

**GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION**

PH 1020

Introduction to Philosophy: Knowledge and Reality

3 (3-0-0) UT

Winter 2006

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Lecture/No pre-requisites

Calendar Description

This is an introduction to some of 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.

Content Description

We will consider classic philosophical issues related to human knowledge and the nature of reality, including scepticism, the question of what is justified belief, the *apriori*, and several theories of knowledge. We will consider relations between identity, change and causation in determining reality and consider classic problems of universals and particulars. We will seek to understand the relationship between sense perception and an external world in shaping our best understanding of the nature of reality. The methodology used will follow analytical practice; close attention will be paid to understanding the meaning of the concepts studied and philosophical positions will be tested against rigorous counter argument.

Texts

- Cahn, Eckert & Buckley, editors; *Knowledge and Reality: Classic and Contemporary Readings*, Pearson Ed., Inc., (Upper Saddle River, New Jersey, 2004) (**required**)
- Quitman Troyka, *Quick Access: Reference for Writers*, 2nd Canadian Edition, (recommended)
- NOTE: A detailed Writing Handbook is **required** for this course. You may use any such handbook that has met the requirement for a full year English course in lieu of the recommended text. Every student **must** have either the recommended writing handbook or one that meets this latter condition.

Timeline

See the detailed syllabus distributed on the first day of classes.

Evaluation

· 1 short journal assignment0%
· 1 short paper10%
· 1 term paper30%
· Reading Assignments20%
· Midterm Examination20%
· Final, registrar scheduled, Examination20%

Final Grading Schema