PH101: PHILOSOPHY OF THE HUMAN PERSON I (3 UNITS)

TEACHER: Jacqueline Marie J. Tolentino (Instructor, Department of Philosophy)

SECTIONS: BB: MWF 14h30 to 15h30, B-106  II: MWF 15h30 to 16h30, B-106
   GG: MWF 11h30 to 12h30, B-104  LL: MWF 10h30 to 11h30, B-106

COURSE DESCRIPTION: As the first of a two-part course, PH101 is a discussion on the nature of philosophy and a reflection on the various aspects of being human. We begin with examining what philosophy is—the kind of questions it asks, the attitude it requires—and then later on examine the human person through various themes—embodiment, temporality, historicity, agency, language, and identity.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: At the end of the course, the students should be able to:
1. rigorously read and clearly explain the key ideas of philosophical texts;
2. critically articulate various philosophical perspectives on the nature of philosophy, embodiment, temporality, historicity, agency, language, and identity;
3. adapt their understanding of philosophical perspectives to their own experiences of being human;
4. and confidently articulate these perspectives through speaking and writing.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- Final Paper (FP): 15%
  - Details: The FP is a position paper that asks the question, “Of all the themes we discussed, which would you argue is the most fundamental and why?” Answering this question will require you to discuss the ways your chosen theme is key to understanding the other themes.
  - Instructions: Format: Google Docs document (visit http://docs.google.com, sign into your Google account), default format settings (i.e., letter-sized document, one-inch margins on all sides, Arial 11 points in black, aligned left, single-spaced). Leave a space between paragraphs. Your complete name should appear only at the end of your FP. Keep your citations simple (e.g., “According to Ricoeur, . . .”). No less than 1,000 words, no more than 1,500 words.
  - Submission: Save your FP with your ID number as its filename, and then share it (select “can edit”) with my email address on or before the deadline (see below). I will not accept late FP submissions unless you have a very grave reason for submitting late.
  - Targets: Learning outcomes 3 and 4.

- Long Tests (LTs): 35%
  - Details: LTs will be announced. Questions will be released at least four days earlier. Then in class, the class beadle will blindly pick one question for you to answer (the question will be flashed on the projector screen). There will be two LTs this semester. Make-up LTs will be given only to those who’ve asked beforehand, and to those who have a valid reason for missing an LT.
  - Instructions: Write in blue or black ink. No writing “back-to-back.” Use sheets of intermediate pad paper. Write your ID number, your section, the LT number, and the page number (e.g., “p. 1 of 3”) on the top left corner of each sheet that you use. Write your complete name only at the end of your LT. Your answer should be two to three pages long (single-spaced). Keep your citations simple (e.g., “According to Ricoeur, . . .”). You will have the entire period to answer the LT. Closed notes and texts.
  - Targets: All learning outcomes.

- Midterm Exam (ME): 20% | Final Exam (FE): 30%
  - Details: The ME and FE are oral exams that will require you to explain and defend a thesis statement. Thesis statements will be released at least four days before the ME or FE week. Then during your ME or FE, you will blindly pick one thesis statement to explain and defend (a copy of the thesis
statements will be provided). Make-up MEs or FEs will be given only to those who have asked beforehand, and to those who have a valid reason for missing the ME or FE.

- Instructions: Sign-ups for ME and FE time slots will take place online, and will begin around the time the thesis statements are released. Remember the time slot you signed up for, because I do not respond to inquiries involving forgotten schedules. You will have ten minutes for the ME, and fifteen minutes for the FE. Do not be late for your time slot; time extensions will not be given to those who arrive late. Closed notes and texts, but you may bring a blank sheet of paper and a pen to write with.

- Targets: All learning outcomes.

- Other requirements:
  - Attendance: Students—including those on the dean’s list—cannot exceed nine absences—or cuts—in this course. If you exceed nine cuts, you will get a W for your final grade (see your student handbook). Tardiness counts as half a cut.
  - Participation: Though not graded, you will be required to participate in class. This means participating in occasional group discussions, answering questions from the teacher or from your classmates, and also asking your own questions. Participating will help clarify and deepen your understanding of the concepts discussed in class.

- On academic dishonesty: Plagiarism and dishonest behavior during tests are, according to your student handbook, major offenses. If I catch you committing an act of academic dishonesty, you will get a failing grade for the requirement involved, and I will file an official complaint against you with the ADSA.

GRADING SYSTEM:

- The FP, LTs, ME, and FE will be graded based on three criteria, namely, explanation, insight, and structure.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Explanation</th>
<th>Insight</th>
<th>Structure</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Covered relevant key concepts, and correctly and exhaustively discussed them.</td>
<td>Original and coherent grasp of concepts. Saw connections with other concepts. Used own words and provided good examples.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Covered relevant concepts, and correctly and carefully discussed them.</td>
<td>Coherent grasp of concepts. Had difficulty seeing connections with other concepts. Used own words and provided adequate examples.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Covered relevant concepts, and correctly but superficially discussed them.</td>
<td>General grasp of concepts. Parroted class discussions. Examples provided, if any, were superficial or unhelpful.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Covered a few relevant concepts, but incorrectly and/or barely discussed them.</td>
<td>Weak grasp of concepts. Parroted class discussions, sometimes incorrectly. Examples provided, if any, were bad.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Covered very few to no relevant concepts, and/or misunderstood them.</td>
<td>Very weak to no grasp of concepts. Incorrectly parroted class discussions. Examples provided, if any, were bad.</td>
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It is possible to get an “in-between” score (e.g., 3.5, 2.5) for each of the criteria. Your FP/LT/ME/FE grade will be the average of the scores you get. Failure to meet the FP deadline will get you a zero. Missing one of the LTs or the ME will also get you a zero. Missing the FE will get you an NE for your final grade (see the student handbook).

- The following are the ranges for the final letter grade:

  **A:** 3.80 to 4.00
  **B+:** 3.50 to 3.79
  **B:** 3.00 to 3.49
  **C+:** 2.50 to 2.99
  **C:** 2.00 to 2.49
  **D:** 1.00 to 1.99
  **F:** 0.00 to 0.99
## COURSE OUTLINE AND TIMETABLE:
The timetable may be subject to change (e.g., class suspensions).

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week/s</th>
<th>Topic/s and Requirement/s</th>
<th>Text/s</th>
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| 1 to 4 (Aug 10 to Sep 6) | Course introduction<br>What is philosophy?<br>The philosophical act<br>Argument and analysis<br>Appearance vs. reality<br>LONG TEST #1 | Syllabus<br>Kavanaugh, "The Philosophical Enterprise"
Pryor, excerpts from "Philosophical Terms and Methods"
Sidebar: Neil deGrasse Tyson vs. philosophy
Russell, “Appearance and Reality”
Video: Test Your Brain: Perception |
| Aug 14 (F): Faculty Day |                                                                                           |                                                                       |
| Aug 18 (T): Mass of the Holy Spirit (09h15) |                                                                                           |                                                                       |
| Aug 19 (W): Quezon City Day |                                                                                           |                                                                       |
| Aug 21 (F): Ninoy Aquino Day |                                                                                           |                                                                       |
| Aug 27–28 (Th–F): Inclusion, Recognition, and Solidarity (conference) |                                                                                           |                                                                       |
| Aug 31 (M): National Heroes’ Day |                                                                                           |                                                                       |
| 5 to 6 (Sep 7 to Sep 20) | What does it mean to be human?<br>Cogito, ergo sum<br>The promise of modernity | Gallagher, “Critical Doubt”
Tassi, “Modernity as Transformation” |
| 7 (Sep 21 to Sep 27) | MIDTERM EXAM WEEK                                                                         | Texts from weeks 1 to 6                                               |
| Sep 22 (T): Special Academic Convocation (13h30–18h00) |                                                                                           |                                                                       |
| Sep 24 (Th): Eid’ Aladha (estimated date) |                                                                                           |                                                                       |
| 8 to 10 (Sep 28 to Oct 18) | Embodiment<br>Dasein<br>LONG TEST #2                                                      | Marcel, “Primary and Secondary Reflection”
Heidegger, excerpts from Being and Time
Sidebar: The right to die? |
| Nov 1 (Su): All Saints’ Day | Historicity and agency<br>Language and speech<br>Course synthesis | Dondeyne, “Historicity”
Arendt, “Labor, Work, Action”
Gadamer, “Man and Language”
Searle, “What Is a Speech Act?” |
| 13 (Nov 2 to Nov 8) | FINAL EXAM WEEK                                                                           | Texts from weeks 1 to 12                                               |
Sidebar: New media and remediation
Ricoeur, “Life in Quest of Narrative”
Video: Stranger Than Fiction |
| Nov 18–19 (W–Th): APEC Summit<br>Nov 19–21 (Th–Sa): Ricoeur in Asia (conference) |                                                                                           |                                                                       |
| 16 (Nov 23 to Nov 29) | Sameness and selfhood<br>Course synthesis                                                | Ricoeur, excerpt from Oneself as Another
Russell, “The Value of Philosophy” |
| TBD: Start of maternity leave |                                                                                           |                                                                       |
| 17 (Nov 30 to Dec 6) | Writing week<br>FULL PAPER DEADLINE: DEC 4, 5PM                                          | All texts                                                            |
| Nov 30 (M): Bonifacio Day |                                                                                           |                                                                       |

## REQUIRED TEXTS:
Copies of these have been placed in the Reserve Section of the Rizal Library.


Pryor, Jim. 2006. “Philosophical Terms and Methods.”
http://www.jimpryor.net/teaching/vocab/index.html


SUGGESTED TEXTS:


CLASSROOM POLICIES:

- **Decorum:** Behave and avoid making unnecessary noise in class. If you misbehave or make unnecessary noise, I will send you out and consider you absent. You may eat and/or drink in class, just don’t be bothersome or disruptive. Pay attention; you are responsible for what you miss or misunderstand.

- **Electronic devices:** You are not allowed to use mobile phones, laptop computers, tablets, and other electronic devices in class. If I catch you using any of these devices, I will send you out and consider you absent. Put mobile phones on silent or turn them off. If a phone makes a sound, I will send its owner out and consider him/her absent; if nobody admits to owning the phone, I will consider all students absent and class will continue.

- **Communication:** Announcements, LT questions, ME and FE thesis statements, links to sign-ups, and other class-related matters will be shared through our Google Group (see below).

- **Beadle:** The beadle is expected to do the following: (1) prep the classroom for the beginning and end of class (e.g., turn on the LCD projector, erase the board), (2) serve as class representative and communication liaison between the students and the teacher (see below), and (3) report the teacher’s absences to the ADAA.

CONSULTATION: I’m available for consultation every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 13h30 to 14h30. Make sure to set an appointment with me at least a day before you intend to consult. You may do so via email or by calling the Department of Philosophy within office hours (see below).

CONTACT DETAILS:

- **Google Group:** [http://groups.google.com/group/ph101-102_jtolentino](http://groups.google.com/group/ph101-102_jtolentino)
  (To join the group, visit the URL above, sign into your Google account, and then apply for membership. You’ll have access to the group after I approve your application.)

- **Beadle’s name and contact details:**

- **Teacher’s contact details:**
  - Email address: djacinto@ateneo.edu
  - Department of Philosophy: 4265565; or 4266001, loc. 5360

IMPORTANT! Please complete the Student Info Sheet via [http://goo.gl/forms/S7WNPu01DL](http://goo.gl/forms/S7WNPu01DL) ASAP. I will officially start checking attendance in the second week of classes. If you have not completed the Student Info Sheet by then, I will consider you absent.