PHIL 1311 D
PHILOSOPHY OF THE HUMAN PERSON
Winter 2017

TuTh 11:00-12:15
Strake 101

Dr. Jordan Olver
Department of Philosophy
University of Saint Thomas
Office: 205 Sullivan Hall
Phone: 713-525-3879
Email: olverj@stthom.edu

Course Description
A study of the many aspects of human nature: sensation, emotion, thought, will, habits, soul and body.

Learning Objectives
1. To introduce students to the Aristotelian-Thomistic understanding of the human person, particularly as it contrasts with dualism and materialism.
2. To introduce students to basic concepts in logic and in the philosophy of nature.
3. To develop proficiency in reading ancient and medieval texts, and in analyzing, in terms of premises and conclusion, arguments embedded in such texts.

Required Texts

Office Hours
Office hours are Tuesday and Thursday 1:15 pm to 3:15 pm, and Friday 8 am to 12 noon.

Assignments and Grading
Grading for this class will be based on class participation (10%), two written assignments (15% and 20%), a midterm (20%), and a final exam (35%)

Class participation is based primarily on attendance and on class preparation assignments (readings, worksheets, etc.).

Late assignments will be penalized at 2% per day; assignments later than ten days will not be accepted (Sunday will not count as a work day).
Grading

A (100-95), A- (94-90) = Excellent (unusual and superior achievement)
B+ (89-87), B (86-83), B- (82-80) = Good (above average, articulate achievement)
C+ (79-77), C (76-73) = Satisfactory (average work)
C- (72-70), D+ (69-65), D (64-60) = Passing (below standard)
F (<60) = Failing (below acceptable standard)

Academic Integrity

Familiarize yourself with the University Policy on Academic Integrity. This policy may be found on page 77 of the Course Catalog.

Laptops and Cell Phones

Use of laptops, cell phones, and other similar electronic devices is not permitted in class. Please have cell phones turned off. Use of such devices (e.g. texting in class) will adversely affect your class participation mark.

Schedule

Thursday, Jan 19  Introduction. Porphyry’s Tree. Pre-Socratics and the Soul.
Tuesday, Jan 24  Ten Categories. Pre-Socratics and the Soul. Apology.
Thursday, Jan 26  Apology. Argument for Death as Good.
Thursday, Feb 2  Phaedo. Equality and Composites Arguments.
Tuesday, Feb 7  Phaedo. Objections and Intermission. Four Causes.
Tuesday, Feb 14  Republic. Analogy of the Sun, Divided Line, and Cave.
Thursday, Feb 16  Republic. Proper Evil Argument. Myth of Er.
Tuesday, Feb 21  Introduction to Aristotle and Thomas Aquinas.
Thursday, Feb 23  Soul as Principle of Life in a Living Body. ST I, q. 75, a. 1.
Tuesday, Feb 28  Am I my soul? ST I, q. 75, a. 4. First Writing Assignment Due.
Thursday, March 2  Soul as Substantial Form of the Natural Living Body. DA II.1-2.
Tuesday, March 7  Soul as Substantial Form of the Natural Living Body. *ST* I, q. 76, a. 1.
Thursday, March 9  Midterm

Tuesday, March 14  Spring Break
Thursday, March 16  Spring Break


Tuesday, April 4  Possible Intellect. *DA* III.4 and *ST* I, q. 84, a. 1 and 2.
Thursday, April 6  Three Acts of the Mind. Agent Intellect. *DA* III.5; *ST* I, q. 79, a. 3; *ST* I, q. 84, a. 6.

Thursday, April 13  Holy Thursday

Tuesday, April 18  Will and Its Freedom. *ST* I, q. 81, a. 1; *ST* I, q. 82, a. 2; *ST* I, q. 83, a. 1.
Thursday, April 20  Will and Its Freedom. *ST* I-II, q. 10, a. 2; *ST* I-II, q. 13, a. 2 and 6.

Thursday, April 27  Immortality of the Human Soul. *ST* I, q. 75, a. 2 and 3. Second Writing Assignment Due.

Tuesday, May 2  Immortality of the Human Soul. *ST* I, q. 75, a. 6.
Thursday, May 4  Review.

Tuesday, May 9  Final Exam. 12:00-2:30 pm. Strake 101.