

Syllabus for Introduction to Philosophy–Honors, Spring 2012. MW 10-11:40. Prof. Arthur Falk
Office: 3021 Moore; Hours: ½ hour before and after class, or anytime by appointment.

Five pamphlets: The first two and last three are published by Hackett Publishing Company. If you buy directly from www.hackettpublishing.com, you will get them dirt-cheap!

Plato, *The Trial and Death of Socrates* (third edition, translated by Grube) (or for \$2 more you can substitute *Five Dialogues* (second edition))
Perry, *A Dialogue on Personal Identity and Immortality*
Sartre, *Existentialism and Human Emotions* (www.kensingtonbooks.com \$3 off list!)
Dostoevsky, *The Grand Inquisitor*
Dostoevsky, *Notes from the Underground*
Berkeley, *Three Dialogues between Hylas and Philonous*

The class sessions will be a mix of lecture and student discussion. I have enrolled you in my course at WMU’s “elearning” website. It contains all my lectures and many questions for student self-testing, but, strictly speaking, using the website is voluntary. I advise using it, but I don’t require using it. The URL is <http://elearn.wmich.edu>.

Schedule of readings, paper assignments, and tests.

Jan.	9M	Introductory discussion
	11	Plato pp. 21-42 (Apology)
	16M	No class
	18	Plato pp. 43-58 (Crito)
	23M	Plato pp. 4-20 (Euthyphro)
	25	Finish Euthyphro
	30M	Perry (First Night)
Feb.	1	Perry (Second Night)
	6M	Perry (Third Night)
	8	Review Plato and Perry
	13M	<i>Midterm</i>
	15	Class discussion of values and free will; <i>first paper due</i>
	20M	“Universal Declaration of Human Rights” (at www.un.org/en/documents and the course website)
	22	Sartre to p. 35
	27M	Sartre to p. 51 (note we omit the end material)
	29	Dostoevsky, Rebellion
Mar	5-7	No class
	12M	Dostoevsky, The Grand Inquisitor
	14	Dostoevsky, Notes from the Underground, part I
	19M	Dostoevsky, Notes from the Underground, part II
	21	Berkeley pp. 7-15
	26M	Berkeley pp. 16-32
	28	Berkeley pp. 32-42
Apr.	2M	Berkeley pp. 43-60
	4	Berkeley pp. 76-81 (note we omit most of the third dialogue)
	9M	Review Sartre, Free Will, and Values
	11	Review Dostoevsky; <i>second paper due</i>
	16M	Review Berkeley
	18	Final review
	26TH	<i>Final Exam</i> at 8am (not my fault!!)

Grading requirements: 100 points (two tests, 30 points each; two 1500 word papers expressing your responses to the readings, 10 points each (negative 30 if plagiarized); attendance and the quantity and quality of class participation, 10 points up to midterm exam, 10 points from then until final exam. (Quality can make up for lack of quantity, but not *vice versa*; in fact *vice versa* is bad for your grade.) Excused absences will not be penalized.

Grading scale: A=90 or better; BA=87; B=80; CB=77; C=70; DC=67; D=60; E below 60. Two guidelines for writing your reading responses are on my website: <http://homepages.wmich.edu/~afalk>. Read the basic one for what the content should be; read the advanced one for stylistic and other issues.