

University of Guelph

Philosophical Problems of Religion

PHIL 3420
Fall 2013
LEC Tues, Thurs
11:30 - 12:50
[MACK](#), Room 224

Instructor: Dr. B.P. Wetstein
Email: bwetstei@uoguelph.ca
Web: www.uoguelph.ca/~bwetstei
Office: MacKinnon 352, Ext. 53217
Office Hours:

Monday: 1:00 - 3:25

Tuesday: 1:00-2:00

Wednesday: 1:00 - 3:25

Thursday: 1:00-2:00

(Other times by appointment)

Brief Course Synopsis: *PHILOSOPHICAL CRITIQUES OF CHRISTIANITY*. Exposition and critical appraisal of some influential philosophical critiques of Christianity, with primary focus on those of Thomas Paine, Sigmund Freud and Friedrich Nietzsche. Consideration will also be given to the cultural context, historical influence, and contemporary relevance of these critiques. Regular, conscientious contribution to class discussion and reading aloud in class from texts are also expected.

Required textbook(s):

- (1) Thomas Paine, *The Age of Reason*, paperback, required, Dover Publications, ISBN 0-486-43393-5
- (2) Sigmund Freud, *The Future of an Illusion* paperback, required
- (3) Friedrich Nietzsche, *Twilight of the Idols*, paperback, required, Penguin Books, ISBN 0-14-044514-5

Course Evaluation:

Essay #1, due mid-October	25%
Essay #2, due mid-November	35%
Final Exam	40%

8 Standard Statements of the College of Arts

Fall 2013

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 **Fall 2013** courses, without academic penalty, is **Thursday, Oct 31, 2013**. 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.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Each student at the University of Guelph has rights which carry commensurate responsibilities which, broadly, being a civil and respectful member of the University community. The Rights and Responsibilities are detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c14/c14-strightsrespon.shtml>

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/>

If you find yourself in difficulty, contact the undergraduate advisor in your program, or the BA Counseling Office: <http://www.uoguelph.ca/baco/contact.shtml>