

- 1/5 Exam Two
2/5 Project: Journal article or conference presentation (Topic With Potential Thesis, Outline, Literature Review, Rough Draft, Final Copy)

Additional Condition on Course Grade: Cannot Receive a Course Grade of “A” or “B” without a grade of “A” or “B” or “C” on the Project.

Plus-Minus. We will not use the plus minus grading system.

General Grading Criteria for Essays: Clarity of thesis, support for thesis, awareness of objections to thesis and its supporting reasoning, response to objections, overall logical coherence, and quality of writing.

Warning: Please be very careful to avoid plagiarism in essays and in Discussion postings. In general, you are most welcome, indeed encouraged, to seek outside sources (written, online, or in-person) for material but must report the source, including page numbers. Paraphrases and direct quotations should be in quotation marks and footnoted. You are welcome to use an informal footnote style by inserting a brief reference inside parentheses in your text that refers to an item that you list in a bibliography at the end of your paper.

The consequences of plagiarism will be an “F” on the assignment, a possible “F” on the exam (if it occurs on an exam), a possible “F” in the course, and required recommendation to Student Conduct for further disciplinary action, including dismissal from UCF.

E. Course Exams

Exam One	In class Thursday 15 September
Exam Two	In class Thursday 15 October
Withdrawal Deadline	Monday 31 October
Last Day of Our Class	Thursday 1 December. (University last day of classes is Saturday 3 December)
Comprehensive Final Exam	In classroom , Thursday 8 December 8-9:50 AM (Says “7” but we’ll start at 8)

F. Comments on Course Exams

Please bring a raspberry colored Scan Tron for each exam.

Required Exams. Exams consist of 25 multiple choice questions plus two essays listed below.

One 1-2 page essay is written in class selected from a list of at least 5 questions distributed with the exam.

One 2-3 page take-home essay is to be submitted to Turnitin.com by midnight of the day of the Exam. Please use course ID of 10479001 with password of RoseFall22 . Make up exams arranged individually as needed. Standard documentation may be requested.

Review Sheets. For each exam, review sheets posted online in an area in a folder in the Files area of the course website with that exam’s name (“Exam One Information”, for example).

G. Course Reading Pages

Reading pages for each unit will be posted online in the Files area of the course website. Online readings to supplement the paper readings will be posted for each unit on the course website.

I. Online Requirements

The course requires repeated access to the course website to retrieve readings, to participate in discussions, to view power point slides, to view videos, and for a variety of other activities, including online presentations for those who choose to do them.

To login to the course website, one route is to go to Webcourses, login, and click on PHI 3083. If you do not see the course on your Webcourses list, or have other difficulties, please email me at donjones@ucf.edu.

Posting comments in the Discussion area is not required at any time in the course, nor is attending optional chat rooms (there are no required chat rooms). Nevertheless, considerable credit can be earned for posting in online discussions of the material of the course. I have posted below a list of how points can be earned. I will endeavor to update one's postings points totals once a week, in the best of weeks twice, so you can determine where you stand. My main way to apply postings points is toward essays for the upcoming exam. Please see the handout on postings points for more information.

I will check Discussion postings through Turnitin.com Please make sure you follow the same documentation guidelines for Discussion postings as for Exam essays. You are welcome to use sources, but you must use quotations marks, page numbers in sources, and other parts of standard documentation.

J. How We Proceed

We will start with contemporary discussions and use those to branch back into representative philosophers. For each topic we will try to combine both contemporary and historic examples.

I tend to put a lot of material into the Discussion area of the course. My normal week is to post some guidelines in an area for the material of that week, note some key points that might need expansion, hope that you read the material, and invite questions or discussion of the material. I also tend to put quite a few topics up for discussion just because they seem interesting to me or because I think some of you might be interested. You never need to participate in these discussions, though you are invited to do so. And, as far as testing goes, what you are to know for exam questions will be listed and duly noted in the posted Guidelines for Exams, so you won't have to wonder.

Lists of Readings, Guidelines for Exams, Postings Points Guidelines, Weekly Notes, and Suggested Independent Tracks will normally occur in an area of the course website.

Practice exams and exam multiple choice questions will occur in the Quizzes area.

K. Turnitin.com

Take-home essays are to be submitted to Turnitin.com. Please use course ID of 13261442 with password of OtterLake.

I will check Discussion postings through Turnitin.com Please make sure you follow the same guidelines for Discussion postings as for normal essays. You are welcome to use sources, but you must use quotations marks, page numbers in sources, and other parts of standard documentation.

L. POSTINGS CREDIT

1. Postings Not Required

First, let me remind you that postings on the course website are not required. The only required activities in this course are the Exams. So, if you like, you can just ignore the stuff below. Of course, you can post comments on the website without regard to whether you get credit for doing so. Regardless, you might want to know that you can get credit for having done so.

One can build up course credit from postings. Below, in number 4, is a rough formula for doing so. Let's say that each exam is worth 100 points. Of those 100 points, 50 go to multiple choice (2 points each for 25 questions) and roughly 50 go for two essays of approximately 2-3 pages each (25 points for each essay).

2. Postings Can Count in Place of Exam Essays

Postings on the course website (or combinations of postings) can count in place of upcoming exam essays, but never in place of the multiple choice. So, if you got 25 points in the postings area, you can assume full credit on one essay for the next upcoming exam. If you got 50 points, that would be full credit for two essays. And, of course, people will fall in between: For example, if you got 36 postings points, that would mean full credit for one essay plus 11 points (36-25) for the second essay. You should then write one essay (on which you already have 11 points) for the next upcoming exam. And so on.

3. Postings Points Posted

I have added a column for postings points. I will try to update that twice a week (at least Wednesday and Sunday), if not more frequently, so that you can know how you stand with respect to the points earned to be used in place of essays for the next upcoming exam.

4. Grading Guidelines for Optional Postings Points

I will endeavor to use the following guidelines for assigning points for postings. I will keep a written record of these assignments of points so that at any given moment you can know why you got the points you got (or failed to get):

- a. General Guideline: The paradigm example of a full credit (25 points) posting (or sequence of postings), corresponding to a full credit essay on an upcoming exam, would be a posting (or sequence of postings) with a clear thesis that was well supported with good reasons, was as close to valid as natural language arguments can be, showed an awareness of at least one objection either to the supporting reasoning or to the validity of the argument, responded to that objection, and showed overall logical coherence.
- b. Specific Guidelines (with rough range of possible points in parenthesis):
 - 1) Distinction that clarifies a line of reasoning or application (4-8 points)
 - 2) Analogy that clarifies or extends a line of thought (4-12 points)
 - 3) Reconceptualization of some problem that opens up a new way of understanding it (4-16 points)
 - 4) Neat little example that shows something relevant to some point (4-8 points)
 - 5) Counter example to some thesis, argument, or supporting reason (4-8 points)
 - 6) Application of some material that we are studying that shows understanding and relevance of the material (1-16 points, depending upon its development and importance)
 - 7) Visual, auditory, or other multimedia illustration of some point in the course (6-48 points)
 - 8) And lots of other neat stuff that you can do (1-48 points)