Philosophy 2200: Ways of Knowing
Spring 2011

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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.

PREREQUISITES: ENGL 0099 and READ 0099, if required; ENGL 1101 recommended.

REQUIRED TEXTS: Moore & Bruder, Philosophy—The Power of Ideas (8th Ed), McGraw-Hill,

ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION: 12.5% of final grade.

GRADING: There will be six regular exams/assignments, all of which must be completed. Then
there will be seventh review-exam which simply pulls from the previous ones. Exams will
include both short-answer and essay questions. These will mostly be done in class, though at
least one will be an out of class writing assignment. Makeup exams will be given only in special
circumstances which have been discussed with the instructor in advance, or in the case of
unavoidable and dire circumstances which are communicated to me by e-mail or phone by the
time of the exam. Acceptance of such cases is at my discretion. There will be no opportunities
for extra-credit work; rather, it is hoped that students will fully focus their efforts on mastering
the material at each stage, and then move on with the same focus.

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 II
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 University Judiciary
Program, 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.
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<tr>
<th>I. METAPHYSICS AND EPISTEMOLOGY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chap 1 Powerful Ideas</td>
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<td>Chap 2 The Pre-Socratics</td>
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<td>Chap 3 Socrates, Plato</td>
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<td>Exam-1</td>
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<td>Chap 6 The Rise of Modern Metaphysics and Epistemology</td>
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<td>Exam-2</td>
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<td>Chap 8 The Continental Tradition</td>
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<td>Chap 9 The Pragmatic and Analytic Traditions</td>
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<td>Exam-3</td>
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<th>II. MORAL AND POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chap 10 Moral Philosophy</td>
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<td>Exam-4</td>
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<th>III. PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION</th>
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<td>Chapter 13 Philosophy and Belief in God</td>
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<td>Exam-5</td>
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<th>IV. OTHER VOICES</th>
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<td>Chapter 14 Feminist Philosophy</td>
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<td>Chapter 15 Eastern Influences</td>
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<td>Exam-6</td>
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Exam-7 (Review) 12.5%
WEIGHTING OF EXAMS, ETC.,  
BASED ON CONVERSATIONS WITH BOTH OF MY PHIL 2200 COMMUNITIES

• We spoke of 10-15% of the final grade being based on attendance and participation.  
• If it were 15%, that would leave 85% to be divided between 7 exams/assignments.  
• Alloting 1/7 of that to Exam-7 (the review exam) would make it worth 12.14%.  
• That leaves about 73% to be weighted according to the number of pages covered by each exam/assignment.  
• The total number of pages we will study is 395.  
  1. Chaps. 1-3 = 62 pages, or 15.7% of the above 73%, or 11.5% of the course grade.  
  2. Chap. 6 = 33 pages, 8.5%. Hence, Exam-2 counts 6.2%.  
  3. Chaps. 8, 9 = 102 pages, 26%. Exam-3 counts 19%.  
  4. Chap. 10 = 55 pages, 14%. Exam-4 counts 10.2%.  
  5. Chap. 13 = 50 pages, 12.7%. Exam-5 counts 9.3%.  
  6. Chaps. 14, 15 = 93 pages, 24%. Exam-6 counts 17.5%.  

• HOWEVER, considering the content of the various sections and so on, I think it appropriate to adjust the weights accordingly:  

ATTENDANCE = 12.5%  
Exam-1 = 15%  
Exam-2 = 10%  (Chap. 6 is one of the most important.)  
Exam-3 = 15%  
Exam-4 = 10%  
Exam-5 = 10%  
Exam-6 = 15%  
Exam-7 (the review exam) = 12.5%

Now, as we discussed in one of the classes, anyone who averages above 80% on the first six exams can opt to write a paper on one of the course themes in place of Exam-7. Those with less than 80% will have to prove that they have properly reviewed their earlier tests by taking the Review Exam (#7).

There are no chances for extra-credit or make-ups (barring the conditions stated on the course description). If you are unhappy with the outcome of one test, the best you can do is outperform on the next.

My determinations, incorporating your input, were made with the goal of enabling success for anyone who is willing to be constantly engaged in our community of thought.