



Medieval Philosophy (PHIL 3400)
CRN 26004
MWF 10-10:50
Natural and Behavioral Sciences Building, Room 143
Listserver: PHIL3400-01Spring12@lists.clayton.edu

Instructor: Dr. Alexander W. Hall
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Administration Details

- **Text:** Gyula Klima, ed. *Medieval Philosophy: Essential Readings with Commentary*. Wiley-Blackwell, 2007.
- 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:** The course studies philosophical literature of the third through fourteenth centuries B.C.E., including Porphyry, Boethius, Augustine, Anselm of Canterbury, Peter Abelard, Thomas Aquinas, Henry of Ghent, John Duns Scotus, William of Ockham, and John Buridan. Completion of CRIT 1101 and Area C recommended.
- **Prerequisites and Co-requisites:** [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 theory & history of ethics, and with analyses of contemporary ethical issues. 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 February 28. 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 March 2, 2012.
- **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 1/19 will be withdrawn as no-shows. Telephone and/or email contact does not count as attendance.

- **Missed Work:** Missed exams cannot be made up and assignments cannot be handed in late (i.e., any time after the end of class on the day they are due). No exception to this policy will be made unless a student can provide documentation of an emergency that rendered the student unable to submit or complete his or her work on time. 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://admins-services.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/Quizzes	20%	Most Weeks
B = 80-89	Midterm	20%	2/24
C = 70-79	Annotated Bibliography	10%	4/2
D = 60-69	Peer Review	10%	4/16
F = 0-59	Paper	20%	4/30
	Final	20%	5/7

Assignment Details

1. **Homework** – Occasional essays and quizzes
2. **Midterm/Final** – Closed book, in class essay exams. Blue Book required.
3. **Peer Review**
 - Provide partner with a one to two page critique, outlining thesis and suggesting improvements.
 - Edit partner’s paper for grammar and syntax using Microsoft Word™ Track Changes.
 - Submit response and edited document to instructor and partner.
4. **Annotated Bibliography/Paper** – See posted guidelines: <http://a-s.clayton.edu/ahall/>

Week	Reading	Assignment/Important Date
Week of 1/9	General Introduction	1/13 – Quiz on General Introduction
Week of 1/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Augustine on Ancient Philosophy • Dialectica Monacensis 	1/16 – No class (MLK)
Week of 1/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thomas Aquinas on the Nature and Scope of Sacred Doctrine • Boethius Against Real Universals • John of Salisbury on the Controversy over Universals 	
Week of 1/30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Summa Lamberti on the Properties of Terms • William Ockham on Universals • John Buridan on the Predicables 	
Week of 2/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Augustine on Divine Ideas and Illumination • Thomas Aquinas on Illumination vs. Abstraction • Thomas Aquinas on our Knowledge of the First Principles of Demonstration 	
Week of 2/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Henry of Ghent on Divine Illumination • Duns Scotus on Divine Illumination • Augustine on the Certainty of Self-Knowledge 	2/17 – No class (Southeast Congress)
Week of 2/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thomas Aquinas on whether the Intellect Can Be False 	2/24 – Midterm
Week of 2/27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Henry of Ghent on whether a Human Being Can Know Anything • Nicholas of Autrecourt on Skepticism about Substance and Causality 	3/2 – Last day to withdraw with ‘W’
Week of 3/5		3/5-3/9 – No class (Spring Break)
Week of 3/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Buridan on Scientific Knowledge • Thomas Aquinas on the Principles of Nature 	
Week of 3/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thomas Aquinas on the Principles of Nature • Averroës on the Immateriality of the Intellect • Siger of Brabant On the Intellective Soul 	
Week of 3/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thomas Aquinas on the Nature and Powers of the Human Soul • Thomas Aquinas On Being and Essence 	
Week of 4/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thomas Aquinas On Being and Essence • Thomas Aquinas on God’s Existence and Simplicity 	4/2 – Annotated bibliography
Week of 4/9	MOVIE WEEK	4/9 – Draft to partner
Week of 4/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thomas Aquinas on God’s Existence and Simplicity • Augustine on Evil as the Privation of Goodness • Augustine on the Origin of Moral Evil 	4/16 – Comments to partner
Week of 4/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boethius on Being and Goodness • Thomas Aquinas on the Convertibility of Being and Goodness 	
Week of 4/30		4/30 – Paper due/Last day of classes
May 7	Final Exam at 10:15 AM	