

COURSE INFORMATION

DEPARTMENT HUMANITIES

DATE DECEMBER 10, 1981

PHILOSOPHY 170	PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION	3
NAME & NUMBER OF COURSE	DESCRIPTIVE TITLE	SEMESTER HOURS CREDIT

CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION: THIS COURSE INTRODUCES STUDENTS TO THE MAIN PHILOSOPHICAL IDEAS INVOLVED IN MAJOR WORLD RELIGIONS, INCLUDING THE JUDEO-CHRISTIAN TRADITION. SOME OF THE FOLLOWING TOPICS WILL BE CONSIDERED: WHAT RELIGION IS, THE PROBLEM OF EVIL, THE NATURE OF MYSTICISM, VARIOUS CONCEPTIONS OF GOD, TYPES OF CONSIDERATIONS FOR ACCEPTING SPIRITUAL REALITY, THE RELATION BETWEEN REASON AND FAITH, COMPARISON OF EASTERN AND WESTERN APPROACHES TO RELIGIOUS EXISTENCE, AND AN EXAMINATION OF SOCIOLOGICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL ACCOUNTS OF RELIGIOUS BELIEF. STUDENTS WILL BE ENCOURAGED TO DEVELOP THEIR OWN PHILOSOPHICAL ASSESSMENT OF THE ISSUES COVERED. [FORMERLY PHILOSOPHY 120 AND 220]

OFFERED: NORMALLY IN THE FALL [NOT OFFERED IN 1982]

COURSE PREREQUISITES: NONE; Phi 101 and/or 15 is recommended

COURSE COREQUISITES: NONE

HOURS PER WEEK FOR EACH STUDENT	LECTURE	2 HRS.	FIELD EXPERIENCE	
	LABORATORY		STUDENT DIRECTED LEARNING	
	SEMINAR	2 HRS.	OTHER (SPECIFY)	
				TOTAL

COLLEGE CREDIT TRANSFER COLLEGE CREDIT NON-TRANSFER NON-CREDIT

TRANSFER INFORMATION

ANY TWO DOUGLAS COLLEGE PHILOSOPHY COURSES RECEIVE CREDIT FOR UBC'S PHIL 100 AND ANY FOUR FOR UBC'S PHIL 100 & 201, EXCEPT THAT D.C.'S PHI 101 & 201 TOGETHER RECEIVE CREDIT FOR UBC'S 102. AT U. VIC ANY TWO PHILOSOPHY COURSES FROM D.C. WILL RECEIVE CREDIT FOR PHIL 100. SEE TRANSFER GUIDE.

SFU EQUIVALENCY: Phi 240

UNASSIGNED CREDIT

(Specify if unassigned within a discipline of a faculty)

B. Dennis J. Davies
 COURSE DESIGNER

Samuel
 DEPARTMENT HEAD

S. M. Selton
 DEAN OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Whaley
 PRINCIPAL

NAME AND NUMBER OF COURSE

COURSES FOR WHICH THIS IS A PREREQUISITE: Any 100 level Philosophy course is a prerequisite for a 200 level Philosophy course or permission of instructor

RELATED COURSES:

NIL

TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS (LIST READING RESOURCES ELSEWHERE)

Alston, William P, Religious Beliefs and Philosophical Thoughts; Harcourt, Brace
New York, New York, 1965 \$14.25

Hick, John, Philosophy of Religion; Prentice-Hall, Toronto, 1978 \$ 5.25

COURSE OBJECTIVES, CONTENT, METHOD, EVALUATION:**OBJECTIVES**

At the end of the semester the student:

1. Will be able to define the philosophical study of religion and distinguish that study from other approaches to the phenomenon of religion in the history of man.
2. Will develop a familiarity with the basic concepts, themes, and trends in man's religious response to the universe, and an understanding of the role of religion in the lives of men.
3. Will develop a greater appreciation for, and understanding of, some of the basic issues that seem to divide science and religion.
4. Will display an understanding of this own position in relation to these themes.

CONTENT

1. Introduction
 - (a) The philosophical enterprise: a preliminary characterization.
 - (b) What is religion? An attempt at a definition.
 - (c) Philosophy and religion: a first step towards understanding their relationship.
2. The Existence of God: (Hick, Chapters 1, 2 and 3)
 - (a) The classical definition of God.
 - (b) Classical Theology:
 - (i) Anslem's Ontological Arguments
 - (ii) Aquinas' Cosmological Arguments
 - (iii) The teleological Argument
 - (iv) Theodicy and the problem of evil
 - (c) Contemporary Theology:
 - (i) Kierkegaard, Barth and Neo-Orthodoxy
 - (ii) The atheistic existentialism of Sartre
 - (iii) The atheistic existentialism of Bultmann and Tillich
 - (d) "Two sides to a Theist coin." (see Christensen, Philosophy and Religion)

3. Faith, Knowledge and Belief (Hick, Chapters 5, 6 and 7)
 - (a) Religious knowledge and the problem of knowledge in general
 - (b) Natural and revealed theology
 - (c) Faith
 - (d) The linguistic veto: the problem of language and meaning
 - (i) Positivism and Ayer's "Critique of Theology" (see A.J.Ayer, Language, Truth and Logic)
 - (ii) Flew's challenge. (see New Essays in Philosophical Theology, A.Flew and A. MacIntyre, ed.)
 - (iii) "Faith -- and Faith in Hypothesis": an answer to Ayer and Flew (see Christensen, Philosophy and Religion)
 - (e) The problem of miracles

4. Soul, Death and Immortality (Hick, Chapter 4)
 - (a) Man: a frontier problem - the classical conception vs modern scientific view of man
 - (b) Man and death

5. Religion and the Quest for "Meaningfulness" (This material will be handed out in class)
 - (a) Campus, Hepburn and Baier
 - (b) "God is Dead!" theology
 - (i) Kierkegaard's anti-Christianity
 - (ii) Sartre's atheistic existentialism reconsidered
 - (iii) Altizer and Hamilton
 - (iv) The "Underground Church": Malcolm, Boyd and the Berrigans
 - (v) Classical theology's answer

METHOD

1. Class time will be equally divided between lectures and seminars
2. A list of assignments, topics and readings will be distributed at the beginning of the term; and students will be expected to prepare in advance for each class session.
3. Each student will be expected to prepare two term papers of approximately six to eight pages in length, and one short class paper
4. Wherever possible use will be made of audio visual materials

EVALUATION

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| 1. Class participation and seminars.... | 20% | (class participation will be evaluated in terms of attendance and ability to take part in class discussions based on material assigned beforehand) |
| 2. One short class paper | 10% | |
| 3. Two term papers | 50% | |
| 4. Short quizzes designed to test the student's basic familiarity with the assigned readings | <u>20%</u> | |
| | 100% | |