Administrative Unit: History and Social Sciences Department

Course Prefix and Number: PHIL 321

Course Title: Major Figures and Schools: Ancient to Medieval

Number of: Credit Hours: 3 Lecture Hours: 3 Laboratory Hours: 0

Catalog Description: Intensive study of treatises by major philosophers in the ancient and medieval world.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Junior standing or instructor’s permission.

Text(s): Any number of surveys of ancient and medieval philosophy.

Plato, Collected Dialogues.
Aristotle, Metaphysics, Physics, De Anima.
Aquinas, Summa Theologica.

Course Objectives:
- To be familiar with the matter and method of ancient western philosophy as well as medieval philosophy.
- To be familiar with some of the classic texts from ancient and medieval philosophy.
- To understand the views of some of the giants of ancient and medieval philosophy as well as the arguments in support of those views.
- To understand the lasting influence ancient and medieval philosophy has upon modern philosophy.

Measurable Learning Outcomes
- Read classic philosophical prose for critical understanding.
- Understand the classic issues and problems in ancient and medieval philosophy.
- Formalize sophisticated philosophical arguments.
- Analyze and provide criticism of sophisticated philosophical arguments.
- Understand the method of western philosophy and how contemporary philosophy treats the history of philosophy.

Topical Outline (major areas of coverage):
Instructors may choose to concentrate on one major figure of the period or conduct an historical survey.
- Pre-Socratics
- Plato
  - The Historical Socrates
  - Virtues
  - Forms
  - Later Plato’s Criticism of the Forms
- Aristotle
  - Form and Matter
  - Proofs for God
- Stoics
- Neo-Platonism
- Augustine
- The Apologists: Aquinas/Avicenna/Maimonides

Recommended maximum class size for this course: 20

Library Resources: Online databases are available at [http://www.ccis.edu/offices/library/resources.asp](http://www.ccis.edu/offices/library/resources.asp). You may access them from off-campus using your eServices login and password when prompted.

Prepared by: Mark L. Price

Name ________________________ Signature ________________________

Date: September 27, 2005

NOTE: The intention of the master syllabus is to provide an outline of the contents of this course, as specified by the faculty of Columbia College, regardless of who teaches the course, when it is taught or where it is taught. Faculty members teaching this course for Columbia College are expected to facilitate learning pursuant to the course objectives and cover the subjects listed in the topical outline. However, instructors are also encouraged to cover additional topics of interest so long as those topics are relevant to the course’s subject. The master syllabus is, therefore, prescriptive in nature but also allows for a diversity of individual approaches to course material.