

STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

American Public University System

The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind

Department – Philosophy and Religion
PHRL498
Course Name – Religion & Philosophy Capstone

Credit Hours: 3
Length of Course: 8 weeks

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Course Description

This capstone course is an intensive study of major figure(s) and or movement(s) in philosophic thought, and/or contemporary issues and beliefs in religion and events of particular historical importance to the discipline. Students will integrate knowledge acquired in previous courses into critical analyses of movements, theories and principles that have influenced historical and contemporary thought in philosophy, and the integration of a critical analysis of selected sacred scriptures, collection and review of religious adherents' expressions and experiences, and a synthesis of all research into a final written project. This is a capstone course to be taken after all other Philosophy and Religion courses have been satisfactorily completed.

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Course Scope

This eight week capstone course is an intensive study of major figure(s) and or movement(s) in philosophic thought, and/or contemporary issues and beliefs in religion and events of particular historical importance to the discipline. Students will integrate knowledge acquired in previous courses into critical analyses of movements, theories and principles that have influenced historical and contemporary thought in philosophy, and the integration of a critical analysis of selected sacred scriptures, collection and review of religious adherents' expressions and experiences, and a synthesis of all research into a final written project. This is a capstone course to be taken after all other Philosophy and Religion courses have been satisfactorily completed.

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Learning Objectives

CO1: Analyze the fundamental theories and philosophies from classical to modern/post-modern times

CO2: Analyze the fundamental theories and philosophies of religion and religious systems

CO3: Evaluate the elements of different philosophies, religions, and other systems.

CO4: Explore the different elements in philosophy, history, and evolution of thought in general, either philosophical or religious

CO5: Evaluate the appropriate information and data used in areas relevant to the degree program---either in the realms of metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, political philosophy, logic, and critical thinking OR in the beliefs and practices of religions.

CO6: Assess the actors and processes involved in different philosophical methods, religions, and religion in general.

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Course Delivery Method

This course delivered via distance learning will enable students to complete academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. Course materials and access to an online learning management system will be made available to each student. Online assignments are due by the last day of each week and include discussion questions (accomplished in groups through a threaded discussion board) and individual assignments (submitted for review by the Faculty Member).

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Course Materials

Course Materials are all found in the classroom.

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Evaluation Procedure

Assessment	Percent of Final Grade
Assignments	30%
Final Assignment	35%
Forum Posts	35%
Total	100%

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Week	Topic	Learning Objectives	Readings	Assignment
1	Introduction	CO1: Analyze the fundamental theories and philosophies from classical to modern/post-modern times. CO2: Analyze the fundamental theories and philosophies of religion and religious systems. CO4: Explore the different elements in philosophy, history and evolution of thought in general, either philosophical or religious.	See classroom for readings.	Week 1 Discussion – answer due by Thursday & responses due by Sunday
2	Major & Core Courses	CO5: Assemble and evaluate the appropriate information and data used in the realms of metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, political philosophy, logic and critical thinking, and beliefs and practices of religions.	See classroom for readings.	Week 2 Discussion - answer due by Thursday & responses due by Sunday Week 2 Assignment Due by Sunday
3	Percolating	CO5: Assemble and evaluate the appropriate information and data used in the realms of metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, political philosophy, logic and critical thinking, and beliefs and practices of religions. CO6: Assess the actors and processes involved in different philosophical methods, religions, and religion in general.	See classroom for readings.	Week 3 Discussion - answer due by Thursday & responses due by Sunday
4	Anatomy of a Degree Path	CO5: Assemble and evaluate the appropriate information and data used in the realms of metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, political philosophy, logic and critical thinking, and beliefs and practices of religions. CO6: Assess the actors and processes involved in different philosophical methods, religions, and religion in general.	See classroom for readings.	Week 4 Discussion – answer due by Thursday & responses due by Sunday Week 4 Assignment Due by Sunday
5	Social Networking	CO4: Explore the different elements in philosophy, history and evolution of thought in general, either philosophical or religious CO6: Assess the actors and processes involved in different philosophical methods, religions, and religion in general.	See classroom for readings.	Week 5 Discussion - answer due by Thursday & responses due by Sunday
6	Creating a Portfolio	CO2: Analyze the fundamental theories and philosophies of religion and religious systems CO3: Evaluate the elements of different philosophies and religions, and compare and contrast those elements with other systems CO6: Assess the actors and processes involved in different philosophical methods, religions, and religion in general.	See classroom for readings.	Week 6 Discussion - answer due by Thursday & responses due by Sunday
7	Intellectual Autobiography	CO2: Analyze the fundamental theories and philosophies of religion and religious systems CO3: Evaluate the elements of different philosophies and religions, and compare and contrast those elements with other systems CO6: Assess the actors and processes involved in different philosophical methods, religions, and religion in general.	See classroom for readings.	Week 7 Discussion - answer due by Thursday & responses due by Sunday
8	Reflection	CO1: Analyze the fundamental theories and philosophies from classical to modern/post-modern times. CO2: Analyze the fundamental theories and philosophies of religion and religious systems. CO4: Explore the different elements in philosophy, history and evolution of thought in general, either philosophical or religious.	See classroom for readings.	Week 8 Discussion - answer due by Thursday & responses due by Sunday Week 8 Assignment Due by Sunday

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Policies

Please see the [student handbook](#) to reference all University policies.

[Drop/Withdrawal Policy](#)

[Plagiarism Policy](#)

[Extension Process and Policy](#)

[Disability Accommodations](#)

Writing Expectations

You will follow the citation style that is common to your discipline/program (APA, Turabian, AP, or MLA). If you do not have a citation style, please use MLA style. For further assistance you can use the APUS library or <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/>.

Online assignments are due by the date listed in the classroom 11:55 pm ET. While Distance Learning provides some flexibility in when you choose to conduct your studies, you are expected to follow the syllabus and turn in your assignments on time and on schedule.

IMPORTANT: Please note that **any assignment submitted after the last day of class will not be counted toward your final grade.** It is your responsibility to ensure that all assignments are submitted on time. If you have requested and been approved for a formal 30 day course extension through the Registrar's office, it is your responsibility to submit all assignments before the expiry of the extension.

Netiquette

Online universities promote the advance of knowledge through positive and constructive debate--both inside and outside the classroom. Discussions on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and "flaming." Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting--basic academic rules of good behavior and proper "Netiquette" must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the fun and excitement of learning that does not include descent to personal attacks, or student attempts to stifle the discussion of others.

- **Technology Limitations:** While you should feel free to explore the full-range of creative composition in your formal papers, keep e-mail layouts simple. The Educator classroom may not fully support MIME or HTML encoded messages, which means that bold face, italics, underlining, and a variety of color-coding or other visual effects will not translate in your e-mail messages.
- **Humor Note:** Despite the best of intentions, jokes and--especially--satire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add "emoticons" to help alert your readers: ;-), :), ☺

Disclaimer Statement

Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

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Online Library

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books, subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your classes and generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the

Online Library provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions can be directed to librarian@apus.edu.

- **Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan:** The University maintains a special library with a limited number of supporting volumes, collection of our professors' publication, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.
- **Electronic Books:** You can use the online library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.
- **Electronic Journals:** The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.
- **Tutor.com** - detailed information is located in the Online Library on the *Tutorial & Student Study Center* page: <http://www.apus.edu/online-library/tutorials/index.htm> If you have any **questions** regarding online tutoring, please email librarian@apus.edu If a student is **Active Duty DOD Military (and their dependants)**, please go to the Online Library Tutorial page to link directly to their branch of service to start their UNLIMITED online tutoring with Tutor.com <http://www.tutor.com/military/colleges/amu-apus> All other students (non-active duty DOD military) who are interested in online tutoring, please go to the Online Library Tutorial page to link to the **AMU/APU Civilian & CG Military** Tutor.com portal <http://www.tutor.com/colleges/landing/apus>

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Turnitin.com

Please note: DISCLAIMER: "Originality of attachments will be verified by Turnitin. Both you and your instructor will receive the results on all assignments."

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Communications

Student Communication

To reach the instructor, please communicate through the MyClassroom email function accessible from the Classlist of the Course Tools menu, where the instructor and students email addresses are listed, or via the Office 365 tool on the Course homepage.

1. In emails to instructors, it's important to note the specific course in which you are enrolled. The name of the course is at the top center of all pages.
2. Students and instructors communicate in Discussion posts and other learning activities.
3. All interactions should follow APUS guidelines, as noted in the [Student Handbook](#), and maintain a professional, courteous tone.
4. Students should review writing for spelling and grammar.
5. [Tips on Using the Office 365 Email Tool](#)

Instructor Communication

The instructor will post announcements on communications preferences involving email and Instant Messaging and any changes in the class schedule or activities.

1. Instructors will periodically post information on the expectations of students and will provide feedback on assignments, Discussion posts, quizzes, and exams.
2. Instructors will generally acknowledge student communications within 24 hours and respond within 48 hours, except in unusual circumstances (e.g., illness).
3. The APUS standard for grading of all assessments (assignments, Discussions, quizzes, exams) is five days or fewer from the due date.
4. Final course grades are submitted by faculty no later than seven days after the end date of the course or the end of the extension period.

University Policies

Consult the [Student Handbook](#) for processes and policies at APUS. Notable policies:

1. [Drop/Withdrawal Policy](#)
2. [Extension Requests](#)
3. [Academic Probation](#)
4. [Appeals](#)
5. [Academic Dishonesty / Plagiarism](#)
6. [Disability Accommodations](#)
7. [Student Deadlines](#)
8. [Video Conference Policy](#)

Mission

The [mission of American Public University System](#) is to provide high quality higher education with emphasis on educating the nation's military and public service communities by offering respected, relevant, accessible, affordable, and student-focused online programs that prepare students for service and leadership in a diverse, global society

Minimum Technology Requirements

1. Please consult the catalog for the minimum hardware and software required for [undergraduate](#) and [graduate](#) courses.
2. Although students are encouraged to use the [Pulse mobile app](#) with any course, please note that not all course work can be completed via a mobile device.

Disclaimers

1. Please note that course content – and, thus, the syllabus – may change between when a student registers for a course and when the course starts.
2. Course content may vary from the syllabus' schedule to meet the needs of a particular group.