



THE **wesleyan** CHURCH

## **Education & Clergy Development**

Updated: 3/2018

### **Philosophy and Ethics**

#### **Zoom Online**

Saturday- March 3, 10, 17, 24; April 7 and 14,  
9am-1pm EST

Professor: Ken Schenck

Email: ken.schenck@indwes.edu

Phone: 765-438-6584

Mailing Address: 4201 S. Washington St.  
Marion, IN 46952

### **Syllabus Overview**

What you will find in this syllabus

- Course Description
- Course Objectives & Learning Outcomes
- Required Textbooks
- Pre-Course Assignments
- Live Class Information
- Post-Course Assignments
- Grade Information
- Policies & Requirements
  - Attendance
  - Grading Scale
  - Books
  - Due Dates
  - Extensions
  - Papers
  - Ordination Deadline
  - Plagiarism
- Bibliography
- Other Course Documents

### **Course Description**

This course will introduce students to major thinkers and trends in Western philosophy. The bulk of the course will explore the relationship between the

Platonic tradition (Plato, Aristotle, the Stoics and Neoplatonists) and Christian theology. Some attention will be given to developments in modern and contemporary philosophy.

### **Course Objectives & Learning Outcomes**

During this class, the student will...

- Define philosophy.
- Name eight major philosophers/philosophical schools and explain their contributions.
- Articulate three ways of understanding Christian theology's relationship to philosophy.
- Demonstrate practices of critical reflection.

### **Required Textbooks**

Contact the Wesleyan Publishing House 800-493-7539 to purchase books. Or order online at [www.wphstore.com](http://www.wphstore.com).

- Ken Schenck, *A Christian Philosophical Journey*, Triangle Publishing, 2014, ISBN: 1931283516 (only 9.99 on Kindle)
- The Bible. NIV, NASB, NRSV or ESV

### **Pre-Course Assignments**

Read the following chapters in *A Christian Philosophical Journey*: 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, and 11. The first day of class we will especially focus on chapters 1, 2, and 3. Reporting will be on the honor system.

### **Six Live Classes**

- The classes are March 3, 10, 17, 24; April 7 and 14, from 9am-1pm.
- Students are required to attend all live class sessions. They will be recorded in case of emergency.
- You will write a short essay after each class to solidify and apply the material for the week.

### **Post Course Assignments**

- Read and Respond: You will write a "worldview" paper after the class. This paper is meant to present your overall perspectives on the key philosophical questions.

**ALL POST-COURSE ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE by April 30.**

### **Grades**

- |                       |     |
|-----------------------|-----|
| 1. Pre-Onsite Reading | 5%  |
| 2. Weekly Reflections | 75% |

3. Worldview Paper

20%

## **Policies & Requirements**

### **Attendance**

Students are required to attend all class sessions. Failure to attend at least 80% (16 hours) of the minimum required seat time (20 hours) will result in automatic failure of the course. Any and all absences within that 20% window must be approved by the professor prior to the course in writing (e.g. email). Do not ask for permission to be excused during the class or after the absence has already occurred.

### **Grading Scale**

A	91-100
B	81-90
C	71-80
D	61-70
F	60 or below

Students must get a "C" or above to pass the course and receive credit for ordination.

### **Books**

Students are encouraged to purchase their books through Wesleyan Publishing House. Often, discounts are available.

Available from Wesleyan Publishing House by calling 800-493-7539 or online at [www.wphonline.com](http://www.wphonline.com).

### **Due Date**

All assignments are due on the date indicated in the syllabus or verbally communicated by the instructor. Professors are required to submit grades to Education and Clergy Development at a maximum of 12 weeks after the last day of class. Assignments may not be submitted to the professor any later than 8 weeks after the last day of class. Assignments not submitted by the due date will result in an automatic "0" for the assignment.

### **Extensions**

Extensions may be (but are not guaranteed) granted for sickness, serious injury, or death in the student's immediate family or for similar extenuating circumstances. *When in doubt, please contact the professor.* Also, no assigned work will be accepted after the final due date, unless an extension has been granted in writing (e.g. email) from the professor. Communication is the key! Professors may reduce a student's grade by 20% for each week past the due date (even in the event of approved extensions). Education and Clergy Development reserves the right to refuse extension and override the professor as it deems necessary.

### **Papers**

All written papers must be typed. Papers should be double spaced on 8.5x11 paper using 12 point font in a normal, easy to read type style (Arial, Cambria, Times New Roman, etc.). Margins should be 1" on all sides. Each paper should include at least:

student's full name, course title, and date. It is advisable to include your name on each page of the paper.

### **Ordination Deadline**

If the student is a candidate for ordination in a given year, coursework must be completed as follows: the final grade submission deadline (12 weeks after the last day of class) must be at least 40 days before the student's district conference. Professors are not required to fulfill any requests for grade submission prior to this deadline.

### **Plagiarism**

Ministerial students in The Wesleyan Church are expected to exhibit honesty and integrity in their personal, professional and academic life and work. As Christians, we are called to a high standard of honesty. As such, students in our ministerial training courses are required to adhere to strict academic guidelines.

The following is borrowed from the Oklahoma Wesleyan University *University Undergraduate Catalog 2015-2016 Traditional Studies*:

Plagiarism — This is defined as offering the work of another as one's own. It is an attempt to deceive by implying that one has done work that was actually done by another. Faculty and students are honor bound to show that ideas and words match with the sources used and thus demonstrate that honest research has been done.

Examples of plagiarism include (but are not limited to) the following:

1. Copying all or part of a theme, examination, paper, library reading report, or other written work from another person's production
2. Submitting as one's own work that which was wholly or partially done by another so as to appear to one's professor to be more accurate or skilled in one's work than one actually is
3. Quoting material from any source without proper documentation
4. Summarizing or paraphrasing from any source without proper documentation
5. Misrepresentation of documentation or resources
6. Using in collateral reports or book reviews the opinion of a professional literary critic or of a campus friend as though it were one's own original thought
7. Submitting workbook answers copied from another person or working in a group and submitting an identical set of answers for each member of the group without explicit permission from the professor

Cheating — Examples of cheating include (but are not limited to) the following:

1. Use of unauthorized prepared materials (cheat sheets) for answering test questions
2. Giving aid to another student during a test or quiz
3. Gaining answers to test questions from others during testing periods
4. Signing another person's name to the attendance record
5. Claiming to have done laboratory work or outside reading that was not done

6. Submitting the same work for more than one course without the prior approval of the professors involved

Education and Clergy Development policy for all students receiving credit through non-accredited ministry training programs (e.g. FLAME, FLAMA, Correspondence Courses, Cross Training, District Extension Classes, Equipping for Ministry, etc.):

- 1) Any instance of plagiarism (whether intentional or not) will result in an automatic "F" for the particular assignment and may also result in an automatic failing of the course.
- 2) A repeat offense will result in an automatic failing of the course.
- 3) A third offense will result in an automatic withdrawal from a credentialing track in The Wesleyan Church.

## **Tentative Outline**

### **Weekly Topics and Reflections**

March 3: The Basic Questions

- Read chapters 1-3.
- Reflection: Examples of Bad Thinking

March 10: God and Evil

- Review chapters 5-6.
- Reflection: Why does God allow evil?

March 17: The Image of God

- Read chapters 9-10
- Reflection: What is the value of people?

March 24: How We Should Live

- Review chapters 11-12
- Reflection: How should we then live?

April 7: Approaches to Truth

- Read chapters 4, 7, and 15
- Reflection: What is truth?

April 14: Science and History

- Read chapters 8, 13, and 14
- Write your Worldview Paper