

Certificate in Philosophy

Level Three: Advanced Track

BENEFITS

The Advanced Level Philosophy track is designed to provide the student with a thorough knowledge of the thinking of the world's most important philosophers.

DESCRIPTION

The Advanced Level track consists of thirty courses that can be completed in a three-year period. Although students may take longer to complete the courses if they wish, the courses are designed so that the student may earn the Certificate in three years.

After registration, the student will be assigned a tutor to answer questions that may arise from the required reading and who will evaluate the student's coursework. An online forum will also be provided. The forum will provide a place for students in the Advanced Level Philosophy track to submit questions to the tutor and to discuss course related issues with other students registered for the same track.

REQUIREMENTS

Each of the thirty courses in the Advanced Level Philosophy track requires a large amount of reading. In order to benefit from the reading, the student is required to keep a reading journal, which is to be submitted to the tutor after completing the final course. The reading journal must be typed. For each required text, the student is to include the following information:

1. State the author and title of the book.
2. In no less than 25 and no more than 50 words, state what the book is about. In other words, what is the subject matter of the book, and how does the author present the material?
3. In no less than 300 and no more than 350 words, summarize how the book has contributed to your knowledge of the major ideas in the history of philosophy.
4. In no less than 125 and no more than 150 words, state whether you agree or disagree with any aspect of the author's conclusions. If the work is a primary source by one of the major philosophers, briefly state any similarities or differences between the author's worldview and the Christian worldview.
5. In no less than 25 and no more than 50 words, state what difference reading this book has made in your life.

In addition to the reading journal, the student is required to write and submit one research paper after completing the final course. The student may choose any subject covered in

one or more of the required courses. The paper should be no less than 4,000 and no more than 5,000 words.

The research paper should adhere to the format outlined in Kate L. Turabian. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. 7th Edition.

Students may also find the following work useful in the preparation of the research paper: Robert Hudson, ed. *The Christian Writer's Manual of Style*, updated and expanded edition.

Certificate in Philosophy

Required Courses

1. The Pre-Socratic Philosophers
2. Socrates
3. Plato
4. Aristotle
5. Hellenistic Philosophy
6. Philosophy and the Early Church Fathers
7. Augustine
8. The “Dark Ages”
9. Early Medieval Philosophy
10. Thomas Aquinas
11. The Renaissance and Reformation
12. Bacon and Hobbes
13. Rationalism
14. British Empiricism
15. Scottish Common Sense Philosophy
16. Rousseau
17. Kant
18. Hegel
19. Positivism
20. Utilitarianism
21. Pragmatism
22. Kierkegaard
23. Marx
24. Nietzsche
25. Freud
26. Existentialism
27. Phenomenology
28. Philosophy of Language
29. Postmodern Philosophy
30. Christian Philosophy Today

Course One: *The Pre-Socratic Philosophers*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to the thought of the Presocratic philosophers.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Kirk, G.S., J.E. Raven, and M. Schofield. *The Presocratic Philosophers*.

Wheelwright, Philip, ed. *The Presocratics*.

Course Two: *Socrates*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to the life and thought of Socrates.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Brickhouse, Thomas C. and Nicholas D. Smith. *The Philosophy of Socrates*.

West, Thomas G., and Grace Starry West. *4 Texts on Socrates*.

Course Three: *Plato*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to the life and thought of Plato.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Hamilton, Edith, ed. *The Collected Dialogues of Plato* (Read at least the following: Crito, Phaedo, Euthyphro, Ion, Gorgias, Meno, Symposium, Republic, Timaeus).

Guthrie, W.K.C. *A History of Greek Philosophy, Vol. 4: Plato: The Man and His Dialogues: Earlier Period.*

Course Four: *Aristotle*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to the life and thought of Aristotle.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Ackrill, J. L., ed. *A New Aristotle Reader* (pp. 1–360).

Guthrie, W. K. C. *A History of Greek Philosophy, Vol. 6: Aristotle: An Encounter*.

Course Five: *Hellenistic Philosophy*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to Hellenistic philosophy – in particular: Epicureanism, Stoicism, Skepticism, and Cynicism.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Long, A. A. *Hellenistic Philosophy: Stoics, Epicureans, Sceptics*, 2nd edition.

Inwood, Brad and L. P. Gerson, eds. *Hellenistic Philosophy: Introductory Readings*.

Branham, R. Bracht and Marie-Odile Goulet-Cazé, eds. *The Cynics*.

Course Six: *Philosophy and the Early Church Fathers*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to the philosophy of the early church fathers, with an emphasis on the effects of neoplatonism.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Bigg, Charles. *The Christian Platonists of Alexandria.*

O'Meara, Dominic J. *Neoplatonism and Christian Thought.*

Course Seven: *Augustine*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to the life and philosophical thought of Augustine.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Brown, Peter. *Augustine of Hippo*.

Nash, Ronald H. *The Light of the Mind: St. Augustine's Theory of Knowledge*.

Stump, Eleonore and Norman Kretzmann, eds. *The Cambridge Companion to Augustine*.

Course Eight: *The “Dark Ages”*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to the thought of philosophers who lived during the so-called Dark Ages.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Carabine, Deirdre. *John Scottus Eriugena*.

Luibheid, Colm, ed. *Pseudo-Dionysius: The Complete Works*.

Boethius. *The Consolation of Philosophy*.

Course Nine: *Early Medieval Philosophy*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to early medieval philosophers.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Anselm. *The Major Works* (Oxford World's Classics).

Hyman, Arthur and James J. Walsh. *Philosophy in the Middle Ages* (Read the chapters from Anselm through Siger of Brabant).

Course Ten: *Thomas Aquinas*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to the life and thought of Thomas Aquinas.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Thomas Aquinas. *Selected Philosophical Writings* (Oxford World's Classics).

Torrell, Jean-Pierre. *Saint Thomas Aquinas, vol. 1: The Person and His Work*.

Kretzmann, Norman and Eleonore Stump. *The Cambridge Companion to Aquinas*.

Course Eleven: *The Renaissance and Reformation*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to strands of philosophical thought during the Renaissance and Reformation.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Copenhaver, Brian P. and Charles B. Schmidt. *Renaissance Philosophy*.

Rupp, E. Gordon and Philip S. Watson, eds. *Luther and Erasmus: Free Will and Salvation*.

Machiavelli, Niccolo. *Discourses*.

Course Twelve: *Bacon and Hobbes*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to the thought of Francis Bacon and Thomas Hobbes.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Peltonen, Markku, ed. *The Cambridge Companion to Bacon*.

Sorell, Tom, ed. *The Cambridge Companion to Hobbes*.

Bacon, Francis. *The Major Works* (Oxford World's Classics).

Course Thirteen: *Rationalism*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to the rationalist philosophy of Descartes, Spinoza, and Leibniz.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Descartes, Rene; Spinoza, Benedict de, and Gottfried Leibniz. *The Rationalists* (Anchor).

Cottingham, John. *The Rationalists*.

Cottingham, John, ed. *The Cambridge Companion to Descartes*.

Course Fourteen: *British Empiricism*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to the empiricist philosophy of John Locke, George Berkeley, and David Hume.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Locke, John, George Berkeley, and David Hume. *The Empiricists* (Anchor).

Chappell, Vere, ed. *The Cambridge Companion to Locke*.

Norton, David Fate. *The Cambridge Companion to Hume*.

Course Fifteen: *Scottish Common Sense Philosophy*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to Scottish Common Sense philosophy, with a particular focus on Thomas Reid.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Brookes, Derek, ed. *Thomas Reid: An Inquiry Into the Human Mind on the Principles of Common Sense*.

Wolterstorff, Nicholas. *Thomas Reid and the Story of Epistemology*.

Cuneo, Terence, and Rene Van Woudenberg, eds. *The Cambridge Companion to Thomas Reid*.

Course Sixteen: *Rousseau*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to the romantic philosophy of Jean Jacques Rousseau.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Rousseau, Jean Jacques. *The Social Contract and the Discourses*.

Riley, Patrick, ed. *The Cambridge Companion to Rousseau*.

Course Seventeen: *Kant*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to the philosophy of Immanuel Kant.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Wood, Allan W., ed. *Basic Writings of Kant*.

Guyer, Paul, ed. *The Cambridge Companion to Kant*.

Seung, T. K. *Kant: A Guide for the Perplexed*.

Course Eighteen: *Hegel*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to the philosophy of G.W.F. Hegel.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Weiss, Frederick G., ed. *Hegel: The Essential Writings*.

Beiser, Frederick C., ed. *The Cambridge Companion to Hegel*.

Course Nineteen: *Positivism*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to positivism, with a particular focus on the work of Auguste Comte.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Comte, Auguste. *Introduction to Positive Philosophy*.

Pickering, Mary. *Auguste Comte: An Intellectual Biography, Vol. 1*.

Course Twenty: *Utilitarianism*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to utilitarianism, with a particular focus on the work of John Stuart Mill and Jeremy Bentham.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Mill, John Stuart. *The Basic Writings of John Stuart Mill: On Liberty, the Subjection of Women & Utilitarianism.*

Bentham, Jeremy. *The Principles of Morals and Legislation.*

Skorupski, John, ed. *The Cambridge Companion to Mill.*

Course Twenty One: *Pragmatism*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to pragmatism, with a particular focus on the work of Charles Pierce, William James, and John Dewey.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Shook, John R. and Joseph Margolis, eds. *A Companion to Pragmatism*.

Thayer, H. S., ed. *Pragmatism: The Classic Writings*.

Course Twenty Two: *Kierkegaard*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to the philosophy of Soren Kierkegaard.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Bretall, Robert, ed. *A Kierkegaard Anthology*.

Hannay, Alastair, and Gordon Marino, eds. *The Cambridge Companion to Kierkegaard*.

Course Twenty Three: *Marx*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to the thought of Karl Marx.

REQUIRED TEXTS

McLellan, David, ed. *Karl Marx: Selected Writings*, 2d ed.

Sowell, Thomas. *Marxism: Philosophy and Economics*.

Course Twenty Four: *Nietzsche*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to the thought of Friedrich Nietzsche.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Hollingdale, R.J. *A Nietzsche Reader* (Penguin Classics).

Magnus, Bernd and Kathleen M. Higgins, eds. *The Cambridge Companion to Nietzsche*.

Williams, Stephen N. *The Shadow of the Antichrist: Nietzsche's Critique of Christianity*.

Course Twenty Five: *Freud*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to the thought of Sigmund Freud.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Gay, Peter, ed. *The Freud Reader*.

Crews, Frederick C., ed. *Unauthorized Freud: Doubters Confront a Legend*.

Course Twenty Six: *Existentialism*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to existentialism.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Marino, Gordon, ed. *Basic Writings of Existentialism*.

Warnock, Mary. *Existentialism*, rev. ed.

Cooper, David E. *Existentialism*, 2d ed.

Course Twenty Seven: *Phenomenology*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to phenomenology.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Sokolowski, Robert. *Introduction to Phenomenology*.

Moran, Dermot. *The Phenomenology Reader*.

Course Twenty Eight: *Philosophy of Language*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to the philosophy of language.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Lycan, William G. *Philosophy of Language: A Contemporary Introduction*.

Searle, John R. *Speech Acts*.

Searle, John R. *Expression and Meaning*.

Course Twenty Nine: *Postmodern Philosophy*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to postmodern philosophy.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Natoli, Joseph and Linda Hutcheon, eds. *A Postmodern Reader*.

Sim, Stuart, ed. *The Routledge Companion to Postmodernism*.

Course Thirty: *Christian Philosophy Today*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a general introduction to some philosophical trends and movements within Christianity today.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Plantinga, Alvin and Nicholas Wolterstorff, eds. *Faith and Rationality*.

Swinburne, Richard. *The Coherence of Theism*.

Van Inwagen, Peter. *Metaphysics*.