Instructor: Ted Lockhart  
Office: 326 Walker  
Office Hours: 10:30–11:30 AM Monday, 2:30–3:30 PM Wednesday, and by appointment  
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Course Description

In this course, we shall discuss some of the main questions and problems of philosophy including the existence of God, the relationship between the physical and the mental, the conditions and limits of human knowledge, and the nature of value and morality. We shall study and evaluate the views of prominent philosophers who have expressed views on these questions.


Exams and Papers:

There will be 3 hour exams during the semester. For each exam, you may write a paper instead of taking the exam. Paper topics will be assigned. Papers will be typed. More detailed information about the papers will be provided later. There will also be an optional final examination during final exam week.

Quizzes

Quizzes may occasionally be given. The number of quizzes and the dates on which they are given will be up to the instructor. Quizzes will not be announced in advance. They will be used to determine how well you are preparing for class (e.g., by reading the assigned material) and how well you are following the class discussions. Your grades on the quizzes will be considered part of your class participation grade. (See below.)

Final Course Grades

Your final course grade will depend on (1) your grades on the 3 in-class exams/papers, (2) your class participation grade, and (3) your grade on the final exam (if you choose to take the final exam). If you take the final exam, your grade on it will determine 50% of your final course grade, and the other elements, (1) and (2), will determine the other 50%. If you do not take the final exam, then your final grade will depend entirely on (1) and (2). Of the portion of your grade that is determined by (1) and (2), the percentages are as follows:

75%: 3 in-class exams/papers  
25%: class participation
Your class participation grade will depend on the quality and frequency of your participation in class discussions. You are expected to be present at the beginning of each class and to stay until class is dismissed. If you must leave class before the end of the period, you should inform the instructor before class begins. Whenever you have to miss class, it is your responsibility to find out what was discussed and what announcements were made.

Final course grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

- A: 93–100
- AB: 88–93
- B: 83–88
- BC: 78–83
- C: 73–78
- CD: 68–73
- D: 60–68
- F: 0–60

Neither grades nor averages will be curved.

**Record-keeping**

You should keep copies of all written work—returned exams and quizzes, course paper drafts, etc.—until your final course grade has been turned in at the end of the semester. This will enable us to resolve any questions that may arise about the recording and calculating of grades.

**Academic Dishonesty (University Policy)**

According to University policy, “Academic Dishonesty is prohibited and includes the following violations:

- Plagiarism—copying another’s work or ideas and calling them one’s own or not giving proper credit or citation.
- Cheating—intentional use of any unauthorized study aids, equipment, or another’s work during an academic exercise.
- Fabrication—intentional falsification or invention of any information or citation during an academic exercise without proper authorization.
- Facilitating academic dishonesty—allowing or helping another individual to plagiarize, cheat, or fabricate information.

**Penalty: not less than academic integrity warning, not more than expulsion**

(http://www.admin.mtu.edu/dos/rights/regulations.html)

This policy (stated above) will be followed in this course. At a minimum, graded work that involves plagiarism, cheating, or fabrication (as defined above) will receive a grade of zero, and no opportunity will be afforded to make up the work. Software that detects plagiarism may be employed.

**Disabilities**

Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with certain medical or psychological disabilities. You must notify the course instructor at the beginning of the semester if you wish to request such accommodation.