

# HUMS 2000 – REASON AND REVELATION

## SYLLABUS

FALL 2022-WINTER 2023

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THIS SYLLABUS IS IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ THE ENTIRE DOCUMENT

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The philosophical pursuit of knowledge and happiness in Plato, Aristotle, Cicero, and Plotinus, and its encounter with Christianity, Islam, and Judaism in Augustine, Boethius, Tufayl, Maimonides, Aquinas, Porete, and Dante.

### LECTURE SCHEDULE AND READINGS

Please see the HUMS 2000 Lectures and Readings document.

### COVID-19 STATEMENT

You must follow Carleton's current policy on COVID-19. Currently it does not require masks or vaccination, but that may change. See the end of this syllabus for Carleton's current statement.

### REQUIRED TEXTS

Please consider supporting the local bookstore, *All Books*, which regularly has many copies of the texts for HUMS 2000. It is located at 327 Rideau Street, next to the Bytown Cinema. Give Mark a call at 613-789-9544 to let him know you are coming, or just drop in.

You should use the following editions. (Note some will be provided to you in PDF format):

- Aristotle. *The Basic Works of Aristotle*. Ed. Richard McKeon. New York: Random House, 1941.
- Augustine. *Confessions*. Tr. H. Chadwick. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1991.
- Boethius. *Consolation of Philosophy*. Tr. P.G. Walsh. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1999.
- Cicero. *On The Good Life*. Tr. M. Grant. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1971.
- Cicero. *On Moral Ends*. Ed. J. Annas. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001.
- Dante. *The Divine Comedy*. 3 vols. Tr. Dorothy Sayers. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1949-62.
- Ibn Tufayl, *Hayy Ibn Yaqzân*. Tr. Lenn Evan Goodman. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003.
- Moses Maimonides. *The Guide of the Perplexed*. 2 vols. Tr. Shlomo Pines. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1963. [NOTE: PDF OF EXCERPTS WILL BE PROVIDED]

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- Porete, Marguerite. *The Mirror of Simple Souls*. MMMM: Paulist Press (Classics of Western Spirituality), 1993. [NOTE: PDF OF EXCERPTS WILL BE PROVIDED]
- Plato. *Complete Works*. Ed. John M. Cooper. Indianapolis/Cambridge: Hackett, 1997.
- Plotinus. *Ennead V*. Ed. and tr. A.H. Armstrong. Loeb Classical Library. Cambridge, Mass./London: Harvard Univ. Press, 1984.
- Thomas Aquinas. *Selected Writings*. Ed. and tr. Ralph McInerny. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1998.

Exceptions:

- There may still be Penguin editions of Augustine and Boethius for a discounted price at *All Books*. It is acceptable to buy those instead of the Oxford World Classics.
- If you have a single-volume copy of the *Republic* by Bloom, Cornford, or Grube/Reeve these are acceptable.

Do not use the following translations. They are so hard to read that using them will almost certainly reduce your grade in the course. They also happen to be the ones available online.

- The Jowett translation of either Plato or Aristotle
- The McKenna translation of Plotinus
- The Cary translation of Dante.

If you wish to order the books from Amazon (in paper or on Kindle), see the links in the *HUMS 2000 Texts and Text Sources* document.

ONLINE READING

- *The Humanities Writing Guide* will be posted on cuLearn.

LAPTOP POLICY

You are strongly advised to take notes by hand rather than to use a laptop. Studies show that taking notes by hand significantly increases comprehension and retention of material. If you do use a laptop, you may have only a word processing program open. Do not use social media, surf the web, or use messaging programs, as studies also show that these create a distraction for other students and for yourself, and result in significantly reduced performance, as measured by final grades.

RECORDING CLASSES

You may only record the class session if you first ask permission of the instructor.

GRADES

Grades will be based solely on individual, academic merit as judged against absolute standards. They will not be adjusted to achieve a supposed normal distribution or manipulated in any other way.

Grades for the course will be based on the following:

Assignment 1	10%
Assignment 2	15%

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Assignment 3	15%
Assignment 4	15%
Attendance in the discussion groups	10%
Participation in the discussion groups	5%
A take-home examination due on the last day of the December formal examination period	15%
A take-home examination due on the last day of the April formal examination period	15%
Total	100%

Grades for assignments will be given as a percentage out of 100. At the end of the course you will be assigned a letter grade corresponding to your final percentage, according to the standard Carleton scale:

Standard Carleton Grade Scale				
0-49 = F	50-53 = D-	60-63 = C-	70-73 = B-	80-84 = A-
	54-56 = D	64-66 = C	74-76 = B	85-89 = A
	57-59 = D+	67-69 = C+	77-79 = B+	90-100 = A+

#### ATTENDANCE

The Bachelor of Humanities official policy on participation and attendance is the following: *Attendance and participation are critical components of all courses in the Bachelor of Humanities program. As a result, a pattern of non-attendance may in and of itself constitute sufficient grounds for awarding a final course grade of F.*

- Attendance in discussion group is worth 10% of your final grade.
- However, if you present us with a medical certificate or other documentation providing evidence of a physical or psychological condition that rendered you unable to do schoolwork on a day that you missed group, we will remove that day from consideration in your participation grade.
- You must be present for at least 25% of the discussion groups and attend lecture regularly or you will fail the course automatically, no matter how well you do on the assignments and examinations. See the section below on Automatic Failure.
- It is your responsibility to make up any material covered and find out about any announcements made on class days when you are absent.

#### PARTICIPATION

At the end of each semester, you will be asked to evaluate yourself for your overall participation in the course (which mainly means participation in discussion groups). *These two self-evaluations will be used to determine your overall mark for participation in the course.*

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We reserve the right to assign you a mark for participation if the marks you have given yourself are very clearly unjustified (by being either too high or too low). For example, you cannot give yourself a 5 out of 5, if you have attended fewer than half of the discussion groups. Only self-evaluations diverging *starkly* from what we have observed will be adjusted.

#### ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION

Assignments must be submitted electronically by being uploaded to Brightspace.

- You must submit your assignments by midnight on Friday of the week they are due.
- You must submit all your assignments electronically, in MS Word format (.doc or .docx).
- Your date and time of submission will be when the MS Word file is uploaded.
- If you upload your assignment in the wrong format (e.g. PDF, Pages, or RTF), or hand in a paper copy instead of submitting it electronically, we will not consider your assignment to have been submitted. Late penalties will accrue until the MS Word document is submitted.

#### LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments uploaded after midnight on Friday of the week they are due are late.

Late assignments will have their grade reduced by 3% per calendar day (i.e. including weekends). According to the standard Carleton scale, given above, this means that in most cases you will lose one letter grade per day that your assignment is late.

For example, an assignment that would have received a 78% (B+) would suffer the following penalties:

- 1 day late (from the beginning of class to midnight the following calendar day) = 75% (B)
- 2 days = 72% (B-)
- 3 days = 69% (C+)
- 4 days = 66% (C)
- 7 days = 57% (D+)
- 10 days = 48% (F)
- And so on, until the assignment reaches 0% (F)

Late assignments will very quickly sink to a grade of F. Hand in your assignments on time.

Even an assignment that is so late it will merit a grade of 0% (F) must be completed, or you will fail the course. See the section below on Automatic Failure.

#### 'EXTENSIONS' AND REDUCTION OF LATE PENALTIES

An extension is a private due-date for your assignment that differs from the due date every other student must meet. No extensions will be granted in this course.

However, if a physical or psychological condition, or some other unforeseen circumstances outside of your control, rendered you unable to do schoolwork for a certain period of time, let us know, and we will reduce your late-penalty in a way that corresponds to the number of days of incapacity.

For 2021-22, fill out the "[Self-declaration for Academic Accommodation \(link\)](#)" in order to let us know that you had a reason for submitting your assignment late.

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Please note that a heavy workload does not constitute a legitimate reason for lateness. Late penalties are an incentive to manage your time effectively, but they are also a consequence of failing to do so.

#### DEFERRALS OF COURSE WORK

In very exceptional circumstances you may obtain a deferral of course work from your instructors. These will only be granted in cases where serious injury, illness, or other involuntary factors have rendered you unable to work for a prolonged period of time, and where a reasonable chance of completing your course work still exists.

In order to request a deferral of course work, fill out the “[Self-declaration for Academic Accommodation \(link\)](#)” and include an additional sheet explaining your circumstances. Note that a deferral request for medical reasons does not obligate you to give your instructor details of your medical history or condition. In this case, a statement that there is a serious medical condition is sufficient.

You must request a deferral of course work from your instructors no later than three days after the deadline for the assignment you were unable to complete has passed, and an accommodation must be agreed upon, if granted, before the last day of classes.

If you do not hand in your deferred course work by the deadline for submission of grades, it will receive a 0%, and you will receive an F in the course for incomplete term work. If subsequently you hand in your deferred work, and it is accepted, your grade will then be adjusted.

Note that deferrals of course work are granted at the discretion of your instructors, and are not granted by the Registrar’s Office.

#### DEFERRALS OF EXAMINATIONS

If you are unable to hand in the December take-home Examination because of illness or some other documented reason, you must let the instructors know as soon as possible. Because it is a take-home examination, we will treat it as a deferral of course work. See the previous section of this syllabus.

If you are unable to hand in the April take-home Examination for a legitimate reason, you must petition the Registrar’s office for a ‘deferral of final exam’, and hand the exam in by the deferred due date of 1 June 2022. Note, however, that the final date to withdraw from the course is the 12th of April 2022, so only petition for a deferral of final examination if you are reasonably sure you will be able to complete it in time.

#### COMPLETION OF TERM WORK

Term work in this course consists of the four written assignments (not including Take-Home Examinations).

- The final day to hand in term work in this course is the **12th of April 2022**. If you have not submitted all of your assignments by this date, you must withdraw from the course or you will fail automatically, with a grade of ‘F’, unless granted a deferral by your instructors (see above).
- The final date to withdraw from the course is the **12th of April 2022**.
- If you hand in an assignment after the **12th of April** with documentation of proven incapacity to do schoolwork, your effective submission date will be adjusted accordingly. If the revised

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date is the **12th** or before, the assignment will be accepted. E.g. An assignment handed in on the **14th** of April with a note demonstrating six days of incapacity would have its submission date adjusted to the **8th** of April, and be accepted; a note indicating a single day's incapacity would be adjusted to the **13th**, and not be accepted.

- Realise that a doctor's note does not change the withdrawal date. So handing in an assignment after this date, even with a note, is risky. If you miscalculate, you will not at that point be able to withdraw from the course, and could fail due to incomplete term work.
- In exceptional circumstances you can petition the Registrar's office for a back-dated medical withdrawal from all of your courses in a given year.

#### COMPLETION OF FINAL TAKE-HOME EXAMINATION

The final Take-Home Examination is due on the last day of exams, which is the **27th of April 2023**. The conditions for acceptance of the final Take-Home Examination are the same as for completion of term work, except for the due date. See the previous section.

Grades in this course are due to the Registrar's office 10 days after the end of the examination period, which is the **8th of May 2023**. If you have not submitted your final examination by that point, you will receive a grade of 'F' in the course. However, if you subsequently submit your examination with sufficient medical documentation, the instructors will change your final grade accordingly. Note that the normal period during which a grade can be changed is six months after the end of the course.

#### AUTOMATIC FAILURE

To pass, students must regularly attend the lectures, complete all the written assignments, and sit both examinations, all unless formally excused by the instructors because of illness or another legitimate reason.

You will fail the course automatically, with a grade of 'F', if you:

- Do not hand in one or more assignments; and/or
- Do not hand in one or both of the take-home examinations; and/or
- Do not attend at least 25% of the discussion groups

#### GETTING HELP

We are always willing to give you whatever help we can. We are willing to help you understand and plan your assignments, give you constructive feedback, help you come up with a strategy to get your work done more efficiently, or refer you to the service on campus that can help with any serious problems that crop up.

But in order for us to help you, you must ask for our help.

- If your assignment is late, don't ignore it. You will end up failing the class. Come see one of us. Let us know that you are having problems. We will let you know what your options are, no matter how serious your circumstances may be.
- Visit us in our office hours, which we hold every week, whether you need to discuss a problem, a paper (before or after writing), or simply would like to chat about this course or another course. We can help you much more effectively one-on-one than we can in class, and that is what office hours are for.

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- Discuss your assignments with your classmates, and with students in upper years. They have all been where you are right now, and they can help you figure out whatever you find difficult.
- No one is good at everything right away. But most people make dramatic improvement with the help of others who already know the path to follow.

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FALL TERM 2022

	Date	Discussion Topics and Assignment due-dates		
1	Thu, Sep 8	Socrates on trial	Plato, <i>Apology</i>	M
2	Tue, Sep 13	Justice and piety	Plato, <i>Euthyphro</i>	M
3	Thu, Sep 15	Justice and self-knowledge	Plato, <i>Alcibiades I</i>	M
4	Tue, Sep 20	Athenian popular justice	Plato, <i>Republic I</i>	M
5	Thu, Sep 22	Justice as a social contract	<i>Republic II. 357a-368c</i>	M
6	Tue, Sep 27	Justice in the city and in the soul	<i>Republic II. 368c-IV</i>	M
7	Thu, Sep 29	The three waves	<i>Republic V-VI. 502c</i>	M
8	Tue, Oct 4	The Sun, the Line, and the Cave	<i>Republic VI. 502c-VII</i>	M
9	Thu, Oct 6	Decline of Justice in the City and in the Soul	<i>Republic VIII-IX. 576c</i>	M
10	Tue, Oct 11	Final examination of Justice; The Poets; Myth of Er	<i>Republic IX. 576c-X</i>	M
11	Thu, Oct 13	Physics & its principles; <b>first assignment due on Friday</b>	Aristotle, <i>Physics I. 1, 2, 5-9</i>	M
12	Tue, Oct 18	Nature & the four causes	<i>Physics II. 1-9</i>	S
13	Thu, Oct 20	The prime motion & mover	Aristotle, <i>Physics VIII. 1, 4, 6-10, Metaphysics XII.7</i>	S
	Oct 24-28	<i>Reading Week: no classes, discussion groups, or office hours</i>		
14	Tue, Nov 1	Happiness	Aristotle, <i>Nicomachean Ethics I. 1-7</i>	S
15	Thu, Nov 3	Moral virtue	<i>Nicomachean Ethics I. 8-9, 12-13, II. 1-6</i>	S
16	Tue, Nov 8	Moral virtue and choice	<i>Nicomachean Ethics II. 7, 9, III. 1-5</i>	S
17	Thu, Nov 10	Intellectual virtue	<i>Nicomachean Ethics VI. 1-7, 12, 13</i>	S
18	Tue, Nov 15	Contemplation	<i>Nicomachean Ethics X. 6-9</i>	S
19	Thu, Nov 17	Friendship and the good life	Cicero, 'On Friendship', in <i>On The Good Life</i>	S
20	Tue, Nov 22	The Epicurean highest good	Cicero, <i>On Moral Ends, Book I</i>	S
21	Thu, Nov 24	The Stoic highest good	Cicero, <i>On Moral Ends, Book III</i>	S
22	Tue, Nov 29	Neoplatonism	Plotinus, <i>Ennead V.2: On the origin and order of the beings which come after the First</i>	M
23	Thu, Dec 1	Soul; <b>second assignment due on Friday</b>	<i>Ennead V.1.1-3: On the three primary Hypostases</i>	M
24	Tue, Dec 6	<i>Nous</i> and the One	<i>Ennead V.1.4-12; V.8.4: On the Intelligible Beauty</i>	M



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25	Thu, Dec 8	<i>Nous</i> and the One (continued)	<i>Ennead V.5: That that Intelligibles are not outside the Intellect, and on the Good</i>	M
	Thu, Dec 22	<i>December Take-Home Examination due;</i>		

WINTER TERM 2023

	Date	Discussion Topics and Assignment due-dates		
26	Tue, Jan 10	Augustine's use of Greek philosophy; Confession & original sin	Augustine, <i>Confessions</i> , Book I	M
27	Thu, Jan 12	The nature of sin	<i>Confessions</i> , Books II-IV	M
28	Tue, Jan 17	The nature of evil and the nature of God; Conversion	<i>Confessions</i> , Books V-IX	M
29	Thu, Jan 19	Time and Eternity	<i>Confessions</i> , Books X-XIII	M
30	Tue, Jan 24	Fortune and worldly goods	Boethius, <i>Consolation of Philosophy</i> , Book I-III.8	S
31	Thu, Jan 26	The Supreme Good	<i>Consolation</i> , Book III.9-12	S
32	Tue, Jan 31	Evil and providence	<i>Consolation</i> , Book IV	S
33	Thu, Feb 2	Free will and God's eternity	<i>Consolation</i> , Book V	S
34	Tue, Feb 7	The man on the island	Ibn Tufayl, <i>Hayy Ibn Yaqzan</i>	M
35	Thu, Feb 9	Ascent and return; <b>third assignment due on Friday</b>	Ibn Tufayl, <i>Hayy Ibn Yaqzan</i>	M
36	Tue, Feb 14	A Jewish Aristotelian on faith and reason	Moses Maimonides, <i>The Guide for the Perplexed</i> , sections TBD	S
37	Thu, Feb 16	Aquinas and the Revival of Learning in the 12th and 13th Centuries;		S
	Feb 20-24	<i>Reading Week: no classes, discussion groups, or office hours; begin reading Dante</i>		
38	Tue, Feb 28	On the Divine Simplicity	Aquinas, <i>Disputed Question on the Power of God</i> , q. 7, aa. 1-7, in <i>Selected Writings</i> , pp. 290-327	S
39	Thu, Mar 2	On Law	Aquinas, <i>Summa theologiae</i> , III <sup>o</sup> , qq. 90 & 91, in <i>Selected Writings</i> , pp. 611-628	S
40	Tue, Mar 7	Beguine Mysticism	Marguerite Porete, <i>Mirror of Simple Souls</i> , sections TBD	S
41	Thu, Mar 9	Abandon all hope	Dante, <i>Hell</i> , Cantos I-X	S
42	Tue, Mar 14	The city that sin built	<i>Hell</i> , Cantos XI-XXII	S
43	Thu, Mar 16	The frozen lake	<i>Hell</i> , Cantos XXIII-XXXIV	S
44	Tue, Mar 21	Peter's gate	<i>Purgatory</i> , Cantos I-IX	S
45	Thu, Mar 23	The ascent of the mountain; <b>fourth assignment due on Friday</b>	<i>Purgatory</i> , Cantos X-XXVI	S
46	Tue, Mar 28	The earthly paradise	<i>Purgatory</i> , Cantos XXVII-XXXIII	S
47	Thu, Mar 30	His will is our peace	<i>Paradise</i> , Cantos I-IX	M
48	Tue, Apr 4	Not in my eyes alone is Paradise	<i>Paradise</i> , Cantos X-XXVII	M
49	Thu, Apr 6	The love that moves the sun and the other stars	<i>Paradise</i> , Cantos XXVIII-XXXIII	M
50	Tue, Apr 11	Conclusion		S

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Thu, Apr 27

*April Take-Home Examination due*

**CARLETON'S COVID 19 STATEMENT AS OF 15TH AUGUST 2022**

*"It is important to remember that COVID is still present in Ottawa. The situation can change at any time and the risks of new variants and outbreaks are very real. There are [a number of actions you can take](#) to lower your risk and the risk you pose to those around you including being vaccinated, wearing a mask, staying home when you re sick, washing your hands and maintaining proper respiratory and cough etiquette.*

***Feeling sick?*** *Remaining vigilant and not attending work or school when sick or with symptoms is critically important. If you feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms do not come to class or campus. If you feel ill or exhibit symptoms while on campus or in class, please leave campus immediately. In all situations, you must follow Carleton s [symptom reporting protocols](#).*

***Masks:*** *Carleton has paused the [COVID-19 Mask Policy](#), but continues to strongly recommend masking when indoors, particularly if physical distancing cannot be maintained. It may become necessary to quickly reinstate the mask requirement if pandemic circumstances were to change.*

***Vaccines:*** *Further, while proof of vaccination is no longer required as of May 1 to attend campus or in-person activity, it may become necessary for the University to bring back proof of vaccination requirements on short notice if the situation and public health advice changes. Students are strongly encouraged to get a full course of vaccination, including booster doses as soon as they are eligible, and submit their booster dose information in [cuScreen](#) as soon as possible. Please note that Carleton cannot guarantee that it will be able to offer virtual or hybrid learning options for those who are unable to attend the campus.*

*All members of the Carleton community are required to follow requirements and guidelines regarding health and safety which may change from time to time. For the most recent information about Carleton s COVID-19 response and health and safety requirements please see the [University s COVID-19 website](#) and review the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#). Should you have additional questions after reviewing, please contact [covidinfo@carleton.ca](mailto:covidinfo@carleton.ca)."*