

COLLIN COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Information

Course Number: PHIL 2321

Course Title: Philosophy of Religion

Course Description: A study of the major issues in the philosophy of religion such as the existence and nature of God, the relationships between faith and reason, the nature of religious language, religious experience, and the problem of evil.

Course Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Prerequisite: Meet TSI college-readiness standard for Reading and Writing; or equivalent

Student Learning Outcomes:

- **State Mandated Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
 1. Read, analyze, and critique texts in the philosophy of religion.
 2. Demonstrate knowledge of major arguments, problems, and terminology in the philosophy of religion. (Critical Thinking)
 3. Articulate key concepts and issues in the philosophy of religion. (Communication Skills)
 4. Write logically persuasive assessments of key concepts and issues. (Critical Thinking; Communication Skills)
 5. Discuss the application of philosophy to various aspects of religion.
 6. Evaluate the personal and social responsibilities of living in a diverse world. (Personal Responsibility; Social Responsibility)
- **Additional Collin Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
 1. Demonstrate personal responsibility by doing independent work in PHIL 2321 and properly citing all sources. (Personal Responsibility).

Withdrawal Policy: See the current *Collin Registration Guide* for last day to withdraw.

Collin College Academic Policies: See the current *Collin Student Handbook*

Americans with Disabilities Act Statement: Collin College will adhere to all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to contact the ACCESS office, SCC-D140 or 972.881.5898 (V/TTD: 972.881.5950) to arrange for appropriate accommodations. See the current *Collin Student Handbook* for additional information.

COURSE NUMBER: PHIL 2321. P01
COURSE TITLE: Philosophy of Religion
DELIVERY METHOD: Lecture/Open discussion
CLASS: Tuesday & Thursday - 1:00pm – 2:15pm (Room J229)
PROFESSOR: Andy Essary
TELEPHONE: 972-881-5756 (leave message)
OFFICE / HOURS: PRC (J229) Tuesday & Thursday 12:30-1:00pm (by appointment)
E-MAIL ADDRESS: aessary@collin.edu
WEB SITE: <http://iws.collin.edu/aessary/index.html>

I. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- A. Reading of assignments:**
Students are expected to complete all readings as assigned.
- B. Class participation:**
It is important that all students contribute during class discussions. **Your ideas matter!** The class fails to benefit from your thoughts if you fail to voice them. A diversity of views and your consideration of them will result in increased credibility for your ideas.
- C. Quizzes:**
The quizzes will cover assigned readings. You will not get from this class what you should without reading the assignments. I will provide you a take-home quiz each class to answer as you complete your assigned readings. No credit will be given for late quizzes.
- D. Term paper:**
You will be assigned a term paper during the semester giving you the opportunity to express your ideas. The purpose of this assignment is to help you properly identify philosophical issues, and begin to engage in the process of clarifying your questions through writing. **Papers will be typed or computer-printed; 12 or 10 c.p.i.; double-spaced; 1/2 inch margin all-around; cover page with your name; and NO binder of any kind – single staple in upper left corner suffices.** Late papers or paper submissions failing to meet the above criteria will receive zero points.
- E. Final exam:**
The final exam will verify your grasp of theories and ideas you've read and discussed in class.
- F. Cheating:**
Cheating and/or plagiarism on any assignment in this class may result in a course grade of "F."
- G. Extra Credit:**
There will be no extra credit assignments.

II. STUDENT EVALUATION

- | | |
|---|------------|
| A. Class participation (100); attendance (100); and tardiness (100) = | 300 |
| B. Periodic quizzes | = 400 |
| C. Term Paper | = 200 |
| D. Final exam | = 100 |
| | <hr/> 1000 |

A = 900 - 1000

B = 800 - 899

C = 700 - 799

D = 600 - 699

F = 599 & below

III. ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are expected to attend **ALL** class meetings unless absence is excused by instructor. Please see the current *Collin Registration Guide* for the last day to withdraw. Without exception, each absence will reduce a student's final point tally by 10 points if excused and 15 points if unexcused. Absences are excused at the teacher's discretion and notice must be provided prior to class via e-mail. 10 points will be deducted for each tardiness.

IV. CLASSROOM RULES

- A. **All** electronic devices must be turned off. Unless I grant permission, none may be used.
- B. The only conversations allowed in class will involve me as a participant.

V. REQUIRED TEXTS & SUPPLIES

Davies, B., An Introduction to The Philosophy of Religion. 3rd ed. Oxford University Press, 2004. ISBN 978-0-19-926347-9

Required supplies – 30 Scantrons

VI. COURSE CALENDAR

Week 1	Tuesday Thursday	Aug. 29 Aug. 31	Class Introductions Syllabus Review	
Week 2	Tuesday Thursday	Sept. 5 Sept. 7	Video More than All there is	
Week 3	Tuesday Thursday	Sept. 12 Sept. 14	Davies – pages 1-16 Davies – pages 21-33	
Week 4	Tuesday Thursday	Sept. 19 Sept. 21	Davies – pages 33-41 Davies – pages 48-59	
Week 5	Tuesday Thursday	Sept. 26 Sept. 28	Davies – pages 59-68 Davies – pages 74-85	
Week 6	Tuesday Thursday	Oct. 3 Oct. 5	Davies – pages 85-93 Davies – pages 98-105	
Week 7	Tuesday Thursday	Oct. 10 Oct. 12	Davies – pages 105-114 Davies – pages 119-126	
Week 8	Tuesday Thursday	Oct. 17 Oct. 19	Davies – pages 126-135 Davies – pages 139-147	
*****		Oct. 20	<u>LAST DAY TO DROP CLASS</u>	*****
Week 9	Tuesday Thursday	Oct. 24 Oct. 26	Davies – pages 147-154 Davies – pages 158-168	
Week 10	Tuesday Thursday	Oct. 31 Nov. 2	Davies – pages 168-176 Davies – pages 181-191	

Week 11	Tuesday	Nov. 7	Davies – pages 192-203
	Thursday	Nov. 9	Davies – pages 208-216
Week 13	Tuesday	Nov. 14	Davies – pages 217-231
	Thursday	Nov. 16	Davies – pages 237-243
Week 14	Tuesday	Nov. 21	Davies – pages 243-259
	Thursday	Nov. 23	TERM PAPER DUE <u>Thanksgiving – no class</u>
Week 15	Tuesday	Nov. 28	Davies – pages 264-272
	Thursday	Nov. 30	Davies – pages 273-283
Week 16	Tuesday	Dec. 5	Davies – pages 289-303
	Thursday	Dec. 7	Davies – pages 303-312
Week 17	Tuesday	Dec. 12	<u>FINAL EXAM – 1:00pm – 4:00pm</u>

Religious Holy Days:

Please refer to the current *Collin Student Handbook*.

Academic Ethics: Every member of the Collin College community is expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. Collin College may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of scholastic dishonesty. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, statements, acts, or omissions related to applications for enrollment or the award of a degree, and/or the submission of one’s own work material that is not one’s own. Scholastic dishonesty may involve, but is not limited to, one or more of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, collusion, use of annotated texts or teacher’s editions, use of information about exams posted on the Internet or electronic medium, and/or falsifying academic records. While specific examples are listed below, this is not an exhaustive list and scholastic dishonesty may encompass other conduct, including any conduct through electronic or computerized means:

Plagiarism is the use of an author’s words or ideas as if they were one’s own without giving credit to the source, including, but not limited to, failure to acknowledge a direct quotation.

Cheating is the willful giving or receiving of information in an unauthorized manner during an examination; collaborating with another student during an examination without authority; using, buying, selling, soliciting, stealing, or otherwise obtaining course assignments and/or examination questions in advance, copying computer or Internet files, using someone else’s work for assignments as if it were one’s own; or any other dishonest means of attempting to fulfill the requirements of a course.

Collusion is intentionally or unintentionally aiding or attempting to aid another in an act of scholastic dishonesty, including but not limited to, failing to secure academic work; providing a paper or project to another student; providing an inappropriate level of assistance; communicating answers to a classmate about an examination or any other course assignment; removing tests or answer sheets from a test site, and allowing a classmate to copy answers.

See the current *Collin Student Handbook* for additional information.