2016

100-10 Ethics as an Introduction to Philosophy: Plato's Apology and Republic

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Ethics as an Introduction to Philosophy: Plato's *Apology* and *Republic*

**Philosophy 100 (10) - Fall 2016**

MWF Time: 2:00-2:50pm  
Classroom: Hailstones 9  
Professor David W. Rodick

Office Location: Hinkle 227  
Telephone: (513) 745-3827  
Email: rodickd@xavier.edu  
Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 3-4 and by appointment

**Course Description:** In this course will have the opportunity to read, discuss, and critique what is considered to be perhaps *the* classic work in Western philosophy – Plato’s *Republic*. In this way, you will be invited into a long tradition of reflection concerning the meaning of our shared humanity, of the world, and of our relation to it. The *Republic* is not easy to understand and careful reading is essential. The course will begin with a look at Plato’s *Apology* – a work necessary for understanding the *Republic* in its proper context. Students will demonstrate comprehension of the fundamental principles relevant to the subject-matter of the course in addition to demonstrating the ability to reflect upon particular themes in writing.

**Universal Definition of 3 Credit Hour Course:** A “3 credit hour” course is defined as a sequence of instruction in which students are expected to spend 2 hours outside class studying and doing homework for every 1 hour spent in class. **For example:** If we spend 50 minutes in class on a topic, we are in principle spending 150 minutes on that topic. [Translation: Expect to work outside of class!]

**Texts:**

Plato’s: *Apology* (Handout)

Plato’s *Republic* (Hackett Publishing) is the required text. The use of any other translation must be pre-arranged. This is a required text and must be purchased, rented, or somehow obtained. You will be required to demonstrate that you have this text and a folder in your possession no later than **Friday September 2!**

**Requirements**

- A “folder” of some kind to store course handouts.
- Attendance and Class Participation (10%). You must come to class on time and actively participate.
- A “sign in” sheet will be circulated at the time class begins – tardiness will be noted.
• Quizzes (announced and unannounced) will be administered at my discretion (10%).
• 3 in-class exams (60%): [In-class exams will consist of a 50 minute “in-class” component of short answer questions plus a “take-home” component consisting of an essay (1-2 pages) due the following class period.]
• A cumulative final exam (20%).

Class Sequence

M Aug 22: Syllabus Review and Signature

Setting the Stage for the Republic

Plato’s Apology

W Aug 24: Introduction to Plato and the Apology: Historical Context [Handout]
F Aug 26: Apology: Speaking the Truth / Contending with Shadows [17a-19d]
M Aug 29: Apology: The Oracle at Delphi and the Rise of Socratic Wisdom [20c-23c]
W Aug 31: Apology: The Importance of Socratic Wisdom [28a-33b]
*F Sept 2: Apology: Philosophy and the City [35e-38b]
W Sept 7: Apology: The City without Philosophy [38c-42a]
F Sept 9: Apology Exam

Plato’s Divided Line and Allegory of the Cave

M Sept 12: The Divided Line (Book VI Republic) [509d-511e]
W Sept 14: The Divided Line [509d-511e]
F Sept 16: The Divided Line [509d-511e]
M Sept 19: The Good [504b-509d]
W Sept 21: The Good [504b-509d]
F Sept 23: Myth of the Cave (Book VII Republic) [514a-518e]
M Sept 26 Myth of the Cave [514a-518e]
W Sept 28 Myth of the Cave [514a-518e]
F Sept 30: Exam Divided Line and Myth of the Cave

The Republic

M Oct 3 Republic I
W Oct 5 Republic I
Break
M Oct 10 Republic: Review and Conclude Book I
W Oct 12 Republic II
F Oct 14 Republic II
M Oct 17 Republic III
W Oct 19 Republic III
F Oct 21 Republic III
M Oct 24 Republic IV
W Oct 26 Republic IV
F Oct 28 Republic IV
M Oct 31 Republic V
W Nov 2 Republic V
F Nov 4 Republic V
M Nov 7 Republic VI
W Nov 9 Republic VI
F Nov 11 Republic: VII
M Nov 14 Republic: VII
W Nov 16 Republic VIII
F Nov 18: Republic VIII
M Nov 21: Republic IX

**Break**
M Nov 28 Republic IX
W Nov 30 Republic X
F Dec 2 Republic X
M Dec 5 Republic X
W Dec 7 Review and Consolidate
F Dec 9 Review for Final

**Note:** The Final Exam for **Philosophy 100-10** is scheduled for Monday, December 12, from 2-3:50pm. The final exam will be cumulative.

**Grading**

Grades are not given. They are earned!

Grading is administered strictly in accordance with the Registrar’s Grading System.
See [http://www.xavier.edu/registrar/facultyandstaff/Grading-Scales.cfm](http://www.xavier.edu/registrar/facultyandstaff/Grading-Scales.cfm)

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In the absence of prior arrangement, any late assignment will be penalized one letter grade per class period the requirement remains outstanding.

**[Note: There are important differences between a “course” grade and a grade assigned to a finite piece of work. Whereas a “course” grade is intended to reflect the totality of effort and performance demonstrated by the student throughout the entire semester, a grade assigned to a finite piece of work is based simply upon the content of that particular assignment. Grade discussions of a personal nature must be conducted in my office during office hours – or at some other pre-arranged time – and not before, during, or immediately following class or via E-mail!]**

### Very Important!
#### Administrative Issues

**Academic Honesty:** *Plagiarism* is appropriating someone else’s words or ideas without formal acknowledgement. You need not “cut and paste” to be guilty of plagiarism. [Go to http://www.xavier.edu/library/xututor/plagiarism/index.cfm](http://www.xavier.edu/library/xututor/plagiarism/index.cfm) *Plagiarism results in an F for the course and a letter sent to the Office of the Dean of your particular school.* Literal paraphrasing (copying) of someone else’s work is plagiarism and the same applies to using the “copy and paste” function to insert the words of somebody else on to your paper. **Don’t Do IT!** [Using Spark Notes or Cliff Notes or anyone’s work other than your own without proper citation is plagiarism.]

**Electronics:** Laptops, phones, iPods, and similar devices will not be used in class. Exceptions must be approved in advance by the professor.

**Any learning accommodations requested by the Office of Student Services will be completely supported through LAC@Xavier.edu**

### Expectations for Class Room Behavior

Class will start on time and end on time!
You will arrive on time or be marked late;  
Please do not leave the classroom during class unless it is absolutely necessary;  
Complete assigned reading before class;  
Review notes from prior class while waiting for class to begin (What if there is a quiz??);  
Have books/handouts available and on your desk ready to use;  
Do not talk between with the person sitting next to you while the professor, or anyone else, is speaking;  
Have syllabus readily available to consult; review syllabus before class in order to understand what a particular class session will cover;  
Have questions prepared for the professor based upon a prior reading of the material.

Unsatisfactory behavior includes:  
Phones will not be used at all during class period;  
Not having books/handouts used in class in your possession;  
Coming to class unprepared;  
Texting (or any use of electronic devices) during class;  
Talking with others concerning matters unrelated to the class;  
Tardiness;  
Eating;  
Tuning-out;  
Sleeping.  
Please do not talk amongst yourselves, get out of your seats, or shuffle your books/papers until the professor dismisses you (which I will do before the end of the assigned class period!)

***

I understand the requirements and expectations of Dr. Rodick for Philosophy 100.

(Print) Your Name: ___________________________________

Signature: ___________________________ Date: ______