PROCLAMATION.

EDUCATIONAL DECREE

N° 01

Philosophical Themes
at
Hogwarts

will MEET in 043 McMicken Hall
on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:05am until 10:00am
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EDUCATIONAL DECREE

ürnberg

THOMAS WILLIAM POLGER

Has Been APPOINTED to the POST of
HEADMASTER OF HOGWARTS
and PROFESSOR of this Class

with office hours:
Department of Philosophy, 206B McMicken
MONDAYS, 10:00-11:00, and by appointment
(“Help will always be given at Hogwarts to those who ask for it.”)

THOMAS.POLGER@UC.EDU

TEXT ONLY: 513-813-7445
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No. 13

The KEEPER OF KEYS AND GROUNDS with his office in

257 McMicken Hall

is:

MATTHEW WILLIS

office hours: Wednesdays, 1:00-2:00pm
e-mail: willi4m7@mail.uc.edu
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No. 16

All STUDENTS must acquire the texts:

THE ULTIMATE HARRY POTTER
AND PHILOSOPHY:
HOGWARTS FOR MUGGLES

plus

VARIOUS OTHER READINGS
via Blackboard
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EDUCATIONAL DECREE

№ 35

students are hereby directed to achieve the

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

for this class:

DEVELOP FAMILIARITY WITH PHILOSOPHICAL ISSUES
practice reading and analyzing philosophical texts
create and evaluate

PHILOSOPHICAL REASONING
including understanding historical works as well as inventing original ideas
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EDUCATIONAL DECREE

No. 46

Students will be sorted into houses:

Gryffindor
Hufflepuff
Ravenclaw
Slytherin
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No. 47

ACTIVITIES and Grades have been approved by the MINISTRY and HEADMASTER.

There will be some individual assignments and one HOUSE assignment.

INDIVIDUAL ASSIGNMENTS
8 Very Short Scrolls;
1 Short Scroll;
2 Quizzes;
and 1 long scroll

HOUSE ASSIGNMENTS
1 Quidditch Tournament; plus House Points

For DETAILS see the addendum to EDUCATIONAL DECREE No. 47
ADDENDUM.  
TO EDUCATIONAL DECREE No. 47

Individual Assignments with scheduled due dates

- Very Short Scrolls  quasi-weekly  40%
- Short Scroll  Feb 1  10%
- O.W.L. Quiz  March 3  10%
- N.E.W.T. Quiz  April 7  10%
- Long Scroll  April 26  20%

House Assignment with scheduled due dates

- Quidditch Tournament  April 14-16  10%
- House Cup  Extra credit up to 6%

**QUizzes.** Two in-class quizzes—O.W.L. and N.E.W.T. Quizzes—will be cumulative.

**VERY SHORT SCROLLS.** Approximately once per week there will be an opportunity to write a Very Short Scroll of 22 inches or less (about 2 pages or fewer) in which you respond to a specific prompt given in class. There will be at least ten (10) opportunities in the semester, and you must satisfactorily complete at least eight (8) Very Short Scrolls to get full credit. More details will be provided in class.

**SHORT SCROLL.** Each student will select one magical phenomenon or object not already scheduled for classroom discussion, and write a short scroll of about 33 inches (750 words, 3 pages typed and double-spaced) in which (1) the item or spell is described, and (2) a brief explanation is made of how this item or spell raises one or more philosophical issues, and how those issues might be interesting or important, (3) at least five bibliographic resources are identified that could be useful, at least three of which are philosophical chapters or articles. More details will be provided in class.

**QUIDDITCH TOURNAMENT.** Using the very short scrolls as a basis, students in each House (group) will prepare a group presentation in which they clearly explain the philosophical issue raised by an item or spell, and in which they propose and defend a philosophical analysis of the item or spell, being sure to make use of the previously identified bibliographic resources. Presentations will be graded, and exceptional presentations may win House Points (extra credit) of up to 6%.

**LONG SCROLL.** Each student will prepare one Individual Long Scroll of approximately 66 inches (1500 words, or about 5-6 typed and double-spaced pages). This will be a traditional philosophy paper due during exam week; detailed instructions will be provided at least one week in advance.
You are responsible for knowing and following all University and College regulations, for example with respect to registration, drop or withdrawal, and grading status.

Any student who, because of a disabling condition, needs special arrangements to meet course requirements must contact us immediately so that the appropriate arrangements can be made. (All disabilities must be documented with the University.)

Any student who requires additional accommodation, e.g., for religious or cultural observances, must notify the instructor in advance.

Many students use laptops, tablets, etc. in class for note taking and for access to online course materials. Such use is permitted so long as it is not distracting to students or instructors, or otherwise disruptive to the classroom environment. Texting is always distracting. Please turn off ringers on your cell phones, as well as the audio feedback or speakers on any other electronic devices. Use of headphones, earbuds, or similar is prohibited excepting documented medical need. Use of portable electronic devices is subject to the usual standards of classroom decorum and common courtesy. You may at any time be asked to discontinue use.

The readings, assignments, and schedule are subject to change. You must attend class to receive the updates. You should expect to be treated with respect and fairness by the instructors and by your classmates. Among other things, you should expect that you understand how your work is graded, and that the instructors make themselves available to answer questions.
Students have access to counseling and mental health care through the University Health Services (UHS), which can provide both psychotherapy and psychiatric services. In addition, Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) can provide professional counseling upon request; students may receive five free counseling sessions through CAPS without insurance. Students are encouraged to seek assistance for anxiety, depression, trauma/assault, adjustment to college life, interpersonal/relational difficulty, sexuality, family conflict, grief and loss, disordered eating and body image, alcohol and substance abuse, anger management, identity development and issues related to diversity, concerns associated with sexual orientation and spirituality concerns, as well as any other issue of concern. After hours, students may call UHS at 513-556-2564 or CAPS Cares at 513-556-0648. For urgent physician consultation after-hours students may call 513-584-7777.

Title IX is a federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of your actual or perceived sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation. Title IX also covers sexual violence, dating or domestic violence, and stalking. If you disclose a Title IX issue to me, I am required forward that information to the Title IX Office. They will follow up with you about how the University can take steps to address the impact on you and the community and make you aware of your rights and resources. Their priority is to make sure you are safe and successful here. You are not required to talk with the Title IX Office. If you would like to make a report of sex or gender-based discrimination, harassment or violence, or if you would like to know more about your rights and resources on campus, you can consult the website www.uc.edu/titleix or contact the office at 556-3349.
PROCLAMATION.

EDUCATIONAL DECREE

No. 73

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

(1) **UC is closed:** No class.

(2) **Cincinnati Public Schools are closed:** check Blackboard.

(3) UC or CPS are delayed or partially closed: check Blackboard.

(4) Inclement weather does not delay or extend scheduled due dates or quiz dates, unless class is cancelled on the quiz day

(5) Use **common sense:** Do not endanger yourself or others.

(6) Do not use (5) as an **excuse**, or abuse the **trust** implied.

(7) **In particular:** You are **responsible** for any material missed, even if you are invoking clause (5).
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EDUCATIONAL DECREE

No. 87

Class will be conducted according to the UNIVERSITY Student Code of Conduct. Suspected VIOLATIONS of the Student Code of Conduct will be sent to the Hogwarts High Inquisitor and reported via the Academic Misconduct Process.

ANY STUDENT WHO IS ACADEMICALLY DISHONEST WILL FAIL THE COURSE. Further actions may be taken. Please familiarize yourself with the University guidelines on academic integrity, paying special attention to the guidelines regarding plagiarism, which we take very seriously. Note that it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to avoid academic dishonesty, and you can be held responsible for PLAGIARISM even if you did not intend to commit the act.
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No. 99

Week 1, January 9, 11, 13 — Introduction & Transfiguration

Sortal Concepts and Essential Properties I: Substance Sortals and Essential Sortals, Ch. 7 from How Things Might Have Been, Penelope Mackie (PDF)

Week 2, January 18, 20 — Levitation, Apparition, and Time Turners

No Class, January 16 — MLK Day

McTaggart on Time (1/2), Dr. Bowers' Office Hours (YouTube)

Space, Time, and Magic, Michael Silberstein (PDF)

Week 3, January 23, 25, 27 — Horcruxes, Part I: What Are Souls?

The Soul in Harry Potter, Scott Sehon (UHP)

De Anima, Book II, Aristotle (PDF)

Meditation II, René Descartes (PDF)
Week 4, January 30, February 1 & 3 — Death

Death, Thomas Nagel (PDF)
Why Harry and Socrates Decide to Die, Michael W. Austin (UHP)

February 1, Short Scroll Due

Week 5, February 6, 8, 10 — Prophecy and Free Will

Destiny in the Wizarding World, Jeremy Pierce (UHP)
The Prophecy-Driven Life: Fate and Freedom at Hogwarts, Gregory Bassham (PDF)
Causation, Prophetic Visions, and the Free Will Question in Harry Potter, Patricia Donaher and James Okapal (PDF)

Week 6, February 13, 15, 17 — Thestrals, Boggarts, and the Pensieve

Thestrals, J. K. Rowling (web)
Boggarts, J. K. Rowling (web)
Cognitive Penetration and the Epistemology of Perception, Nicholas Silins (PDF)
A Pensieve for Your Thoughts? Harry Potter and the Magic of Memory, Amy Kind (UHP)

Week 7, February 20, 22, 24 — Horcruxes, Part II: What Are Persons?

Of Identity and Diversity, John Locke (PDF)
Sirius Black: Man or Dog?, Eric Saidel (UHP)

February 24, No Class; Quidditch Tournament Preparation
February 24, UC Philosophy Colloquium: Embodied Awareness

Week 8, February 27, March 1 & 3 — Spells and the Limits of Magic

How to Do Things With Words, selections from Lectures I & II, J. L. Austin (PDF)
The Five Principal Exceptions to Gamp’s Law of Elemental Transfiguration, David Haber (web)
March 3, O.W.L. Quiz
Week 9, March 6, 8, 10: Dumbledore, Grindelwald, and Voldemort: Politics and Power

Dumbledore’s Politics, Beth Admiraal and Regan Lance Reitsma (UHP)

Dumbledore, Plato, and the Lust for Power, David Lay Williams and Alan J. Kellner (UHP)

March 10, No Class; Quidditch Tournament Preparation

Week 10, March 13, 15, 17: Spring Break

Week 11, March 20, 22, 24: Absurdity and the Meaning of Life

The Absurd, Thomas Nagel (PDF)

The Meanings of Lives, Susan Wolf (PDF)

Beyond Godric’s Hollow: Life After Death and the Search for Meaning, Jonathan L. Walls and Jerry L. Walls (UHP)

Week 12, March 27, 29, 31: Truth in Fiction

Fiction and Metaphysics, Ch. 1, Amie Thomasson (PDF)

Is Dumbledore Gay? Who’s to Say?, Tamar Szabo Gendler (UHP)

March 31, No Class; Quidditch Tournament Preparation

Week 13, April 3, 5, 7: House Elves and Hermione

April 3, No Class; Quidditch Tournament Preparation

Kreacher’s Lament: S.P.E.W. as a Parable on Discrimination, Indifference, and Social Justice, Steven W. Patterson (PDF)

Harry Potter, Radical Feminism, and the Power of Love, Anne Collins Smith (UHP)

April 7, N.E.W.T. Quiz
Week 14, April 10, 12, 14 — Luck and Love

Moral Luck, Bernard Williams (PDF)
Moral Luck, Thomas Nagel (PDF)
Love Potion No. 9 ¾, Gregory Bassham (UHP)

April 12-14, TBD

Week 15, April 17, 19, 21 — The Marauders Map and the Ministry

Orwellian Themes in Harry Potter, Stephanie Smith (PDF)
Use Facebook Messenger? Marauders Map app can pinpoint your location to within 3 feet,
Darlene Storm (web)

April 19-21, Quidditch Tournament

Week 16, April 24-28 — Exam Week

April 20, Long Scroll Due