INSTITUTIONAL SYLLABUS

(Check One)

_____ New Course (OR)      Date of Last Review _____
_____ Substantive Change in Existing Course

I. Course Title: Atheism

II. Course Prefix/Number: PHIL 323

III. Credit Hours: 3

IV. Prerequisites: none

V. Catalog Description: Examines the arguments, concepts, and objections to atheism. The course addresses atheism in the context of morality, cosmology, the problem of evil, faith, science, and a meaningful life.

VI. Curricular Relationships: This course is part of the elective block for the philosophy minor and religious studies minor.

VII. Student Learning Outcomes: Through three essay exams, a series of reading quizzes, and a final paper students will:

1. Demonstrate and understanding for the core issues in philosophical atheism.
2. Demonstrate the ability to analyze and evaluate philosophical arguments.
3. Demonstrate the ability to think and write critically and clearly concerning complex issues.
4. Demonstrate the ability to express ideas and critically evaluate the ideas of others in a constructive way.
5. Demonstrate the knowledge of and the ability to use the basic vocabulary of the subject.

VIII. Content Outline:
Unit 1: Deductive proofs for atheism
Unit 2: The problem of evil
Unit 3: Atheism, Meaning, and Morality
Unit 4: Atheism, Meaningless Lives and Immorality
Unit 5: Agnosticism, Evidence, and Rationality

IX. Course Procedures: Through twelve pop quizzes of which the student’s lowest two will be dropped, three essay exams, and one final paper, students will evidence their developing ability to construct and evaluate arguments.
Grading Scale:
3 Tests 100 pts. each 300
10 quizzes 10 pts. each 100
1 Final Paper 100 pts. 100
Total Course Points: 500

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<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>100 – 90</td>
<td>500-450</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>89-80</td>
<td>449-400</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>79-70</td>
<td>399-350</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>69-60</td>
<td>349-300</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
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<td>299-0</td>
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X. Required/Recommended Readings: A comprehensive introductory text on philosophical atheism, the following is suggested:


XI Any Issues Unique to this Course: N/A

XII Additional Issues of the Department's Choosing: N/A

XIII Syllabus Statement Regarding Course Adaptations or Accommodations:

Should the student require course adaptations or accommodations because of a documented disability, the student shall provide the instructor with the appropriate documentation as specified by applicable law and institutional policy.