

MORAIN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SYLLABUS

Summer 2009
PHI 101-402

Some Tuesdays: June 9th, June 23rd, July 7th, July 14th, and July 28th.
7 P.M. to 8:50 P.M.
Blue Island Extension Site on Western Ave.

W. DROEL, instructor droelb@morainevalley.edu
Main Campus OFFICE: U204A
FACULTY MAILBOX on Main Campus: B244
PHONE: **708 974 5221**

PURPOSE OF THE COURSE

This course will help students learn how to think by reading, writing, debating and public speaking. The context for this practice will be the major philosophers and the major philosophical questions of the Western tradition.

Students will seek to understand the nature of reality, the purpose of culture and art, principles of ethics, the nature of freedom and authority, the existence of the divine, the merits of various political systems and other issues. Students will not only study the philosophers, but also reflect upon their own life experience and thinking.

TEXT

Norman Melchert. *Philosophical Conversations*. Oxford University Press, 2009.

ASSIGNMENTS

Each student will do the assigned reading from the textbook.

Each student will take three unit tests and a final exam by **July 28, 2009**.

All assignments, as well as the test answers, must conform to proper English grammar. Answers must be stated in complete sentences.

CLASSROOM POLICIES/PROCEDURES

The **General Information Sheet** is attached to this syllabus.

GRADE

The final grade will be calculated from the total points a student earns on class participation, assignments and tests.

Each of the three unit tests is worth 25% of the final grade.

Class participation and the final exam equal 25% of the final grade.

90 + = A

80 + = B

70 + = C

60 + = D

59 or less = F

Final Date = July 28, 2009

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

All credit for the course is lost for any instance of cheating. Be very careful to follow instructions on the exams.

E-MAIL POLICY

Students must use the e-mail account provided by Moraine Valley to communicate about this course. Any mail that does not come from MVCC e-mail (studentname@student.morainevalley.edu) will be treated as junk mail.

The subject line in all e-mail must begin with the course number and section (PHI 101-402)

The body of the e-mail must contain complete sentences and conclude with the student's full name.

The full e-mail guidelines are posted at <http://www.morainevalley.edu/studentemail/guidelines.htm>

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS and REQUIRED READINGS

Unit One: Ancient Greek Philosophers & Metaphysics

Read chapter 3, chapter 4 and chapter 5 (pgs. 94-97 & 102-115).

6/9 Introductions
 Pre-Socratic Philosophers
 Socrates

6/23 Plato and the theory of forms

Unit Two: Ethics

Read chapter 6 (pgs. 130-133, pgs. 156-168), chapter 12 (345-351), and chapter 15 (421-430).

7/7 Aristotle
 Kant
 Utilitarians

Unit Three: Reason & Faith PLUS Existentialism

Read chapter 8 and chapter 18 (pgs. 501-503, 507-525 & 526-527)

7/14 Reason and Faith PLUS Existentialism

7/28 7 P.M. **Sharp!** At Blue Island

Unit Tests Must Be Complete
Final Exam Due