psyche  
Introduction to Greek Philosophy
- The Pre-Socratic World View: Thales, Herakleitos,  
Demokritos, Parmenides, the Sophists  
Demokritos & the Sophists  
**Exam 1 Due on September 7**
- Sept. 7 – Oct. 5** Platonic World View  
Reading Day or Guest Lecture on September 26  
**READ:** Plato's *Apology* in *Last Days of Socrates* (LDS)  
**READ:** Plato's "Allegory of the Cave" (Handout)  
Plato's Theory of Ideas or Forms  
**READ:** Plato's *Phaedo* (LDS)  
**READ:** Plato's *Symposium*  
**EXAM 2 Due October 5 \*All exams are cumulative.**
- October 4** **Last day to withdraw without academic penalty**
- Oct. 10 – Nov. 14** Chinese World View  
Introduction to Chinese Philosophy and the Philosophy of Confucius  
**READ:** *The Analects of Confucius: A Philosophical Translation*  
Lao Tzu **READ:** Handouts  
Zhuangzi **READ:** *Chuang Tzu: Basic Writings*
- November 16** Modern (Cartesian) World View  
**READ:** Descartes' *Meditations on First Philosophy*  
**EXAM 3 Due on November 17 \*All exams are cumulative.**
- Nov. 20 – 26** **Autumn Break**
- Nov. 28 – Nov. 30** Beginnings of the Post Modern World View  
The Philosophy of Friedrich Nietzsche  
**READ:** Nietzsche's *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*
- Dec. 7 at 10:30** **FINAL EXAM** (Cumulative; no early or later exams permitted)