

RELIGION/PHILOSOPHY 212 - PHILOSOPHICAL THEOLOGY

SCHEDULE OF READINGS AND COURSE REQUIREMENTS

FALL 1998-99; N hour - 11:20-12:50, TuT

Clough 302

PROFESSOR MICHAEL MCLAIN

Office: 413 Clough; office hours: 3:00-5:00 T, W.

TEXTS:

1. J. Hick, Evil and the God of Love
2. W. Rowe, An Introduction to the Philosophy of Religion
3. C. Hartshorne, Omnipotence and Other Theological Mistakes
4. R. Swinburne, Is There A God?
5. Xeroxed reader. Purchase from Rhodes College Bookstore

SCHEDULE

August 27 Introduction

September 1 Swinburne, pp. 1-47.

Reasons Against God's Existence: The Problem of Evil, Immortality,
and Religion as Wishful Thinking.³

4 Rowe, Chapter 6, pp. 73-82 only.

_____8 Hick, pp. 3-17; 37-90

10 Hick, pp. 169-208

15 Hick, pp. 243-292 (Give special attention to 268-275; 278-292)

17 Hick, pp. 292-337 (Give special attention to 322-337)

22 Hick, pp. 337-365; Rowe, pp.83-89. "A Critique of Hick's Theodicy" (X)

"Immortality and Resurrection"(X), "Against Survival"(X)

24 Rowe, Chapter 8

29 Test

Reasons for God's Existence

- October*
- 1 Rowe, Chapter 2; Swinburne, chp. 4.
- 6 Rowe and Swin., cont.; "A Critique of the Cosmological Argument"
- 8 Rowe, Chapter 3; "A Critique of the Ontological Argument"(X)
- 13 Rowe and Xerox, cont.
- 15 Rowe, Chapter 4; Swin., chp. 5; "A Critique of the Design Argument"
- Fall Recess - Oct. 16 -Oct. 21
- 22 Rowe, Chapter 5; Swin., chp. 7.
- 27 "A Modified Version of the Argument from Religious Experience"
- Three Ways of Conceiving God
- 29 Rowe, Chapter 11
"God's Foreknowledge and Human Free Will are Incompatible"(X)
"God's Foreknowledge and Human Free Will are Compatible"(X)
- November*
- 3 "Eternal and Changeless," "God Everlasting"(X)
- 5 TEST
- 10 Hartshorne, pp. 1-50.
- 12 Hartshorne, cont.
- 17 Hartshorne, pp. 51-110; 119-131.
- 19 "The Depth of Existence"; Rowe, pp. 185-192
- 24 *NO CLASS. However, complete assigned reading.* "Fideism: Faith....,"
- 1 Discussion of Nov. 24 reading.
- 3 Rowe, Chapter 12; "The Ethics of Belief," "The Will to Believe"
- 8 "Religious Belief without Evidence," Rowe, pp. 166-70.

GRADING:

1. Two tests. (25% each)
2. A final exam, covering the last two sections of the course. (40%) Dec. 16//8:30-11:00
3. Each student will make a 10 minute class presentation on one of the readings, as assigned by the instructor, and be expected to participate regularly in class discussion of the readings. (10%)

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Class attendance is required. After two absences, the student will be asked to discuss his/her circumstances with the instructor. After three absences, for any reason whatsoever, an additional absence will result in the deduction of half a letter grade from your final avg.