**Carleton University 2022–2023**

**Department of Philosophy**

**PHIL 3010A Winter Term**

**Global Philosophical Traditions:**

**Islamic Philosophy**

**Instructor**: Professor Mohammed Rustom

**Email**: [mohammed.rustom@carleton.ca](mailto:mohammed.rustom@carleton.ca)

*\* Emails are to be professional and free of solecisms*

**Office**: PA 2A61, 520-2600, ext. 1954

**Office hours**: Mondays, 12:00-2:00 pm

**Lectures**: MB 3356; Mondays, 2:25-5:35 pm

**Course Description**

This course will begin with an inquiry into what “philosophy” means in various civilizations and to large sectors of humanity beyond the Anglo-American and European worlds. We will then seek to highlight the depth, diversity, and creativity of one major non-Western philosophical tradition, namely Islamic philosophy. Areas covered include the nature of being and consciousness, cosmology, self-knowledge, philosophy of language, the cultivation of virtue, selfhood, death, and freedom.

**Learning Objectives**

*By the completion of this course, students will*:

* Have a broader conception of philosophy and epistemic diversity
* Be able to engage with a major non-Western philosophical text in translation
* Understand the worldview of Islamic philosophy and its attendant problems

**Required Texts**

Van Norden, *Taking Back Philosophy* = *TBP*

Chittick, *The Heart of Islamic Philosophy* = *HIP* (course site)

**Requirements and Due Dates**

/25 Assignment 1

/30 Assignment 2

/35 Assignment 3

/10 Active Participation

**Schedule of Lectures and Readings**

**Jan. 9 What is Islamic Philosophy?**

Readings

*HIP*, 29-34; 69-74; *TBP*, foreword (Garfield) and chapter 1

**Jan. 16 Metaphysics**

Readings

*HIP*, 34-45; 90-97; *TBP*, chapters 2-3

**Jan. 23 Cosmology**

Readings

*HIP*, 45-61; *TBP*, chapters 4-5

**Jan. 30 Anthropology**

Readings

*HIP*, 61-67

**Feb. 6 Psychology**

Readings

*HIP*, 74-90

**Feb. 13 The Pursuit of Wisdom**

Readings

*Essay on Disengagement and Struggle* (*HIP*, 128-129)

*The Testament of the Sages* (*HIP*, 131-132)

*Advice to Seekers of Wisdom* (*HIP*, 133-134)

**Feb. 20 Reading week; no class**

**Feb. 27 Theoretical Perfection**

Readings

*Essay on Salvation* (*HIP*, 135-137)

*Quatrains* (*HIP*, 143)

**Mar. 6 Intelligence and Deliverance**

Readings

*Essay on Intellect* (*HIP*, 170)

*Security from the Soul’s Nullification* (*HIP*, 170-174)

**Mar. 13 Self-Recognition**

Readings

*The Book of the Everlasting* (*HIP*, 202-212)

**Mar. 20**  **Self-Awareness**

Readings

*The Book of the Road’s End* (*HIP*, 279-281)

**Mar. 27 Death and Dying**

Readings

*The Book of the Everlasting* (*HIP*, 224-233)

**Apr. 3**  **Liberation**

Readings

*The Rungs of Perfection* (*HIP*, 262-267)

**Apr. 10 Course Wrap-up**

Readings

*The Book of the Road’s End* (*HIP*, 128-129)

**Assignment 1**

**Instructions**

Carefully read Bryan Van Norden’s book, *Taking Back Philosophy*. The first part of the paper must thoroughly summarize the book’s content (but not chapter-by-chapter). The second part must offer an analysis of the author’s underlying argument.

**Value**

The paper is out of 25, and is worth 25% of the total course mark.

**Due Date**

Papers are due at the beginning of class on **February 6th**.

**Late Assignments**

Papers submitted late due to medical or other compassionate reasons must be accompanied by relevant documentation (i.e., a medical certificate, etc.).

**Form**

1. Your paper should be **six** full pages in length, double spaced, and written in Times New Roman font (size 12).
2. Diction is to be formal, and each piece is to be written in Canadian English. Grammar, syntax, spelling, and style must be impeccable. You may write in the first person.
3. At the top right of the first page of your paper, include the course code, your full name, and the assignment’s due date. This should be in Times New Roman font (size 12).
4. When citing materials, provide the passages in quotation marks, and then, in brackets directly following the quoted passage, include the page number, preceded by a “p.”

**Assignment 2**

**Instructions**

Offer a thorough summary of *The Testament of the Sages*. Then, explain whether or not the path to wisdom laid out in this text is a cogent one.

**Value**

The paper is out of 30, and is worth 30% of the total course mark.

**Due Date**

Papers are due at the beginning of class on **March 13th**.

**Late Assignments**

Papers submitted late due to medical or other compassionate reasons must be accompanied by relevant documentation (i.e., a medical certificate, etc.).

**Form**

1. Your paper should be **eight** full pages in length, double spaced, and written in Times New Roman font (size 12).
2. Diction is to be formal, and each piece is to be written in Canadian English. Grammar, syntax, spelling, and style must be impeccable. You may write in the first person.
3. At the top right of the first page of your paper, include the course code, your full name, and the assignment’s due date. This should be in Times New Roman font (size 12).
4. When citing materials, provide the passages in quotation marks, and then, in brackets directly following the quoted passage, include the page number, preceded by a “p.”

**Assignment 3**

**Instructions**

With reference to the assigned texts in *HIP*, what, according to Islamic philosophy, is self-knowledge?

**Value**

The paper is out of 35, and is worth 35% of the total course mark.

**Due Date**

Papers are due at the beginning of class on **April 10th**.

**Late Assignments**

Papers submitted late due to medical or other compassionate reasons must be accompanied by relevant documentation (i.e., a medical certificate, etc.).

**Form**

1. Your paper should be **ten** full pages in length, double spaced, and written in Times New Roman font (size 12).
2. Diction is to be formal, and each piece is to be written in Canadian English. Grammar, syntax, spelling, and style must be impeccable. You may write in the first person.
3. At the top right of the first page of your paper, include the course code, your full name, and the assignment’s due date. This should be in Times New Roman font (size 12).
4. When citing materials, provide the passages in quotation marks, and then, in brackets directly following the quoted passage, include the page number, preceded by a “p.”

**Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies (Fall/Winter 2022-23)**

**Assignments:**

Please follow your professor’s instructions on how assignments will be handled electronically. There will be NO hard copies placed in the essay box this coming year.

**Evaluation:**

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

**Deferrals for Term Work:**

If students are unable to complete term work because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control, they should contact their course instructor no later than *three working days* of the due date. Normally, any deferred term work will be completed by the last day of the term. Term work cannot be deferred by the Registrar.

**Deferrals for Final Exams:**

Students are expected to be available for the duration of a course including the examination period. Occasionally, students encounter circumstances beyond their control where they may not be able to write a final examination or submit a take-home examination. Examples of this would be a serious illness or the death of a family member. If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a take-home examination by the due date, you may apply for a deferral no later than *three working days* after the original due date (as per the University Regulations in [Section 4.3 of the Undergraduate Calendar](https://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/examinations/#deferred-final-exams)). Visit the [Registrar’s Office](https://carleton.ca/registrar/special-requests/) for further information.

**Plagiarism:**

It is the responsibility of each student to understand the meaning of ‘plagiarism’ as defined in the Undergraduate or Graduate Calendars, and to avoid both committing plagiarism and aiding or abetting plagiarism by other students. ([Section 10.1 of the Undergraduate Calendar Academic Regulations](https://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/academic-integrity-and-offenses-of-conduct/#academic-integrity-policy))

**Academic Accommodation:**

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term:

* *Pregnancy or religious obligation*: write to your professor 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. For more details visit the [EDC](https://carleton.ca/edc/teachingresources/administrative-pedagogy/academic-accommodations/) website.
* *Academic accommodations for students with disabilities:* The [Paul Menton Centre](https://carleton.ca/pmc/) for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class test or exam requiring accommodation. After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your professor to ensure accommodation arrangements are made.
* *Survivors of Sexual Violence*: As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and where survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per [Carleton’s Sexual Violence Policy](https://carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support/).
* *Accommodation for* [*Student Activities*](https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf)*:* Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor 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.

**Important Dates:**

Sept. 7 Classes start.

Sept. 20 Last day for registration and course changes for fall term and fall/winter (two-term) courses.

Sept. 30 Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from fall term or two-term courses. Withdrawals after this date will result in a permanent notation of WDN on the official transcript.

Oct. 10 Statutory holiday. University closed.

Oct. 24-28 Fall Break – no classes.

Nov. 25 Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, before the official examination period.

Dec. 9 Last day of fall term classes. ***Classes follow a Monday schedule***. Last day for academic withdrawal from fall term courses. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for term work for a fall term course.

Dec. 10-22 Final examinations for fall term courses and mid-term examinations in two-term courses. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.

Dec. 22 All take-home examinations are due.

Jan. 9 Classes begin.

Jan. 20 Last day for registration and course changes in the winter term.

Jan. 31 Last day for a full fee adjustment when withdrawing from winter term courses or from the winter portion of two-term courses. Withdrawals after this date will result in a permanent notation of WDN on the official transcript.

Feb. 20 Statutory holiday. University closed.

Feb. 20-24 Winter Break – no classes.

Mar. 29 Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in winter term or fall/winter courses before the official examination period.

Apr. 7 Statutory holiday. University closed.

Apr. 12 Last day of two-term and winter term classes. ***Classes follow a Friday schedule.*** Last day for academic withdrawal from fall/winter and winter courses. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for two-term and for winter term courses.

Apr. 13-14 No classes or examinations take place.

Apr. 15-27 Final examinations for winter term and two-term courses. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.

Apr. 27 All take-home examinations are due.

**Addresses:**

Department of Philosophy:

[www.carleton.ca/philosophy](http://www.carleton.ca/philosophy)

520-2110

Registrar’s Office:

[www.carleton.ca/registrar](http://www.carleton.ca/registrar)

520-3500

Academic Advising Centre:

[www.carleton.ca/academicadvising](http://www.carleton.ca/academicadvising)

520-7850

Writing Services:

<http://www.carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/>

520-3822

MacOdrum Library

<http://www.library.carleton.ca/>

520-2735