

University of Calgary
Department of Philosophy
Philosophy 201 Lec 02 – Mind, Matter, and God
Fall 2009

Lectures: MWF 10:00-10:50 (ICT114)

Instructor: Greg Janzen
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TA: Ralph Pollock
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Course Description

This course provides an introduction to some central themes and problems in philosophy. Topics to be addressed include freedom versus determinism, God, personal identity, and the relationship between the mental and the physical. A variety of positions, both classical and contemporary, will be considered. The primary objective of the course is to provide exposure to the depth and complexity (and often perplexity) of philosophical inquiry, and to equip students with the skills to engage in such inquiry.

Required Texts

- J. Feinberg and R. Shafer-Landau (eds.), *Reason and Responsibility*, 13th Edition (Wadsworth)
- J. Feinberg, *Doing Philosophy*, 3rd Edition (Wadsworth)
- Some additional required readings will be made available on Blackboard (in the “course documents” folder).

Evaluation

There will be two short essays (4-5 pages, double-spaced, 12 point font) worth 20% each of the final grade; a mid-term in-class test worth 30%; and a Registrar-scheduled final exam worth 30%. Your TA for this course, Ralph Pollock, will be marking the essays. He will inform you in tutorial of his policy regarding late assignments.

Note: This course is not about teaching you *what* to think; it is about teaching you how to *reason about*, and how to *rationaly defend*, what you think. You will not be told what is true or false, or right or wrong (though I will occasionally express my opinion about what is true or false, or right or wrong); you will be *asked*. And it will not matter if I disagree with the particular answers you give. What will matter, in addition to your critical understanding of the readings and lectures, is how persuasively you defend and/or support your position compared to others who share your position.

The following conversion table will be used to calculate final letter grades:

< 50% F	60-63 C-	70-74 B-	86-91 A-
50-54 D	64-66 C	75-79 B	92-96 A
55-59 D+	67-69 C+	80-85 B+	97-100 A+

Assignment and Test Schedule

Essay 1	Due: Friday, October 2
Mid-Term Exam	Given: Monday, November 2
Essay 2	Due: Monday, November 30
Registrar-Scheduled Final Exam	TBA

INTELLECTUAL HONESTY

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. As a result, cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is regarded as an extremely serious academic offence, the penalty for which may be an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. The University Calendar states that plagiarism exists when:

- *the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);*
- *parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;*
- *the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source; and/or*
- *a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.*

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Plagiarism is an extremely serious offence. Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement, but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

STUDENTS' UNION REPRESENTATIVE

The Humanities Representative is Britney Luimes, MSC 251, humanitiesrep@su.ucalgary.ca or 220-3913.