



Philosophy of Religion (Phil 4200)
CRN 86730
MWF 10-10:50
Clayton Hall 212
Listserver: PHIL4200-01Fall11@lists.clayton.edu

Instructor: Dr. Alexander W. Hall
Office: G210P (Arts/Sciences Bldg.)
Office Hrs: MWF 7-8 AM, 9-10 AM, 12-1 PM
Telephone: (678) 466-4846
Email: AlexanderHall@Clayton.edu
Webpage: <http://a-s.clayton.edu/ahall/>

Administration Details

- **Text:** Pojman and Rea, *Philosophy of Religion: An Anthology*, 5th edition, Cengage Learning, 2008.
- Individuals with disabilities who need to request accommodations should contact the Disability Services Coordinator, Student Center 255, 678-466-5445, disabilityservices@mail.clayton.edu.
- **Catalog Description:** This course studies world literature on the philosophy of religion. Topics include proofs of God's existence, science and religion, the problem of evil, reason and religious experience, religious pluralism, free will, and life after death.
- **Prerequisites and Co-requisites:** Completion of CRIT 1101 and Area C recommended. Learning Support students who are required to take ENGL 0099 and/or READ 0099 must exit the requirements before they can enroll in this course. Also needed: [ENGL 1102](#) with a minimum US grade of C or [ENGL 102](#) with a minimum UG grade of C or [ENGL 112](#) with a minimum UG grade of C.
- **Computer Requirement:** Each CSU student is required to have ready access throughout the semester to a notebook computer that meets faculty-approved hardware and software requirements for the student's academic program. Students will sign a statement attesting to such access. Certain assignments cannot be completed without access to a computer, and you are accountable for any information sent by your instructor via email. For further information on CSU's Official Notebook Computer Policy, please go to <http://itpchoice.clayton.edu/policy.htm>.
- **Computer Skill Prerequisites:** Able to use the Windows™ operating system; Able to use Microsoft Word™ word processing; Able to send and receive e-mail using Outlook™ or Outlook Express™; Able to attach and retrieve attached files via email; Able to use a Web browser- Able to use Georgia View
- **In-class Use of Student Notebook Computers:** Computers will occasionally be required to participate in classroom activities.
- **Course Learning Outcomes:** To familiarize students with the central beliefs of the world's religions. To enhance communication skills, oral and written. To teach analysis of complex concepts, ideas, definitions, and arguments.
- **Mid-term Progress Report:** The mid-term grade in this course will be issued by October 4. Based on this grade, students may choose to withdraw from the course and receive a grade of "W." Students pursuing this option must fill out an official withdrawal form, available in the Office of the Registrar, by October 7, 2011.
- **Operation Study:** At Clayton State University, we expect and support high motivation and academic achievement. Look for Operation Study activities and programs this semester that are designed to enhance your academic success such as study sessions, study breaks, workshops, and opportunities to earn Study Bucks (for use in the University Bookstore) and other items.

University/Course Policies

- **General Policy:** Students must abide by policies in the [Clayton State University Student Handbook](#), and the [Basic Undergraduate Student Responsibilities](#).
- **University Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to attend and participate in every class meeting. Instructors establish specific policies relating to absences in their courses and communicate these policies to the students through the course syllabi. Individual instructors, based upon the nature of the course, determine what effect excused and unexcused absences have in determining grades and upon students' ability to remain enrolled in their courses. The university reserves the right to determine that excessive absences, whether justified or not, are sufficient cause for institutional withdrawals or failing grades.
- **Course Attendance Policy:** Whether or not you attend class on any given day, you are responsible for any material covered in lecture, including assignments given in class but not listed on the syllabus and information necessary to receive passing grades on your exams, papers and quizzes. Students who have not attended class by 8/19 will be withdrawn as no-shows. Telephone and/or email contact does not count as attendance.

- **Missed Work:** Without documentation of an emergency that rendered you incapable of submitting the work on time (for example hospitalization or a funeral), late assignments or papers will not be accepted and missed exams cannot be made up. Last minute computer problems cannot be verified and therefore do not constitute an excuse for missed work. It is recommended that you submit your assignments well in advance of the deadline, so that, in case of computer difficulties, you can use another computer (for example those at Clayton or your local library) to submit your work.
- **Academic Dishonesty:** Any type of activity that is considered dishonest by reasonable standards may constitute academic misconduct. The most common forms of academic misconduct are cheating and plagiarism. Plagiarism occurs when you use someone else's words or ideas in your presentation or writing without giving that person credit. Even paraphrase is plagiarism, if you do not properly credit your source. All instances of academic dishonesty will result in a grade of zero for the work involved, and will be reported to the Office of Student Life/Judicial Affairs. Judicial procedures are described at: <http://adminservices.clayton.edu/judicial/>.
- **Disruption of the Learning Environment:** Behavior which disrupts the teaching–learning process during class activities will not be tolerated. While a variety of behaviors can be disruptive in a classroom setting, more serious examples include belligerent, abusive, profane, and/or threatening behavior. A student who fails to respond to reasonable faculty direction regarding classroom behavior and/or behavior while participating in classroom activities may be dismissed from class. A student who is dismissed is entitled to due process and will be afforded such rights as soon as possible following dismissal. If found in violation, a student may be administratively withdrawn and may receive a grade of WF. A more detailed description of examples of disruptive behavior and appeal procedures is provided at: <http://a-s.clayton.edu/DisruptiveClassroomBehavior.htm>.

Grading

Scale	Assignments	Value	Date Due
A = 90-100	Homework	20%	Most Weeks
B = 80-89	Midterm	25%	10/3
C = 70-79	Final	25%	12/5
D = 60-69	Annotated Bibliography	10%	11/7
F = 0-59	Paper	20%	11/28

Assignment Details

1. **Homework** – Georgia View open book quizzes on the week's reading and occasional written assignments.
2. **Midterm/Final** – Closed book, in class essay exams. Blue Book required.
3. **Paper/Annotated Bibliography** – See posted guidelines: http://a-s.clayton.edu/ahall/religion_resources.htm

Week	Reading	Assignment/Important Date
Week of 8/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquinas – <i>The Five Ways</i> • Rowe – <i>An Examination of the Cosmological Argument</i> 	
Week of 8/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anselm – <i>The Ontological Argument</i> • Kant – <i>A Critique of the Ontological Argument</i> 	
Week of 8/29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paley – <i>The Watch and the Watchmaker</i> • Hume – <i>A Critique of the Design Argument</i> 	
Week of 9/5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collins – <i>A Scientific Argument for the Existence of God</i> • Freud – <i>The Future of an Illusion</i> 	9/5-9/6 – No Class
Week of 9/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broad – <i>The Argument from Religious Experience</i> • Pojman – <i>A Critique of the Argument from Religious Experience</i> • Fyodor Dostoevsky – <i>Rebellion</i> 	
Week of 9/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hume – <i>The Argument from Evil</i> • Hick – <i>Evil and Soul Making</i> • Madden and Hare – <i>A Critique of Hick's Theodicy</i> 	
Week of 9/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Augustine – <i>Divine Foreknowledge and Human Free Will</i> • Pike – <i>God's Foreknowledge and Human Free Will Are Incompatible</i> 	
Week of 10/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hume – <i>Against Miracles</i> • Inwagen – <i>Of 'Of Miracles'</i> 	10/3 – Midterm 10/7 – Last Day withdraw w/'W'
Week of 10/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Russell – <i>The Finality of Death</i> • Hick – <i>Immortality and Resurrection</i> 	10/14 – No Class
Week of 10/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olen – <i>Personal Identity and Life After Death</i> • Pascal – <i>The Wager</i> • Clifford – <i>The Ethics of Belief</i> 	
Week of 10/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James – <i>The Will to Believe</i> • Hick – <i>Rational Theistic Belief without Proof</i> • Pojman – <i>Faith, Hope, and Doubt</i> 	10/28 – No Class
Week of 10/31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dawkins – <i>Science Versus Religion</i> • Gould – <i>Nonoverlapping Magisteria</i> • John Paul – <i>Faith and Science</i> 	
Week of 11/7	Movie Week – <i>A Flock of Dodos</i>	11/7 – Annotated Bibliography
Week of 11/14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kitcher – <i>Born-Again Creationism</i> • Murray – <i>Natural Providence</i> 	
Week of 11/21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hick – <i>Pluralism and Ultimate Reality</i> 	11/23-11/27 – No Class
Week of 11/28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plantinga – <i>A Defense of Religious Exclusivism</i> 	11/28 – Paper
12/5		Final Exam 10:15 AM