



**FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY**

**Phil 331 Lec 20
"Philosophy of Religion"
Spring Term 2011**

Course Outline

Instructor: Greg Janzen

Office: SS1220

Office Hours: T 12:45-13:45 (or by appointment)

Email: gajanzen@ucalgary.ca

Lectures: MW 11:00-13:45, SB 148

Course Description

This course provides an introduction to some central themes and problems in the philosophy of religion. We will begin by discussing the concept of God and then consider the nature and plausibility of arguments for and against the existence of God. We will then consider some problems that any theist must address, including the problem of evil and the problem of divine foreknowledge and human freedom. 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 about religion, and to equip students with the skills to engage in such inquiry.

Text

Rowe, W., *Philosophy of Religion: An Introduction*, 4th edition (Wadsworth).

Further required readings will be made available on Blackboard.

Evaluation

There will be one essay (5-6 pages, double-spaced, 12 point font) worth 30% of the final grade; a mid-term in-class test worth 30%; and a take home final exam worth 40%. Assignments will not be accepted via email under any circumstances, and late assignments will not be accepted without medical (and/or other) documentation. There is no Registrar-scheduled final exam.

Grading assignments is more of an art than a science, but as a rough guide the essays will be graded according to the following criteria: (1) degree of understanding of the material; (2) quality of philosophical argument; and (3) clarity of expression. 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

<u>Assignment/Test</u>	<u>Date Due/Given</u>
Mid-Term Exam	Monday, May 30
Essay	Monday, June 20
Final Take-Home Exam	Monday, June 27

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 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, 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 REPRESENTATIVES

The Faculty of Arts Representatives are Laura Golebiowski (arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), Bhuvana Sankaranarayanan (arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), Lara Schmitz (arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), and Vincent St. Pierre (arts4@su.ucalgary.ca) .

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial FOIP Act in all aspects of its operations as a publicly funded institution. The Department of Philosophy ensures the student's right to privacy by requiring all graded assignments be returned to the student directly from the instructor unless other arrangements have been made in writing and filed with the Department Administrator.

SAFEWALK: PROMOTING CAMPUS SAFETY AND AWARENESS

Twenty four hours a day, seven days a week, Safewalk volunteers walk people safely to their destination on campus. This service is free and available to students, staff, and campus visitors. Safewalks are done in male/female pairs. The volunteers walk anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). To request a Safewalk volunteer to walk with you, call 403-220-5333 (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year) or use one of the Help Phones located across campus (they are not just for emergencies).