

Division: ACADEMIC

DATE: December 1 1981

New Course:

Revision of Course

Information form: X

B: Department: ARTS & HUMANITIES

DATE : December 1981

AND EXISTENCE C: PHI 152 D: REALITY
Descriptive Title E: 3 Semester Credit Subject & Course No.

Philosophical issues concerning the nature of reality and human nature. Metaphysical questions concern the creation, destruction and survival of the world, the nature of time, causality and free will. Epistemological issues concern the nature of knowledge, truth, belief and doubt. Moral philosophy concerns the nature of right and wrong, good and evil, and the nature of the self. Political philosophy concerns the nature of government, law and justice. Religious philosophy concerns the nature of God, the soul and the afterlife. A critical examination of classical and contemporary philosophers (e.g. Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, Kant, Hegel, Marx, Freud, Heidegger, Sartre, Derrida, etc.) will be conducted, and their ideas will be compared and contrasted. The course will also examine the relationship between philosophy and other disciplines such as science, literature, art and politics. The course will also explore the practical applications of philosophy in everyday life.

F: Calendar Description:

This course introduces students to philosophy and its various branches. It covers topics such as metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, political philosophy, and religious philosophy. The course also explores the relationship between philosophy and other disciplines and examines the practical applications of philosophy in everyday life.

N: Textbooks and materials to be Purchased by Students
(Use-Bibliography)

1. Churchland, P. Matter and Consciousness. (MIT Press, 1984).
2. Hume, D. Great Works of Philosophy, (NAL, 1969).

Feinberg, J. (edited by) Reason & Responsibility: Readings in Some Basic Problems of Philosophy. (Wadsworth, 1986).

O. COURSE OBJECTIVES

General

of the course are:

The purposes

duce students to traditional and some contemporary problems of metaphysics, and to the philosophical reasoning and viewpoints pertaining to them, and

1. to intro-

2. to encourage students to inquire into the discussion of the types of metaphysical problems covered.

Specific

Students will demonstrate:

metaphysical problems covered;

1. an understanding of the basic met-

relation of metaphysics and other disciplines, and an understanding of the relation of metaphysics to other disciplines, and an understanding of the with regard to these problems;

2. an understanding of the basic met-

additional and contemporary topics covered, and an understanding of the

3. the ability to contrast and compare tra-

4. the ability to systematically formulate and present their own thinking on specific topics covered in the course.

philosophical perspectives on specific

P. COURSE CONTENT

1. Historical and contemporary philosophy of metaphysics, and its contemporary developments.

P. COURSE CONTENT Cont'd.

2. An examination of the work of one major historical philosopher (e.g., René Descartes, George Berkeley, David Hume, Immanuel Kant, etc.) or of a group of philosophers (e.g., the British Empiricists, the German Idealists, etc.) on an examination of the writings of several philosophers on one major historical problem of metaphysics.

3. The study of another modern problem of metaphysics with emphasis on contemporary thinking about that problem; and

4. Works examined might include Descartes' *Meditations on First Philosophy*, *Prolegomena*. Problems covered might include the mind-body problem, the problem of personal identity, or the ultimate nature of reality. Other topics covered might include: God, life after death, meaning and the purpose of life, causation, free will & determinism, human nature, in philosophical psychology, the relation of language to investigation consciousness.

Q. METHOD

A combination of lecture and discussion. See

time (allowing time for discussion) required for the entire case & later class sessions will be devoted to a discussion of the lecture and reading material. Other class sessions may involve a combination of formal lecture and structured discussion.

Totaling 100%.

R. EVALUATION (Any Combination)

Essays (two to four) 10 - 50%

Tests (two or more) 20 - 40%

Instructor's General Evaluation

(participation, improvement, etc.)

TOTAL

100%