| Philosophy of Religion (PHI 341) Sims Hall 337 M/W 2:15-3:35 | | | Office Hours: Catch me after class or by appointment (I'm easy) |
|---|---|---|--|
| Office: 531 Hall of Lang Phone: use email | | Heller | e-mail heller@syr.edu |
| Texts | Texts Pojman&Rea, <i>Philosophy of Religion: An Anthology</i> Plus, articles posted on Blackboard. | | |
| Written Assignments | Two (or possibly three) take-home exams and one term paper There is no final exam scheduled at this time, but I reserve the right to add a take-home final (if I feel the need to test you on the last section of the course). | | |
| | All assignments should be submitted by e-mail | Take-home exams: approximately 5-6 pages, typed, double spaced, with page numbers. Mostly exegetical, but you will also be asked to make a philosophical point. Exams Due: after units 1 and 4. For each exam you will have one week from the day I assign it to the day you must turn it in. | |
| | | Term paper: approximately ten pages, typed, double spaced, with page numbers It will be on a topic of your choice, so long as the topic grows out of material we've covered in class. Term Paper Due by email: Fri Dec 16 th 11:59pm. | |
| Attendance: | Attendance is expected, and failure to attend will negatively affect your grade. | | |

-- Academic Policies: https://academicaffairs.syracuse.edu/important-syllabus-reminders/

--SU Academic Integrity:

https://class.syr.edu/academic-integrity/policy/?_gl=1*bcgcap*_ga*NjEyNTg4Nzk4LjE2NTAxOTYxNTQ.*_ga_QT13NN6N9S*MTY2MTEwMTI4NC4xMTcuMC4xNjYxMTAxMjg0LjYwLjAuMA...

--Heller addition: I assume there will be no cheating, but if there is, any cheaters will fail the class and be reported to the academic integrity office.

Please note: Internet sources should be used minimally or not at all. If they are used, they must be properly cited. If you feel the need to learn more by searching the web, please discuss it with me.

Please turn over

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

The page numbers below refer to the Poiman&Rea anthology.

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|--------|--|--|--|
| 1 | Pascal's Wager, 572-573 | | |
| | Unit 1: Args for God | | |
| 2 | Causal Argument: Aquinas, 164-165 (stop at the end of the discussion of the "the second way") | | |
| | Note: We will also discuss parts of Craig and Moreland, 177-189, and Draper, 189-195, but I | | |
| | don't encourage you to read them. | | |
| 3 | Ontological Argument: Anselm, 155-158 | | |
| 4 | Modal Ontological Argument: Plantinga on Blackboard | | |
| 5 | Modal Ontological Argument, further discussion. | | |
| 6 | Teleological Argument: Paley: 198-200 | | |
| 7 | Fine Tuning Argument: van Inwagen on Blackboard | | |
| 8 | Fine Tuning Argument, further discussion | | |
| | Unit 2: Morality and Interpretation | | |
| 9 | Morality: Plato on Blackboard | | |
| 10 | Interpreting Morality: Sartre on Blackboard | | |
| 11 | Interpreting Miracles: Hume, 460-463 (only read part 1) | | |
| | Unit 3: Time | | |
| | God outside of time: McCann, 90-93, 96-99 (Read only parts 1 & 3) | | |
| 12 | Omniscience and Freedom: Augustine, 110-112, and Pike, 113-117 (stop at the end of part 1) | | |
| | Unit 4: Problem of Evil | | |
| 13 | Omnipotence: Mavrodes, 106-108, and Frankfurt, 108-109 | | |
| 14 | Problem of Evil: Mackie, 256-263 | | |
| 15 | Soul Making Defense: Hick, 319-323 | | |
| 16 | Free Will Defense: Plantinga, 300-319 (THIS IS LONG!) | | |
| 17 | Transworld Depravity: further discussion of Plantinga | | |
| 18 | Ignorance Defense: Alston on Blackboard | | |
| 19 | Infinity and arbitrary choice: the Howard-Snyders on Blackboard | | |
| | Unit 5: Faith and Evidence | | |
| 20 | Belief Requires Evidence: Clifford (but our discussion won't stick too closely to the text), | | |
| | 498-502, and | | |
| | Belief without evidence is sometimes necessary: James (but we won't stick too closely to this text | | |
| 21 | either), Just Section 1, 502-503. | | |
| 21 | Belief is not about evidence: Kierkegaard, on Blackboard | | |
| 22 | Without Evidence DISbelieve: Engel on Blackboard. | | |
| 23 | Belief without evidence again: Bergman, 534-549 (Long) | | |
| 24 | Further discussion | | |
| 25 | Pluralism: Hick, 637-645 | | |
| 26 | Exclusivism: Plantinga, 645-659 (Long) | | |
| 27 | Catch up day | | |