

**PHIL 2200**  
**Ways of Knowing**  
**Fall, 2017**  
**Location: SOC 3029**  
**Meeting Time: MWF 10:00-10:50**

**Instructor: Dr. Susan Rouse**  
**Office: SOC 4086**  
**Office Hours: MW 11:00-1:00**  
**Office Phone: 470-578-6647**  
**Email address: srouse@kennesaw.edu**

**Course Communication:** If you need to communicate with me outside of class, use the email address listed above, NOT the D2L email. I will reply to you as soon as I can, but if you email in the evening, don't expect an answer until the next morning. This is important to keep in mind if you are emailing with a last minute question about an assignment.

**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:**

This course is part of the General Education Program at Kennesaw State. It is intended in part to familiarize you with the discipline of philosophy. In this course we will look at some of the traditional questions that have interested philosophers from many cultures and many times. These questions include how and what we know about our world, ourselves, and our ethical responsibilities within this context. Furthermore, we will look at how philosophy and philosophical thinking relate to other disciplines and how philosophy might help us in thinking about and understanding everyday questions and problems.

**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](http://catalog.kennesaw.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=34&poid=3977) In addition, when you complete this course, you should have achieved the following:

- A familiarity with the vocabulary of philosophy, its major concepts, the historical development and consequences of these concepts, and methods of philosophical inquiry within western and non-western traditions;
- An understanding of the different contexts and criteria for knowledge;
- An understanding of human diversity and the differing values that arise from diverse points of view; and
- An understanding of the relationship of philosophy to the other disciplines and areas of inquiry

**Required Reading:**

*Voices of Wisdom: A Multicultural Philosophy Reader*, edited by Gary Kessler, 8<sup>th</sup> edition  
There are also some readings on D2L.

**Attendance Policy:**

Students are solely responsible for managing their enrollment status in a class; nonattendance does not constitute a withdrawal. If you intend to do well you need to be in class.

**Electronic Devices Policy:**

You may use laptops to take notes in class unless your use becomes a distraction to me or other students in the class. Turn off all phones. If you have some sort of emergency call you are expecting, let me know before class begins. No electronic devices may be on your desk during an exam.

**Classroom rules:**

It is very distracting to both me and other students when you leave and return to the room during class, so PLEASE don't leave unless you have some sort of genuine emergency. If you do have emergencies, I expect they will be few and far between. Furthermore, cell phones and the like are distracting: turn them off before class starts. Talking when I'm talking or when someone else is not only distracting, it's rude. I'll be happy to answer questions to give time for discussion, so just be patient.

**Course Assessments/Assignments:**

- 3 essay exams to be turned on D2L Drop Box, each exam counts for 30% of your grade;
- 10% of your grade is for class participation and includes some written work (peer reviews, analysis of specific readings, and short reflective papers that we will use in class discussion).

I will say more about each of these grading categories and particular assignments. Guidelines for these assignments and particular reading assignments are posted on D2L. It is your responsibility to look at these guidelines and reading assignments. I will not accept assignments over email and class participation assignments require that you be in class on the day they are due in order to receive credit for these assignments.

**Makeup Exams and Late Assignments:**

Due dates for your exams are listed on the syllabus schedule, and they **must** be submitted on D2L Drop Box where I will grade them. I will not accept exams more one class period late; that is, if a paper/exam is due in Drop Box Monday at noon, then I will not accept it after noon on Wednesday and any late exams will receive a grade penalty of one letter grade. (The exception to this is the final, which must be turned in at the time listed.) In-class activities that are part of your participation grade (peer review and announced reading analysis) will not be accepted late. I will have the plagiarism detecting function enabled on Drop Box. If you have difficulties with Drop Box, **contact the D2L administrator immediately and copy me on your email.** I cannot

submit exams to your account on D2L Drop Box, and I will **only** accept them on Drop Box. Submissions to Drop Box must be as a .doc file, an .rtf file or as a PDF.

### **Grading:**

I grade your essays on the plus, minus system. While I can't give this as a final grade, it allows me to see clearly where you fall in the grading range. If you want a numerical calculation for the essays you can assign each grade a number for 1 to 11 as follows:

A 11

A- 10

B+ 9

B 8

B- 7 and so forth. Then, divide by the number of assignments in the grading category and you have an overall grade in that category. Then you average the category grades together. Or, too make things simpler, if you have an A and a C the averaged grade is a B.

I follow University policy in giving incompletes: **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:**<sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub> 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>.

In plain English this means that if you are caught plagiarizing or otherwise cheating, I fail you for the assignment and, if severe enough, I will fail you for the course. In either case, I will turn your name over to the Judicial Officer.

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>

## 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.

Tentative schedule:

August 14	Go over syllabus
August 16	Chapter 1 1.1-1.3
August 18	1.4 Russell reading, page 15 Have reading analysis assignment in class; turn in at the end of class. Guidelines for this assignment are posted on D2L. (We will do this a few more times during the semester as announced in class.)
August 21	3.4 Plato, <i>The Apology</i> Have reading analysis assignment in class; turn in at the end of class. Guidelines for this assignment are posted on D2L. (We will do this a few more times during the semester as announced in class.)
August 23	10.1 10.3 Plato selection from <i>The Republic</i> (Note—This begins with some introductory materials and moves on to the main reading. While I want you to read the introduction, the meat of what you are to read is the Plato selection itself. I’ve posted a sample on D2L in the syllabus file so that you can see again how this works and we will have gone over the pattern in class. This is the pattern the rest of the semester and from now on I will just list the writer and the section number. If you’re confused, ask in class so that we can clear this up ASAP.)
August 25	Continue Plato
August 28	Continue Plato
August 30	Continue Plato
September 1	Continu Plato
September 4	No class
September 6	10.2 Laozi
September 8	10.4 Shankara
September 11	10.6 Valadez
September 13	10.7 Heidegger
September 15	Exam posted on D2L In class discussion centered around short reflection paper. I expect you to be in class and prepared to discuss the question I have assigned and your reflection papers are due at the end of class in order for you to receive participation credit.
September 18	8.1 8.3 Descartes

September 20	Continue Descartes Exam due by noon on D2L
September 22	Continue Descartes
September 25	Continue Descartes
September 27	8.4 Hume
September 29	8.6 Koller
October 2	Nietzsche reading on D2L
October 4	9.2 Peirce Last day to withdraw without academic penalty
October 6	9.5 Appiah
October 9	12.1 12.2 Descartes
October 11	Continue Descartes
October 13	12.3 Cole
October 16	13.2 The Buddha Exam posted on D2L
October 18	In class discussion centered around short reflection paper. I expect you to be in class and prepared to discuss the question I have assigned and your reflection papers are due at the end of class in order for you to receive participation credit.
October 20	Peer review of exam draft Be in class—on time—with a hard copy of your exam essay and two copies of the peer review sheet posted on-line. This is a required in-class activity and part of your participation grade. If you aren't here or don't have a draft to be reviewed, your participation grade will suffer AND your essay will receive a one-half letter grade penalty.
October 23	Essay exam due on D2L No class
October 25	11.4 Sartre
October 27	11.5 Raddhakrishnan
October 30	3.2 Buddhism
November 1	3.3 Confucius
November 3	3.5 Aristotle and additional reading on D2L
November 6	Continue Aristotle
November 8	In class discussion centered around short reflection paper. I expect you to be in class and prepared to discuss the question I have assigned and your reflection papers are due at the end of class in order for you to receive participation credit.
November 10	4.1 4.2 Kant
November 13	Continue Kant
November 15	Continue Kant
November 17	4.3 Mill
November 27	Continue Mill
November 29	4.6 Held
December 1	In class discussion centered around short reflection paper. I expect you to be in class and prepared to discuss the question I have assigned and your reflection papers are due at the end of class in order for you to receive participation credit. Exam posted on D2L
December 4	Peer review as before
December 6	Exam due on D2L by 12:30

