

College of Arts – Online Course Outline Template

Course Code: PHIL *1000	Section: 01	Semester: F12
Course Title: Introduction to Philosophy: Basic Texts		
Instructor: J Hacker-Wright		
Brief course Synopsis: In this introduction to philosophy we will focus on the question: “What am I?” Am I a lump of matter that behaves in strict accordance with scientifically discoverable laws of nature, or am I something like a spiritual substance that transcends such laws? What (if anything) is the self? What is consciousness? Am I free? How can I answer these questions? We will look at some of the most penetrating philosophical writings in the history of humanity on these issues. This includes texts by Plato, the Buddha, René Descartes, John Locke, David Hume, Paul Churchland and Alva Noë. Students can expect a rigorous introduction to philosophical methods and the interpretation of texts. There will be significant amounts of reading and writing throughout the semester. There will be exams, papers, and students will be expected to participate actively in seminars.		
Textbook(s): TBA		
Course requirements / evaluation: TBA		