

Syllabus(2016–1st semester)

Course	Introduction to Western Philosophy	Department	Philosophy	Office Hours	
Course No. and Class	35073–01	Hours	3.0	Academic Credit	3.0
Professor	Yungwhan Lee		Office		
Telephone			E-MAIL		
Value of competence	Pursuit of Knowledge(30), Creative Convergence(20), Culture & the Arts(20), Co-existence & Empathy(20), Global Citizenship(10)		Keyword	Structure of Western Thoughts, History of Philosophy, Philosophical Questions	

1. Course Description

This class will be an introductory course of philosophy in which students will learn the historical roots of Western philosophy. We will begin by considering how philosophical reflection starts in ancient Greece. The development of philosophical thought will be traced first through cosmological inquiries of pre-Socratics and the debate between Socrates and the Sophists. This will also give us a chance to discuss what philosophy itself is. We will then read and discuss selections from Plato and Aristotle, two most important figures in ancient Greek philosophy.

In the middle part of this course, we will briefly examine medieval philosophy, focusing on the argument for the existence of God. The relation between faith and reason will be discussed (via Pascal) alongside this perennial issue.

In the final part of this course we will move on to discuss how modern philosophy develops. We will start with Descartes, focusing on the issue of the Mind-Body problem and then proceed to David Hume, examining his metaphysics/philosophy of science, to be more precise, his views on Induction and Causation. Lastly, we will discuss Immanuel Kant's views on how morality can have a secure footing free from subjectivist and relativist challenges.

Throughout the course we will focus on the various central philosophical themes concerning: nature, causation, law, justice, knowledge, virtue and happiness. We will also examine the issue of what the proper method of philosophical inquiry is.

2. Prerequisites

None

3. Course Format

Lecture	Discussion/Presentation	Experiment/Practicum	Field Study	Other
90 %	10 %	0 %	0 %	0 %

– explanation of course format :

4. Course Objectives

Students will not only learn what philosophy is and the peculiar characteristics and methods of philosophy, but also will be able to engage themselves in the philosophical way of thinking and communicating.

5. Evaluation System

Midterm Exam	Final Exam	Quizzes	Presentation	Projects	Assignment	Participation	Other
0 %	40 %	10 %	0 %	0 %	40 %	10 %	0 %

* Evaluation of group projects may include peer evaluations.

– explain of evaluation system

6. Required Materials

I will provide selections of original philosophers' writings,

7. Supplementary Materials

Anthony Kenny, A Brief History of Western Philosophy (Blackwell, 1998)

8. Optional Additional Readings

9. Course Contents

Week	Date	Topics, Materials, Assignments
Week 1	2016/03/03(THU)	Course Introduction/
	2016/03/08(TUE)	What is philosophy?
Week 2	2016/03/10(THU)	The beginning of philosophy
	2016/03/15(TUE)	The beginning of philosophy
Week 3	2016/03/17(THU)	Socrates and sophists
	2016/03/22(TUE)	Socrates and sophists
Week 4	2016/03/24(THU)	Socratic methods
	2016/03/29(TUE)	Socratic methods
Week 5	2016/03/31(THU)	What is justice? Plato's Republic
	2016/04/05(TUE)	What is justice? Plato's Republic (continued)
Week 6	2016/04/07(THU)	What is justice? Plato's Republic (continued)
	2016/04/12(TUE)	What is justice? Plato's Republic (continued)
Week 7	2016/04/14(THU)	What is justice? Plato's Republic (continued)
	2016/04/19(TUE)	What is justice? Plato's Republic (continued)
Week 8	2016/04/21(THU)	Mid-term recess
	2016/04/26(TUE)	Mid-term recess
Week 9	2016/04/28(THU)	What is justice? Plato's Republic (continued)
	2016/05/03(TUE)	Is there God? St. Anselm's ontological argument
Week 10	2016/05/05(THU)	Children's Day.
	2016/05/10(TUE)	Is there God? St. Anselm's ontological argument
Week 11	2016/05/12(THU)	Faith and reason, Pascal's Wager
	2016/05/17(TUE)	Faith and reason, Pascal's Wager
Week 12	2016/05/19(THU)	The beginning of modern consciousness, Descartes' Meditations

	2016/05/24(TUE)	The beginning of modern consciousness, Descartes' Meditations
Week 13	2016/05/26(THU)	The Problem of Causation, Hume's Inquiry
	2016/05/31(TUE)	Ewha's 130th Anniversary
Week 14	2016/06/02(THU)	The problme of egoism
	2016/06/07(TUE)	The problme of egoism
Week 15	2016/06/09(THU)	Kant's theory of duty
	2016/06/14(TUE)	Kant's theory of duty
Makeup Classes 1	2016/05/04(WED)	Video lecture
Makeup Classes 2	2016/05/30(MON)	Video lecture

10. Course Policies

Students are encouraged to use English; but since our priority is philosophy, not English, occasional use of Korean will be allowed. Whenever Korean is used, I will translate the comments or questions to English for Korean-less students. Those who used Korean will also benefit by learning how they could have put their ideas in English.

11. Special Accommodations

* According to the University regulation #57, students with disabilities can request special accommodation related to attendance, lectures, assignments, and/or tests by contacting the course professor at the beginning of semester.

Based on the nature of the students' requests, students can receive support for such accommodations from the course professor and/or from the Support Center for Students with Disabilities (SCSD).

* The contents of this syllabus are not final—they may be updated.