

HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY

Professor Charles S. MacKenzie ThD/PhD/LHD

2 Credit Hours

Fall 2008 Teaching Assistants: Scott Holstein B.A, John Fulginiti M.D.

The course aims to study those western philosophers who have influenced the course of western society over the last 2500 years. We will examine their world views (their cosmologies, anthropologies, epistemologies, ethics, etc.) and will compare their views with the teachings of Scripture. Become an expert on some of these thinkers. They have much to teach us about the questions people in society are asking today.

The class will meet Mondays from 1-3 P.M. Regular on-time attendance is expected. If a student must miss a class, he/she should get the material missed from another student. **Required text is Stumpf's "Socrates to Sartre," 7th edition** (also on the reserve shelf). Copleston, Encyclopedia Britannica, etc. also are helpful for doing additional research. The teaching assistants will offer weekly discussion meetings to enrich your understandings of the various philosophers.

Grades will be awarded on the basis of midterm and final exams and on the quality of participation in class discussions etc. More important than grades, however, let's accept the challenge of learning to outthink the secular world because, as Christians, we have the mind of Christ and the Word of God to guide us as we develop answers to the questions which society is asking and as we seek to discern truth from falsehood.

CLASS SCHEDULE:

Aug. 25: What is Philosophy? The Early Greeks to Socrates. Read Stumpf chs.1, 2.

Sept. 08: Plato, Aristotle, Epicureans, Stoics. Read Stumpf chs. 3-5.

“ 15: Neo-Platonism, Augustine, Boethius, Anselm. Read Stumpf chs 6-7.

“ 22: Medieval Philosophers, Avicenna, Averroes, Aquinas, Scotus, Ockham, Eckhart. Read Stumpf ch.7-8.

“ 29: Machiavelli, Reformers, Montaigne, Pascal, Bacon, Hobbes,Descartes. Stumpf chs. 9-10.

Oct 06: Spinoza,Leibniz, Locke, Berkeley Hume. Read chs 9-11.

Kant, Rousseau, Hegel, Schopenhauer Stumpf ch.12-14.Mid term exams given out.

“ 13: **READING WEEK Mid Term, take home, exams due Oct. 20.**

“ 20: Kierkegaard, Comte, Darwin, Marx, Nietzsche. Read Stumpf ch.15.

“ .27: Peirce,James, Dewey, Foucault , Bergson, Whitehead Stumpf ch.16.

Nov.03: Vienna Circle,Wittgenstein, Husserl,Heidegger Stumpf chs.17-18.

“ 10: Sartre, Camus, Stumpf, Ch.18; Modern Thought-Ch. 19 Searle; Rorty.

“ 17: Philosophy and Science(Einstein, Planck)

“ 24: Contemporary philosophy. Read Stumpf. ch.19, Postmodernism. Final take-home exams distributed, to be returned to TA or Professor by class 12/1.

Dec. 01: Philosophy of Aesthetics (Plato, Augustine, von Balthazar)

