Introduction to Philosophy: Freedom

Philosophy 2
Fall 2006

home pages:
for Philosophy 2:  www9.georgetown.edu/faculty/blattnew/2/index.htm
for this semester: www9.georgetown.edu/faculty/blattnew/2/06c/index.htm

Course Syllabus

Course Description:
What is human freedom? Is there such a thing anyhow? In this course we will look at several of the conceptions of human freedom offered in the Western philosophical tradition. You will learn not only the content of these views, but how to analyze and confront them critically.

Role of the Course’s Web pages:
The most up-to-date information about this course, the readings, and the assignments is always the course’s Web pages. You are responsible for checking the course’s Web pages the day before each class meeting (both lectures and section meetings), or whenever directed to do so by email. Course emails will be sent to your GU Mail account; be sure that your GU Mail account is properly configured.

Course Requirements:
You will write three short formal papers, distributed somewhat equally throughout the semester, as well as one preliminary short-response paper. Your grade will be based on your papers. You must complete all assignments to pass the course. For more information, consult the course’s Web pages.

Late papers: unexcused late papers will be graded down one grade step (e.g., B+ to B) per two business days late. Please discuss legitimate excuses with your teaching assistant as early as possible, and consult my blurb on good excuses (on the Web). Having to take midterms on the same day or having several assignments from multiple classes due at the same time are not legitimate. The formal paper assignments will be posted at least two weeks in advance of the due date. Plan in advance!

Attendance policy: Attendance in section is required. Your teaching assistant will keep attendance records. If you accumulate three unexcused absences from discussion section, you will receive an “F” for the course.

Academic Integrity: In accordance with University policy, any suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be turned over to the Honor Council for investigation. If the Honor Council confirms that a violation of the Honor Code has taken place, the violator will receive an "F" grade for the course (not just the assignment).
Course Prerequisites:
There are no prerequisites for this course. This course satisfies the University core requirement in general philosophy.

Who Should NOT Take This Course
If you are a senior, you should not be enrolled in this course. It is a first- or second-year level course.

If you have taken an ethics course already, you are strongly encouraged to take a Bridge level course in General Philosophy (Philosophy 150-199) instead of this course.

Texts:
- Derk Pereboom, ed., *Free Will*. Hackett

Discussion Sections
Teaching Assistants TBA

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<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Walsh 494A</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Thursday, 6:15</td>
<td>Walsh 391</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>4</td>
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