ROSE STATE COLLEGE

Division Course Syllabus

Division Humanities
Course Prefix and Number PHIL 1223

Course Title Introduction to Asian Philosophy
Semester and Year Submitted Fall 2014 Credit Hours 3
Prepared by Antoinette Castillo

Hours Per Week: Class 3 Lab 0

Course Description (as it appears in Catalog)
This course will introduce students to the foundational texts of the major philosophic schools from India and China, with emphasis on Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism and Daoism. We will examine the primary philosophic questions addressed by each tradition, and where appropriate seek to make connections to parallels in Western thought. Overall, the goal of this course is to introduce how these different traditions offer valuable contributions to general philosophical questions.

Prerequisites READ 1213 or equivalent

Text(s): Title Classic Asian Philosophy, 2nd edition
Author Joel Kupperman
Publisher Oxford UP
Copyright Date 2007
ISBN # 9780195189810

Reading Level

Supplemental Materials: (Other books, audio visual aids, etc.) Primary text reading materials in D2L/Packet
Outline for Remainder of Syllabus:

Rationale: Asian philosophy encompasses an important tradition in philosophical study that provides an alternative perspective for Western students. In an increasingly global society, such fundamental and diverse perspectives are necessary for students to understand the major traditions of other people in the world in order that they may interact more intelligently and humanely in their global community.

Expected Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, the student should:

1. Be familiar with the basic questions and concerns in Asian philosophy.
2. Be able to define and explain relevant vocabulary and arguments in Asian philosophy.
3. Be familiar with the positions held by certain individual philosophers.
4. Be equipped in the application of critical reasoning skills to Asian philosophy.
5. Be aided in one's understanding and appreciation for Asian philosophical systems and positions that differ from one's own.
6. Be aided and encouraged in the development of one's own philosophical positions and convictions.

Methods of Instruction:
Formal Lecture
Lecture and Discussion
Internet or Computer-based Instruction
Inquiry Approach
Research
Relevant videos or film clips

Assessment (Including Critical Thinking measurements):
Students will be required to demonstrate their knowledge of course content by way of examinations, written assignments, presentations or projects. Grades will be assigned based on a pre-determined scale.
Suggested:
25% Objective examinations over assigned material, including, but not limited to, vocabulary terms, persons and their positions, philosophical concepts, and ability to recognize certain ethical positions and argumentation in ordinary language.
55% Written assignments that require either summaries of assigned readings, responses to assigned readings, or both.
20% Final examination synthesizing all major components of the course: Students must take and pass the final exam under proctored conditions in order to pass the class.

Learning Objectives:

Unit 1: Understanding the fundamental questions and concerns addressed by Asian philosophy and the philosophical reasoning techniques used to address those questions and issues (outcomes 1 & 4)
1. Student will be introduced to and practice using philosophical reading and reasoning techniques.
Unit 2: Understanding the fundamental questions and concerns addressed by Hindu philosophy (outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6)
1. Students will read and discuss key parts of the Upanishads and Bhagavad Gita
2. Students will quiz over those sections to demonstrate understanding of relevant vocabulary.
3. In a written analysis of approximately 750 words, students will demonstrate that they can critically analyze and apply the core concepts of Hinduism.

Unit 3: Understanding the fundamental questions and concerns addressed by Buddhist philosophy (outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6)
1. Students will read and discuss key parts of the Dhammapada and Bodhicaryavatara
2. Students will quiz over those sections to demonstrate understanding of relevant vocabulary.
3. In a written analysis of approximately 750 words, students will demonstrate that they can critically analyze and apply the core concepts of Buddhism.

Unit 4: Understanding the fundamental questions and concerns addressed by Confucian philosophy (outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6)
1. Students will read and discuss key parts of the Analects, Mengzi, Xunzi, and Mozi
2. Students will quiz over those sections to demonstrate understanding of relevant vocabulary.
3. In a written analysis of approximately 750 words, students will demonstrate that they can critically analyze and apply the core concepts of Buddhism.

Unit 5: Understanding the fundamental questions and concerns addressed by Daoist philosophy (outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6)
1. Students will read and discuss key parts of the Dao De Jing and Zhuangzi.
2. Students will quiz over those sections to demonstrate understanding of relevant vocabulary.
3. In a written analysis of approximately 750 words, students will demonstrate that they can critically analyze and apply the core concepts of Daoism.

Unit 6: Understanding the fundamental questions and concerns addressed by Zen Buddhist and Islamic Sufist philosophy (outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6)
1. Students will read and discuss key parts of the The Bevels of Wisdom and Zen Flesh, Zen Bones
2. Students will quiz over those sections to demonstrate understanding of relevant vocabulary.
3. In a written analysis of approximately 750 words, students will demonstrate that they can critically analyze and apply the core concepts of Zen Buddhism and Islamic Sufism.

Unit 7: Comparing and Synthesizing Asian Philosophical Systems in Articulation of the Student's Own Philosophy (outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4)
1. On a written examination, students will distinguish between the core principles of the major philosophical systems studied.
2. On a written examination, students will provide explanation of the connections between Asian philosophical systems and their own core principles. Students will and support their comparison of principles with logical argument and examples of application.