Specific Course Description: Philosophy 2200 is an 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 are: 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, Pre-Socratic, Platonic, Chinese, Modern Western, and Postmodern Western. Historical representatives of each worldview are presented.

Generic 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:

Philosophy 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.

Kennesaw State University is currently engaged in a campus-wide assessment of its general education program. The purpose is to measure student achievement with respect to faculty defined student learning outcomes. This course has been selected to participate in the process. No individually-identifiable student information will be collected as part of the assessment. Data will be reported only in aggregated form. Students should know that the data may be used for scholarly work by members of KSU faculty (but only in anonymous and aggregated form). If you are opposed to having your anonymous data used for scholarly work, you can “opt out” of this specific aspect of the process. This option is recommended by the professor of this course.
For more information on the general education assessment process and for access to an “opt out” form, please click [http://www.kennesaw.edu/gened/optoutform.html](http://www.kennesaw.edu/gened/optoutform.html).

**Specific 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 be both lecture and discussion with the emphasis placed on informal, that is, interactive lecture. Students are encouraged and expected to ask questions and must be prepared each class to discuss the problems and issues of the class. **This class will not have power point presentations or study guides.** If you are reliant on these types of learning crutches, you should enroll in a different class.

**Course and Classroom Policies:** All work completed outside of class must be word-processed. There are no provisions for extra-credit in Philosophy 2200 and makeup examinations in Philosophy 2200. Participation and attendance are mandatory and are essential for a good grade in this course. Consider the statement on academic honesty in the *Kennesaw State University Undergraduate Catalogue* to be a part of this Course Description and Syllabus. Students plagiarizing will automatically fail the course. Active cellular telephones or paging devices 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, they are not allowed to be on-line or engaged in instant messaging. Final Grades will not be transmitted electronically to individual students by the professor. Arrive to class on time. All contents of lectures, including written materials distributed to the class, are under copyright protection.

**Electronic Devices Policy:**
No electronic devices including laptops and cell phones are permitted unless students qualify for the Americans with Disabilities Act. Learning to listen without distraction is essential for philosophical thinking. All cell phones must be disabled during class time.

**Class Notes Policy:** Notes or recordings made by students in this class based on my lectures, discussion group or class discussions may only be made for the purposes of individual or group study, or for other non-commercial purposes that reasonably arise from your membership in this class. 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 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.

**Academic Honesty:**
The high quality of education at Kennesaw State University is reflected in the credits and degrees its students earn. The protection of high standards of academic integrity is crucial since the validity and equity of the University's grades and degrees depend upon it.

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

Students suspected of violating the KSU statement of Academic Honesty will meet with the instructor to discuss the violation AND will be reported to the Department of Student Conduct according to the process outlined at the following link: [https://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/scai-misconduct-procedures](https://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/scai-misconduct-procedures).

**Students plagiarizing will automatically fail the course.**

Examples of Plagiarism Avoidance websites:
- [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:**
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Public Law 101-336, gives civil rights protections to individuals with disabilities. This statute guarantees equal opportunity for this protected group in the areas of public accommodations, employment, transportation, state and local government services and telecommunications.

Should you require assistance or have further questions about the ADA, please contact: Ms. Nastassia Sanabria, ADA Compliance Officer for Students 770-423-6443.

**Grading**
There will be three cumulative mid-term examinations and a comprehensive Final Exam. Exams 1 and 3 are worth 20 points, Exams 3 and 4 are worth 25 points and the Lecture Series assignments are worth a total of 10 points (100 points total). Exams will consist of a limited amount of objective 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. Students should expect both in-class and take-home essays. 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 = 25 Points
Exam 2 = 25 Points
Exam 3 = 25 Points
Final Exam = 25 Points
Attendance Policy:
There are no excused absences in college. Participation and on time attendance are required. On the 2nd absence (1 week of class) final grades will be lowered by one letter grade. There are no exceptions to this attendance policy. Attendance will be taken daily. Up to 3 points may be added at the discretion of the instructor for a student's participation in classroom discussion.

There may be extra credit assignments possible on talks given in the Mike Ryan Lecture Series. These assignments will be worth 1 point each. Lectures are scheduled usually at 12:30 on Tuesdays or Thursdays and occasionally on Mondays or Wednesdays and last approximately one hour and 30 minutes. If students cannot attend these lectures and anticipate needing extra credit, they should consider enrolling in another class.

If students are having difficulty understanding course material and/or completing assignments, it is crucial to either seek a consultation during office hours or request an appointment. Consultation hours are listed at the beginning of this Course Description.

Grading Scale:
Students are evaluated on the following scale:
- A - 90+ points
- B - 80-89 points
- C - 65-79 points
- D - 55-64 points
- F – 55 points or less
- 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” (Academic Policies section of the 2013-2014 Undergraduate Catalog). 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.

Texts:
- Selections from *Chuang Tzu: Basic Writings*, Burton Watson trans. (Handout)
- Selections from *Meditations on First Philosophy*, Laurence J. Lafleur trans. (Handout)

* Note that there is not a textbook for this class. If students feel uncomfortable reading and studying original texts in translation, they should withdraw at the beginning of the term. Most of the readings are difficult and require an investment of time and focus.

* All texts are available at the KSU Book Store and most retail bookstores.
INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY SYLLABUS - PHILOSOPHY 2200

Ways of Knowing Spring 2014

Professor: Dr. David Jones
E-Mail: djones@atlas.kennesaw.edu

Topics Discussed in Order - Dates may be adjusted

Jan. 9 – Feb. 6
Introduction to course; Introduction to Philosophy

The Mythic/Primitive World View
Hesiod's Theogony; Homeric Psyche
READ: Handouts
Introduction to Greek Philosophy

The Pre-Socratic World View: Thales, Herakleitos, Demokritos, Parmenides, the Sophists
READ: Handouts
Demokritos & the Sophists
Exam 1 (Feb. 13 - Tentative)

Feb. 10 – March 6
Platonic World View
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
Greek Philosophy Review
EXAM 2 (March 4 - Tentative) *All exams are cumulative.

March 11-13
Modern (Cartesian) World View
READ: Descartes' Meditations on First Philosophy (Handout)
EXAM 3 (March 18 - Tentative) *All exams are cumulative.

March 12
Last day to withdraw without academic penalty

March 18–April 15
Chinese World View
Introduction to Chinese Philosophy
The Philosophy of Confucius
READ: The Analects of Confucius: A Philosophical Translation
Lao Tzu READ: Handouts
Zhuangzi READ: Chuang Tzu: Basic Writings (Handout)

March 28-29
North Georgia Student Philosophy Conference
Sessions open to students

April 22-24
Beginnings of the Post Modern World View
The Philosophy of Friedrich Nietzsche
READ: Nietzsche's Thus Spoke Zarathustra

May 1
FINAL EXAM (Cumulative)