Honors Introduction to Philosophy (Philosophy H101)

Fall 2009

General information

Instructor: Ben Caplan

Time: T R 4:30 – 6:18 PM Location: 48 Derby Hall

Office: 337F University Hall

Office hours: W 1:30 – 3:18 PM or by appointment

Phone: 292.2479

Email: caplan.16@osu.edu

Webpage: http://people.cohums.ohio-state.edu/caplan16/101.htm

Course description

We will get a sense of what philosophy is by doing some. We will consider at least the following three topics: (i) the existence of God, (ii) the relation between mind and body, and (iii) personal identity. Throughout, we will be concerned with presenting and evaluating arguments for, or against, various views.

Required text

Earl Conee and Theodore Sider, *Riddles of Existence: A Guided Tour of Metaphysics* (Oxford: Clarendon, 2005).

Other materials will be made available as necessary.

Course requirements

There will be three assignments, each worth 1/3 of your final grade. (The first assignment will come in two parts. The grade you receive for the first assignment will be the grade you receive on the second part.) You will have at least a week to complete each assignment (or part thereof, in the case of the first assignment). You may rewrite any assignment before the end of the quarter, provided that you hand it in with a copy of my comments on the previous version.

Disabilities

Students who might need accommodations are encouraged to contact me and the Office for Disability Services (http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/).

Academic misconduct

Academic misconduct is a serious offense. You are responsible for knowing what counts as academic misconduct. You might want to consult the Code of Student Conduct or the Committee on Academic Misconduct:

http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/pdfs/csc_12-31-07.pdf

and

http://oaa.osu.edu/coam/home.html.

Outline

A detailed and updated outline will be posted on the course webpage.