

UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 3060-01: Medieval Philosophy Winter 2011

Instructor: Jeff Mitscherling MacKinnon 323 jmitsche@uoguelph.ca

Office Hours: Monday 17 – 19 & by appointment

Class meets: Monday 19 –21:50, MacKinnon 225

Brief Description Of Course:

The period of ‘medieval philosophy’ covers an immense amount of ground, and in order to serve the purposes of a history of philosophy course, we have to move swiftly across that vast territory. We shall be dealing with chosen thinkers representative of the major currents of thought flowing through this period, but we shall not be dealing in great depth with any one of them. The lectures and discussions will be intended as merely a starting point for the more in-depth research that the student will be expected to exhibit in the exams and the term paper in order to achieve an above-average (= above 65%) mark. For most assigned readings, students will be asked in advance to concentrate on certain passages that will serve as focal points for lectures and discussion. As readings vary considerably in length, the student is advised to schedule his/her class preparation time with this in mind.

Required Texts:

Arthur Hyman, James J. Walsh, & Thomas Williams, eds., *Philosophy in the Middle Ages*.
Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing Company 2010 (third edition).
List price \$39.95 US

Method Of Evaluation:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------|---|
| (1) take-home mid-term exam | = 30%: | due at the beginning of class on Monday 14 February |
| (2) term paper | = 35%: | due at the beginning of class on Monday 28 March |
| (3) final exam | = 35%: | Thursday 14 April, 11:30 – 13:30 |

SEVEN STANDARD STATEMENTS

E-mail Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their <uoguelph.ca> e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the university and its students.

When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement...

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the undergraduate calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml>

Drop Date

The last date to drop one-semester Winter 2011 courses, without academic penalty, is **Friday 11 March**. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the Undergraduate Calendar:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

Copies of out-of-class assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and enjoins all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

Recording of Materials

Presentations which are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded in any electronic media without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer.

Resources

The Undergraduate Calendar is the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies and regulations which apply to undergraduate programs. It can be found at:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/>

Schedule of Dates and Topics

Winter 2011

- Monday 10 January: (i) this course and the texts
(b) an historical overview of the medieval period
(c) history: the Presocratic thinkers, Plato & Aristotle, Early Christianity
- Monday 17 January: (a) Early Medieval Christian Philosophy
(b) Augustine
- Monday 24 January: (a) Augustine
- Monday 31 January: (a) Boethius
(b) John Scotus Eriugena
- Monday 7 February: (a) Anselm
(b) Abelard
- Monday 14 February: take-home mid-term exam is due at the beginning of class** ← **NOTE**
(a) historical review: from Aristotle to the 12th century
(b) Islamic Philosophy
- Monday 21 February: Winter Break – no class
- Monday 28 February: (a) Alfarabi
(b) Avicenna
- Monday 7 March: (a) Alagazli
(b) Averroes
- Monday 14 March: (a) Jewish Philosophy
(b) Moses Maimonides
- Monday 21 March: (a) Latin Philosophy in the 13th and 14th centuries
(b) Aquinas
- Monday 28 March: term paper is due at the beginning of class** ← **NOTE**
(a) Aquinas
- Monday 4 April: (a) John Duns Scotus
(b) William of Ockham
(c) review
- Thursday 14 April, 11:30 – 13:30: Final exam** ← **NOTE**