

HUMS 4901: The Moral Philosophy of Thomas Aquinas
Winter Term, 2015
The College of the Humanities
Carleton University

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Office hours: Fridays, 1 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Course Description:

Through a close reading of major sections of his two famous *summae* – the *Summa Contra Gentiles* and the *Summa Theologiae* – we will gain insight into the principal aspects of Aquinas’ moral theory. Topics will include: the nature and cause of evil in general, and of vice and sin in particular; the nature of the highest human good, and how and to what extent we can come to realize it; the nature of moral acts and the reasoning involved in them; the nature and variety of human virtues; and the nature and basic kinds of law.

Lectures:

Mondays, 8:35 a.m. to 11:25 a.m.

Required Texts:

Aquinas, Thomas. *Basic Writings of Saint Thomas Aquinas: Volumes I and II*. Ed. A.C. Pegis. Indianapolis: Hackett, 1997.

Grades for this course will be based on:

- (1) class participation, worth 25% of the final grade;
- (2) one annotated bibliography with 10 entries, due on the last day of class, worth 25% of the final grade;
- (3) one 10 to 15 page paper, (due date to be discussed in class) and worth 50% of the final grade.

Lecture and Reading Schedule:

#:	Date:	Topic:	Reading
1	Jan. 5 th	Moral Psychology	<i>Summa Theologiae</i> I, 79-83
2	Jan 12 th	The Highest Human Good I	<i>Summa Contra Gentiles</i> III, 1-37
3	Jan. 19 th	The Highest Human Good II	<i>S.C.G.</i> III, 38-41, 45-63
4	Jan. 26 th	Human Acts I	<i>S.T. IaIIae</i> , qq. 6-11
5	Feb. 2 nd	Human Acts II	<i>S.T. IaIIae</i> , qq. 12-17
6	Feb. 9 th	Human Acts III	<i>S.T. IaIIae</i> , qq. 18-21
7	Feb. 23 rd	Habit	<i>S.T. IaIIae</i> , qq. 49-54
8	Mar. 2 nd	Virtue I	<i>S.T. IaIIae</i> , qq. 55-60
9	Mar. 9 th	Virtue II	<i>S.T. IaIIae</i> , qq. 61-70

10	Mar. 23 rd	Vice and Sin	<i>S.T. IaIIae, qq. 71-78</i>
11	Mar. 30 th	Original Sin	<i>S.T. IaIIae, qq. 79-89</i>
12	Apr. 6 th	Treatise on Law	<i>S.T. IaIIae, qq. 90-97</i>

Regulations Applying Specifically to HUMS 4901:

General Course Requirements: To pass, students must regularly attend and actively participate in seminar meetings, and complete all the written assignments, all unless formally excused by the Instructor because of illness or some other legitimate reason. Failure to complete all the written assignments will result in the grade F.

Attendance: Students are responsible for all material covered, announcements made, course documents distributed, and assignments returned, whether they are present in class or not.

Late Assignments: Assignments will be docked one grade-point (e.g., from a B+ to a B) for each day after their due-date. Late penalties on assignments accompanied by a medical certificate or other proof of a legitimate reason for lateness will be adjusted accordingly.

Submission Guidelines: All written assignments for this course are to be uploaded to cuLearn.

REGULATIONS COMMON TO ALL HUMANITIES COURSES

COPIES OF WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED

Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in “*substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.*”

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of “F” for the course

GRADING SYSTEM

Letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100 (12)	B = 73-76 (8)	C - = 60-62 (4)
A = 85-89 (11)	B- = 70-72 (7)	D+ = 57-59 (3)
A- = 80-84 (10)	C+ = 67-69 (6)	D = 53-56 (2)
B+ = 77-79 (9)	C = 63-66 (5)	D - = 50-52 (1)

F	Failure. Assigned 0.0 grade points
ABS	Absent from final examination, equivalent to F
DEF	Official deferral (see “Petitions to Defer”)
FND	Failure with no deferred exam allowed -- assigned only when the student has failed the course on the basis of inadequate term work as specified in the course outline.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean.

WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY

The last date to withdraw from **FALL TERM** courses is **DEC. 8, 2014**. The last day to withdraw from **FALL/WINTER (Full Term)** and **WINTER** term courses is **APRIL 8, 2015**.

REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of disability, pregnancy or religious obligations. Please review the course outline promptly and write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at: carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that your Instructor receives your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you only require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by **Nov. 7, 2014** for the Fall term and **March 6, 2015** for the Winter term. For more details visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/

PETITIONS TO DEFER

If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a **FINAL** assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply a deferral of examination/assignment. If you are applying for a deferral due to illness you will be required to see a physician in order to confirm illness and obtain a medical certificate dated no later than one working day after the examination or assignment deadline. This supporting documentation must specify the date of onset of the illness, the degree of incapacitation, and the expected date of recovery.

If you are applying for a deferral for reasons other than personal illness, please [contact](#) the Registrar’s Office directly for information on other forms of documentation that we accept.

Deferrals of assignments must be supported by confirmation of the assignment due date, for example a copy of the course outline specifying the due date and any documented extensions from the course instructor.

Deferral applications for examination or assignments must be submitted within **5 working days** of the original final exam.

ADDRESSES: (Area Code 613)

College of the Humanities 520-2809	300 Paterson
Greek and Roman Studies Office 520-2809	300 Paterson
Religion Office 520-2100	2A39 Paterson
Registrar's Office 520-3500	300 Tory
Student Academic Success Centre 520-7850	302 Tory
Paul Menton Centre 520-6608/TTY 520-3937	501 Uni-Centre
Writing Tutorial Service 520-2600 Ext. 1125	4 th Floor Library
Learning Support Service 520-2600 Ext 1125	4 th Floor Library