

Grande Prairie Regional College
Department of Arts, Education and Commerce

ω-97

COURSE OUTLINE
Introduction to Philosophy: Knowledge and Reality
PH 1020

INSTRUCTOR: John O. Langenbach
Office C401
PH: 539-2992 Home: 532-8413

OFFICE HOURS: MW 10:00 - 10:50 am; T 10:00 - 11:30; by appointment

TEXTS: The Experience of Philosophy, Daniel Kolak and Raymond Martin,
Wadsworth, 1993 (2nd edition)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

An introduction to the classical problems of philosophy through study and critical discussion of selected philosophical classics and contemporary works. Emphasis will be placed on questions of the nature and extent of human knowledge and classic problems about the nature of reality and our place in it. Note: Not open to students with credit in U. of A. course PH 220 (or equivalent).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

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| 1. | 3 essays of about 1500 each. Each essay is worth 20% of course grade | 60% |
| 2. | Journal and class discussion | 15% |
| 3. | Final essay exam | 25% |

COURSE CONTENT:

Weeks 1-2 Scepticism:
Descartes, "Meditations"
Locke, "Where our Ideas Come from"
Berkeley, "To Be is to Be Perceived"

- Weeks 3-5 What We Know:
Russell, "Perception, Knowledge and Induction"
Harman, "Belief Revision"
Armstrong, "The Infinite Regress of Reasons"
- Weeks 6-8 The Mind:
Hofstadter, "A Coffeehouse Conversation on the Turning
Test"
Nagel, "What is it Like to be a Bat?"
Jackson, "Epiphenomenal Qualia"
Churchland, "Reduction, Qualia, and the Direct
Introspection of Brian States"
- Weeks 9-11 Personal Identity:
Perry, "A Dialogue on Personal Identity and Immortality"
Martin, "Identity and Survival: The Persons We Most
Want to Be"
- Week 11-end Perspective and the Meaning of Life:
Nagel, "Meaning"
Dennet, "Where Am I"