

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
Twentieth Century Philosophy

PHL418
Spring 2017

Course Syllabus

Dr. David Godden

Basic Course Information:

Classes: Mon. & Wed. 12:40 – 2:00pm 115 Berkey Hall

Instructor:

Dr. David Godden

Office: 515 S. Kedzie Hall

Office Hours: most Mon. & Wed. 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm (if door is closed, please knock);
or by luck or appointment

Email: dgodden@msu.edu (**Subject line includes course “PHL418”**)

Phone: 517 884 7682 Email is strongly preferred. Phone messages will be responded to by email, so please leave your email address (spell it out!) in the phone message.

Course Texts:

1. (Required) Russell, B. ([1918] 1985). *The Philosophy of Logical Atomism*, David Pears (ed.). La Salle, Illinois: Open Court. ISBN: 978-0875484433 ([approx. \\$25.00 on Amazon](#))
2. (Required) Ayer, A.J. ([1936/1946] 1952). *Language, Truth & Logic*, 2nd ed. New York: Dover. ISBN: 978-0486200101 ([approx. \\$7.00 on Amazon](#))
3. (Required) Wittgenstein, L. ([1950-1951] 1969). *On Certainty*. (G.E.M. Anscombe & G.H. von Wright (eds.); D. Paul & G.E.M. Anscombe (trans.)) New York: Harper & Row. ISBN: 978-0061316869 ([approx. \\$15.00 on Amazon](#))
4. (Required) Sellars, W. ([1956] 1997). *Empiricism and the Philosophy of Mind*. (with Introduction by R. Rorty, and Study Guide by R. Brandom.) Cambridge, MA: Harvard UP. ISBN: 978-0674251557 ([approx. \\$30.00 on Amazon](#))

Plus additional readings as assigned through the course. (See Tentative Reading Schedule, below).

Course Description:

Catalog Description: PHL 418 Seminar in 20th Century Philosophy. Total Credits: 3 Lecture/Recitation/Discussion Hours: 3 Emphasis on important philosophers or movements in the analytic or continental traditions of the 20th century, extending to the present. Variable by term in content and approach. Recommended Background: ([PHL211](#) [Modern Philosophy]) or 2 other philosophy courses.

PHL418 Seminar in 20th Century Philosophy: This course provides a problem-oriented, critical and comparative introduction to the history of philosophy in the Anglo-American, analytical tradition, from the turn of the 20th century. Topics to be covered include the major philosophical movements of the period, beginning with Mill's empiricism and Bradley's idealism, proceeding through Frege's logicism, Wittgenstein's *Tractatus*, Russell's logical atomism, Logical Positivism, transitional and later-Wittgenstein, Oxford ordinary language philosophy, and American pragmatism, and Quinean naturalism, concluding with Sellars. Students will be expected to articulate a critical understanding of the problems motivating each position and the main arguments supporting and criticizing them, as well as constructing an overarching narrative explaining the historical development of the various theories studied in the course.

Detailed Description:

Course Learning Goals: The general goal of this course is to provide you with a historical and critical understanding enabling you to explain and critically evaluate the various theories and methodologies historically characteristic of early analytical philosophy. More specifically, the learning goals of this course are: (i) to provide you with a historical and contextual understanding of the works studied enabling you to explain their role in the overall development of contemporary philosophical methodologies and research agenda, and topics including

metaphysics, epistemology, (meta)ethics and philosophical methodology; (ii) to provide you with a problem-oriented understanding of the predominant positions in analytical philosophy (including logical atomism, logical positivism, ordinary language philosophy and naturalism) enabling you to explain each theory and methodology in relation to the problems it attempts to solve as well as its competitors and alternatives; and (iii) based on (i) and (ii) to provide you with a critical and comparative understanding of the works studied, enabling you to explain and critically evaluate their central theories, methods and arguments.

Course Learning Objectives: By the end of this course, you should be able to (clearly and in your own terms):

- describe and apply the critical and analytical concepts and methods discussed in the course for the analysis and evaluation of the central problems in analytical philosophy
- by describing the central tenets of the various theories studied in the course, explain the rational structure of each theory and the central arguments offered for each position, and explain by comparison how different theories relate to one another at a rational level
- describe the problem(s) motivating each theory, and explain how each theory goes about solving them
- by applying the critical and analytical concepts and methods introduced in the course, explain the central criticisms raised against each theory, critically analyse some of the arguments considered in the course,
- synthesize the major theoretical and methodological themes discussed throughout the course, by classifying, describing, comparing, and giving an overall account of the various approaches studied in the course in relation to a common set of philosophical problems
- give a general historical narrative of the development of the theories considered in the course
- effectively communicate all of the above through the composition of argumentative essays
- articulate a position concerning the acceptability of some position, theory or argument discussed in the course by expressing, in a clear and organized manner, a cogent argument which, where appropriate, draws upon relevant material in the theoretical and / or empirical literature discovered through class discussion and your own independent research

Course Topics: The course will follow the basic plan of the Tentative Reading Schedule (below). This may be revised in light of our progress through the course material.

Evaluation:

Basic Mark Breakdown

1. Reading Responses (pass 10 of 14 possible submissions 4 x 5%)	20%
2. Critical Book Reviews (best 3 of 4 possible 3 x 15%)	45%
3. Final Examination (Take Home)	25%
4. Participation	10%

Notes on Evaluation

1. *Reading Responses:* The purpose of the reading response is to allow students summarize, reflect upon, and engage with, the course material as we progress through it. It is intended not only to ensure that students come to class prepared to contribute to group learning activities, but also to provide students an occasion to articulate and develop their own personal thoughts about (i.e., questions about, insights into, or criticisms of) the theories and arguments discussed in the course. Students are encouraged to approach their Reading Responses as preparation for class discussion and their take-home final exam, by addressing in their Responses the kinds of topics, themes, and problems discussed throughout the course and mentioned in the exam question.

Grading Policy: For each week of classes except the first (wk.1), and Spring Break (wk.9) students may complete a Reading Response for the primary source reading assigned for that week (for a total of 14 weeks). Each of these will be graded on a PASS/FAIL basis and students must pass 10 of the 14 possible in order to receive a grade for this portion of the course grade. A student may select 4 of their Responses for numerical grading. Each will be graded out of 5, for a total of 20% on the final course grade.

Evaluation: Comprehension will play an important, but secondary, role in their evaluation. Evaluation will focus primarily on the student's ability to compose their thoughts write a well-structured entry that demonstrates a relevant and thoughtful (e.g., reflective, comparative, critical, synthetic) engagement with the course material. Feedback will be provided on a selected sample Reading Response early in the term.

Format: Reading Responses should be typed in complete sentences and paragraphs, and about a single-spaced, typed page in length (no more than about 500 words). They should aim at doing things like the following: (i) Identify and articulate the main point(s) of the target reading. (ii) Summarize the main argument(s) offered. (iii) Identify and develop any points of criticism. (iv) Articulate any questions of understanding.

Due Dates: Reading Responses are due by electronic submission on Sunday **prior to** the week that the target reading(s) are assigned for discussion. **NO EXTENSIONS WILL BE GRANTED; NO LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCETED.** Responses selected for a numerical grade grading **may not be revised from their original submission** and must be selected by Friday of the last week of classes. Students are welcome to request that their Reading Responses be graded before the final due date so that they may receive formative feedback. The grade assigned to any Response submitted for a numerical grade is final.

Tips for composing successful Reading Responses:

Responses should be composed as critical, reflective commentaries on the course material which address the weekly assigned readings. They should include a brief summary or explanation of any course material or concepts involved in the answer. Although they are a personal and reflective response to the readings and course material, they are also composition exercises – your audience is your classmates and other interested philosophers.

DO'S

- Weekly Responses SHOULD respond to the assigned reading.
- They SHOULD engage with the course material somehow. For example,
 - The SHOULD raise questions (of understanding and comprehension);
 - They SHOULD make connections between other assigned readings and previous class discussions
 - The SHOULD make connections between course material and your own views or those studied in other classes
 - They SHOULD raise objections and criticisms about the position being studied
- Each SHOULD be composed in complete sentences and paragraphs about a single-spaced, typed page in length (no more than about 500 words)
- They SHOULD be composed over the duration of the course and should not concentrate exclusively or excessively on any one author or topic
- They SHOULD offer a brief summary or explanation of key concepts or course material forming the basis for the entry

DON'T'S

- Weekly Responses should NOT be in point form
- They are NOT a substitute for class notes; indeed they should NOT be composed in class, but during your private, reflective study either prior to class after having read the material, or perhaps following a discussion of the material during class or group study
- They are meant form a basis for class discussion, but are NOT a substitute for it. Completing them allows you to come to class prepared to participate with something to contribute to the discussion, and you are expected to do so.

2. Critical Book Reviews: Their purpose is to test a critical and comparative comprehension of course material (including an understanding of the major theories and arguments studied in the course), practical mastery of the skills and techniques employed in the course, and synthesis of the major themes of the course.

Grading Policy: Each student may complete a book review for each of the four (4) main books assigned as readings in the course. The best three (3) of those will count 45% (3 x 15%) towards the final course grade.

Due Dates:

With the exception of the review for the fourth book, which is due on the Friday of the last week of classes in the term, due dates for critical book reviews will be set no earlier than one (1) week following the

conclusion of our class discussion of the assigned reading. A preliminary reckoning of this is given in the Tentative Reading Schedule (below). Students should expect that this may change according to our progress through the material in class. Inexcusably late book reports will be penalized 20% per scheduled class. No inexcusably late work will be accepted after one week past the initial due date, and no course work whatsoever will be accepted after Friday of the last week of class in the term.

Composition: Book reviews should adhere to the guidelines given in the assignment and should be about four (4) or five (5) pages or 1,000 – 1,500 words long.

Evaluation: Book reviews will be assessed according to their success in completing the assigned tasks. Generally, evaluation will focus primarily on the student's ability to compose a well-structured written answer that effectively demonstrates (i) a **sound, comparative and critical understanding** of the major concepts, theories and arguments studied in the course, or (ii) an ability to **synthesize** the major themes of the course, or (iii) a **practical mastery** of the skills or techniques being evaluated.

3. **Final Examination:** The purpose of course examinations is to test comprehension of the course material (including an understanding of the major theories and arguments studied in the course), practical mastery of the skills and techniques employed in the course, and synthesis of the major themes of the course.

Composition: The final exam is take-home and consists of comprehensive essay question posted in advance.

Evaluation: The exam will be assessed according to its success in completing the tasks assigned in the question. Generally, evaluation will focus primarily on the student's ability to compose a well-structured written answer that effectively demonstrates (i) a **sound, comparative and critical understanding** of the major concepts, theories and arguments studied in the course, or (ii) an ability to **synthesize** the major themes of the course, or (iii) a **practical mastery** of the skill or technique being evaluated. In addition to demonstrating an understanding of course material, students will also be evaluated on their ability to advance and develop a critical, argumentative thesis and to support it with cogent argument.

Due Dates: The take-home final is due by electronic submission at the end of the scheduled exam period for this class. NO EXTENSIONS WILL BE GRANTED; NO LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCETED.

4. **Participation:** Your participation grade will reflect not only your class attendance, but also your active and meaningful participation in class discussions. Simply attending class regularly is not sufficient to ensure a good mark in this component of the course grade. Each student is to come to class having read the assigned material so that we can have informed and fruitful discussions in addition to the lectures. Failure to complete the reading assignments will negatively affect your participation grade. Interesting and thoughtful questions and contributions to class discussions are strongly encouraged and will positively impact your participation grade. Students are encouraged to make note of their questions about, and comments on, the assigned readings as they complete them and bring them to class for discussion.

Participation in class discussions will involve collaborative work, where we work together to understand or criticize and argument or position, as well as individual contributions. Students may be asked to adopt the perspective of a theory or position being discussed, and to contribute to the discussion from that perspective.

Participation Grade Breakdown

- 10 Is never absent from class and can always be relied upon to make substantive and insightful contributions to class discussions that reflect a sound understanding of the assigned readings and course material
- 9 Is almost never absent from class and can always be relied upon to make relevant contributions to class discussions that demonstrate a sound understanding of the assigned readings and course material
- 8 Is almost never absent from class and can regularly be relied on to make relevant contributions to class discussions that demonstrate a working understanding of the assigned readings and course material
- 7 Attends class regularly (two absences or fewer) and can be relied on to regularly participate in classroom discussions in a way that demonstrates a concerted effort to understand and engage with the assigned readings and course material
- 6 Attends class regularly (two absences or fewer) and participates in classroom discussions on occasion or when called upon to do so in a way that demonstrates an effort to understand and engage with the

- assigned readings and course material
- 4 Attends class regularly but seldom participates in classroom discussions
- 0 Attends class sporadically and seldom participates in classroom discussions

5. Due Dates and Late Penalties:

Late submissions of course work: Excusable late submissions are those supported by a documented, verifiable and acceptable (e.g., medical, compassionate, religious, academic) reason. Students who can reasonably anticipate a circumstance affecting their submission of course work should make arrangements in advance with the instructor. The nature of any arrangements or accommodations will be at the discretion of the instructor and as circumstances allow. Students failing to do this will not be permitted to make up that portion of their course grade. In the event of an unforeseeable circumstance, similar arrangements will be made after the fact. No inexcusably late work will be accepted after one week past the initial due date, and no course work whatsoever will be accepted after Friday of the last week of class in the term.

Plagiarism & Academic Misconduct: An [Academic Dishonesty Report](#) will be filed for all alleged or suspected incidents of plagiarism, or other violations of academic integrity in this course. All actual incidents (as determined either by the Report process or by the student’s agreement) of plagiarism or other violations of academic integrity, will result in a **minimum** penalty of a **failing grade for the course**.

Requirement to Retain Graded Material: Each student is required to keep all graded material until final grades are released. Be sure to keep a copy of all submitted course work both while it is under submission and a graded copy after it has been returned. This is in your own best interests, especially in the event that there is any discrepancy or dispute concerning your official course grades.

6. Calculation of Final Grade: I will use the Official Course Grading Scheme (below) to convert your final course grade into a GPA on the 4-point scale used by MSU. I will not curve or otherwise adjust grades.

Official Course Grading Scheme

Superior			Good			Satisfactory			Passing			Failing		
4.0	A	100 – 90	3.5	B+	89.9 – 85	2.5	C+	79.9 – 75	1.5	D+	69.9 – 65	0.0	F	59.9 – 0
			3.0	B	84.9 – 80	2.0	C	74.9 – 70	1.0	D	64.9 – 60			

Important Dates (for information purposes only - E&OE):

Authoritative version at [MSU Registrar’s Office Academic Calendar](#) and [MSU Registrar’s Schedule of Courses](#)
Spring 2017 Semester

- Mon. Jan. 9 Classes Begin Spring Semester (First Class: Mon. Jan. 9)
- Fri. Jan. 13 Open online add period ends 8pm; Last day to change to or from CR/NC or Visitor – must be done at Registrar’s Office by 5pm
- Mon. Jan. 16 Martin Luther King Day Holiday (No Classes)
- Fri. Feb. 3 Last day to drop with refund (8:00 pm)
- Wed. Mar. 1 Last day to drop with no grade reported (8:00 pm)
- Mar. 6 – 10 Spring Break – No Classes (Mon. through Fri.)
- Fri. Apr. 28 End Spring Semester (Last Class: Wed. Apr. 26)
- Thurs. May 4 **Final Exam: Thursday, May 4 2017 12:45pm - 2:45pm in 115 Berkey Hall** (as scheduled by RO; subject to change) <https://reg.msu.edu/ROInfo/Calendar/FinalExam.aspx>

TENTATIVE READING SCHEDULE – PHL418 (Spring 2017)

<i>Week</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Topics and Readings</i>
Course Introduction: Themes & Background		
1.	Jan. 9 – 13	CLASS INTRODUCTIONS HISTORICAL AND THEORETICAL INTRODUCTION: THEMES IN ANALYTIC PHILOSOPHY EMPIRICISM Godden, D. (2014). Mill's System of Logic. In W.J. Mander (Ed.), <i>Oxford handbook of British philosophy in the nineteenth century</i> (pp. 44-70). Oxford: Oxford UP.
2.	Jan. 16 – 20	MONDAY – MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY HOLIDAY COMMON SENSE PHILOSOPHY Moore, G.E. ([1925] 1993). A defence of common sense. In T. Baldwin (ed.), <i>G.E. Moore, Selected writings</i> (pp. 106-133). New York: Routledge. Originally published in (1925). J. Muirhead (ed.), <i>Contemporary British Philosophy</i> (2 nd series) (pp. 192-233). London: George Allen & Unwin.
3.	Jan. 23 – 27	COMMON SENSE PHILOSOPHY, Cont'd Moore, G.E. ([1939] 1993). Proof of an external world. In T. Baldwin (ed.), <i>G.E. Moore, Selected writings</i> (pp. 147-170). New York: Routledge. Originally published in (1939). <i>Proceedings of the British Academy</i> , 25, 273-300.
4.	Jan.30 – Feb. 3	LOGICAL ATOMISM Russell, B. ([1924] 1985). Logical atomism. In <i>The philosophy of logical atomism</i> (pp. 157-181). La Salle, IL: Open Court. Russell, B. ([1918] 1985). <i>The philosophy of logical atomism</i> . La Salle, IL: Open Court.
5.	Feb. 6 – 10	Russell, B. ([1918] 1985). <i>The philosophy of logical atomism</i> . La Salle, IL: Open Court.
6.	Feb. 13 – 17	Russell, B. ([1918] 1985). <i>The philosophy of logical atomism</i> . La Salle, IL: Open Court. Ayer, A.J. (1936/1946). <i>Language, Truth & Logic</i> . New York: Dover.
7.	Feb. 20 – 24	Ayer, A.J. (1936/1946). <i>Language, Truth & Logic</i> . New York: Dover.
8.	Feb.27 – Mar. 3	Ayer, A.J. (1936/1946). <i>Language, Truth & Logic</i> . New York: Dover.
9.	Mar. 6 – 10	SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS
10.	Mar. 13 – 17	Wittgenstein, L. ([1950-1951] 1969). <i>On Certainty</i> . New York: Harper & Row.
11.	Mar. 20 – 24	Wittgenstein, L. ([1950-1951] 1969). <i>On Certainty</i> . New York: Harper & Row.
12.	Mar. 27 – 31	Wittgenstein, L. ([1950-1951] 1969). <i>On Certainty</i> . New York: Harper & Row.
13.	Apr. 3 – 7	THE RETURN OF NATURALISM Quine, W.V.O. (1951). Two dogmas of empiricism. <i>Philosophical Review</i> , 60, 20-43. http://www.jstor.org/stable/2181906 Reprinted as: Quine, W.V.O. (1953). Two dogmas of empiricism. In <i>From a logical point of view</i> (pp. 20-46). Cambridge, MA: Harvard UP. ANTI-NATURALISM Grice, P. & P. Strawson. (1956). In defense of a dogma. <i>Philosophical Review</i> , 65, 141-158. http://www.jstor.org/stable/2182828 Godden, D. (2006). Departmental boundaries within the corporate body of theory: Quine on the holistic foundations of logic. <i>Dialogue: Canadian Philosophical Review</i> , 45, 505-528. http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0012217300001037
14.	Apr. 10 – 14	Sellars, W. ([1956] 1997). <i>Empiricism and the Philosophy of Mind</i> . Cambridge, MA: Harvard UP.
15.	Apr. 17 – 21	Sellars, W. ([1956] 1997). <i>Empiricism and the Philosophy of Mind</i> . Cambridge, MA: Harvard UP.
16.	Apr. 24 – 28	Sellars, W. ([1956] 1997). <i>Empiricism and the Philosophy of Mind</i> . Cambridge, MA: Harvard UP.
	Thurs. May 4	TAKE-HOME Final Exam DUE by electronic submission 2:45pm

Course Policies (the fine print):

Classroom Conduct: During class you are expected to be focused on class activities. This is not the place to sleep, gossip, or do work for other classes. It is definitely not a place to surf the web, play videogames, call, text, tweet, Facebook or Yik Yak.

In general, any conduct that distracts from, or is disruptive of, a classroom environment conducive to learning is prohibited. Disruptive students will be required to leave the class and will be referred to the [MSU Student Conduct System](#) as appropriate.

Classroom Use of Electronic Items: The in-class use of notebook computers and tablet devices is permitted for the sole purpose of taking notes in class and participating in classroom learning activities. The instructor reserves the right to prohibit their use on an individual basis if it is deemed to be distracting or disruptive. The use of all other electronic devices (e.g., your smartphone) is prohibited.

Attendance & Preparation: Your regular attendance in this course is expected. You should come to class having completed the assigned readings and be prepared to discuss them. **Students who do not regularly prepare for and attend class should not expect to do well in this course.** More generally, it is up to you to ensure that you have taken on a manageable course workload in view of your other pursuits and obligations.

Lateness & Absences: I consider more than two absences excessive. If a student is absent unexpectedly, it is the student's responsibility to schedule a set of office hours appointments with the professor to catch up. The goal of office hours appointments will be to determine a plan for how the student will catch up. Attending all classes is a requisite condition for success in the class. Should the professor feel that excessive absences are affecting a student's ability to pass the class, they will suggest strongly that the student reconsider their plans for remaining in the class. There are no "excused" or "unexcused" statuses of absences in the class because any absence for any reason requires this same response: students must be able to catch up for what they missed during the classes from which they were absent. Students with absences that are in reality "excused" or "unexcused" face the same risks with respect to doing poorly in the class. Students need not worry about the documentation status of their absences. Late arrivals are treated the same as absences. For grading-related late and absence policies, please see "Notes on Evaluation" and "Due Dates & Late Penalties" (above).

Participation: Contributions to classroom discussion, including questions about the class readings, individual responses to and criticisms of the readings, as well as alternative views and opinions on topics discussed, and are expected and encouraged. Students whose contributions monopolize class time, take the discussion off on a tangent, or are disrespectful or disruptive to others in the class will be requested and required to pursue their discussion with the instructor outside of class time.

Staying Informed: You are responsible for everything that is discussed in class for both administration and evaluation purposes.

The Course Policies (including matters of Course Evaluation) and other Course Information may be changed in light of our progress through the course material, and usually following a class discussion. Such changes will be announced in class and as such you are responsible for becoming aware of them and will be bound by them.

Submission of Course Work: In addition to paper copy, electronic submission of any and all course work may be required. Failure to do either (if required) will result in your earning no credit for the assignment. By registering in the course, students give their permission that their submitted work be collected and stored for the purposes of checking it for plagiarism.

Be sure to keep a copy of *all* submitted course work both while it is under submission and a graded copy after it has been returned. This is in your own best interest, especially in the event that there is any discrepancy or dispute concerning your official course grades.

Paper submission: With the exception of in-class tests and exercises, submitted course work must be typed. Please: do not include a title page, or any report cover; clearly indicate your name on the work; and staple the pages together.

D2L / electronic submission: Work submitted electronically will be counted as received only when it is received by me in a format in which it can be graded (e.g., an electronic file which I cannot open will not be counted as submitted). Papers submitted electronically must be identical to the paper copy submitted or no credit will be given for the work.

Final Exam & Conflicts: The final exam will take place [as scheduled by the Registrar's Office during the end-of-term exam period](#). The date, time and place of the final exam are set by the Registrar's Office, and may be subject to change.

Test and Exam Policies: Unless specifically stated, no special aids (e.g., books, notes, dictionaries, calculators or other electronic devices) or allowances (e.g., extra time) are permitted in tests and exams. Students requiring special aids (e.g., a language dictionary) or conditions (e.g., extra time) must make arrangements in advance according to the policies administered by the [MSU Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities](#).

You may be required to produce university identification when writing a test or exam.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a serious offense, and it will not be overlooked in this or in other classes. Written work submitted for this course may be checked for plagiarism. For guidance on what plagiarism is and how to avoid it, see the [MSU Ombudsperson's page on Academic Integrity](#).

Appeals: You have a right to appeal the final grade you receive in this class, and should be aware of the [Grade/Appeal Policy given on the MSU Ombudsperson's website](#). To file an appeal you must follow the procedure given there.

Course Evaluation: You will have the opportunity to complete a course evaluation near the end of the course.

The Dead-Duck Clause: Don't staple a dead duck to your assignment when you hand it in. More generally: don't do anything that, it goes without saying, you shouldn't do, and do everything that, it goes without saying, you should do.

Some Relevant University Policies

Here are some of the Michigan State University policies, ordinances, regulations, and advisories that pertain to our course. All of these will be taken to hold for the course, and students are expected familiarize themselves with, and abide by, them. Many have been taken from the [MSU Ombudsperson's Classroom Policies page](#) (accessed: 2015.08.31).

- 1. Academic Honesty:** [Article 2.III.B.2](#) of the Student Rights and Responsibilities states: "The student shares with the faculty the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards." In addition, (insert name of unit offering course) adheres to the policies on academic honesty specified in General Student Regulation 1.0, [Protection of Scholarship and Grades](#); the all-University Policy on [Integrity of Scholarship and Grades](#); and [Ordinance 17.00](#), Examinations. Therefore, unless authorized by your instructor, you are expected to complete all course assignments, including homework, lab work, quizzes, tests and exams, without assistance from any source. You are expected to develop original work for this course; therefore, you may not submit course work you completed for another course to satisfy the requirements for this course. Also, you are not authorized to use the [www.allmsu.com](#) Web site to complete any course work in this course. Students who violate MSU regulations on Protection of Scholarship and Grades will receive a failing grade in the course or on the assignment. Contact your instructor if you are unsure about the appropriateness of your course work. (See also the [Academic Integrity](#) webpage.)
Faculty are required to report all instances in which a penalty grade is given for academic dishonesty. Students reported for academic dishonesty are required to take an online course about the integrity of scholarship and grades. A hold will be placed on the student's account until such time as the student completes the course. This course is overseen by the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education.
- 2. Incompletes:** The MSU Policy on Incompletes is given here: <https://reg.msu.edu/academicprograms/Print.asp?Section=528> and reads, in part, as follows:
The I-Incomplete may be given only when: the student (a) has completed at least 6/7 of the term of instruction, but is unable to complete the class work and/or take the final examination because of illness or other compelling reason; and (b) has done satisfactory work in the course; and (c) in the instructor's judgment can complete the required work without repeating the course.
- 3. Limits to confidentiality.** Essays, journals, and other materials submitted for this class are generally considered confidential pursuant to the University's student record policies. However, students should be aware that University employees, including instructors, may not be able to maintain confidentiality when it conflicts with their responsibility to report certain issues to protect the health and safety of MSU community members and others. As the instructor, I must report the following information to other University offices (including the Department of Police and Public Safety) if you share it with me:
 - Suspected child abuse/neglect, even if this maltreatment happened when you were a child,
 - Allegations of sexual assault or sexual harassment when they involve MSU students, faculty, or staff, and
 - Credible threats of harm to oneself or to others.These reports may trigger contact from a campus official who will want to talk with you about the incident that you have shared. In almost all cases, it will be your decision whether you wish to speak with that individual. If you would like to talk about these events in a more confidential setting you are encouraged to make an appointment with the MSU Counseling Center: <http://counseling.msu.edu> 517-355-8270 Links for emergency contact: <http://counseling.msu.edu/emergency-2/>
- 4. Accommodations for Students with Disabilities** (from the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities (RCPD): Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Requests for accommodations by persons with disabilities may be made by contacting the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities at 517-884-RCPD or on the web at rcpd.msu.edu. Once your eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, you will be issued a Verified Individual Services Accommodation ("VISA") form. Please present this form to me at the start of the term and/or two weeks prior to the accommodation date (test, project, etc.). Requests received after this date may not be honored.
- 5. Drops and Adds:** Add, drop, and tuition refund dates for this course are given for your information (E&OE) in the "Important Dates" portion of the syllabus above. Authoritative dates can be found at [MSU Registrar's Office Academic Calendar](#) and [MSU Registrar's Schedule of Courses](#) (by looking up this course, and clicking on its link). You should immediately make a copy of your amended schedule to verify you have added or dropped the course.
- 6. Commercialized Lecture Notes:** Commercialization of lecture notes and university-provided course materials is not permitted in this course.
- 7. Internet:** Some professional journals will not consider a submission for publication if the article has appeared on the Internet. Please notify your instructor in writing if you do not want your course papers posted to the course Web site.
- 8. Disruptive Behavior:** Article 2.III.B.4 of the [Student Rights and Responsibilities \(SRR\)](#) for students at Michigan State University states: "The student's behavior in the classroom shall be conducive to the teaching and learning process for all concerned." Article 2.III.B.10 of the [SRR](#) states that "The student and the faculty share the responsibility for maintaining professional relationships based on mutual trust and civility." [MSU Ordinance 15.02](#) states: "No person shall obstruct, hinder, or impede the normal operation of any class, laboratory, seminar, examination, field trip, or other educational

activity of the University.” [General Student Regulation 5.02](#) states: "Functions, services, and processes of the University must be protected if the institution is to be effective in discharging its responsibilities; therefore, no student shall: obstruct, disrupt, or interfere with the functions, services, or directives of the University, its offices, or its employees (e.g., classes, ...).”

- 9. Attendance: General University Attendance Policy** - This policy states in part: “No person is allowed to attend a class unless officially enrolled on a credit or non-credit basis with the appropriate fees paid. Students who attend, participate and strive to complete course requirements without formal enrollment will not receive credit for their work. . . . It is the responsibility of the instructor to define the policy for attendance at the beginning of the course.” Students whose names do not appear on the official class list for this course may not attend this class. Students who fail to attend the first four class sessions or class by the fifth day of the semester, whichever occurs first, may be dropped from the course.

Further information about University Attendance policies can be found at the [MSU Ombudsperson Classroom Policies webpage](#) (accessed 2015.08.31).

- 10. Final Exam Policy** - The university [final exam policy](#) allows instructors to impose severe consequences on students who miss a final exam without a "satisfactory explanation"; namely, a failing grade in the course. To avoid such dire action, the policy instructs students "unable to take a final examination because of illness or other reasons over which they have no control" to notify the associate dean of their college immediately. Students should be prepared to document their illness or the extenuating circumstances that caused them to miss the final exam. Oversleeping usually won't do it.

- 11. Campus Emergencies:** If an emergency arises in this classroom, building or vicinity, your instructor will inform you of actions to follow to enhance your safety. As a student in this class, you are responsible for knowing the location of the nearest emergency evacuation route or shelter. These directions appear on the maps posted on the walls throughout this building. Please familiarize yourself with these "[Classroom Emergency Guidelines](#)." If police or university officials order us to evacuate the classroom or building, follow the posted emergency route in an orderly manner and assist those who might need help in reaching a barrier-free exit or shelter. To receive emergency messages, set your cellular phones on silent mode when you enter this classroom. If you observe or receive an emergency alert, immediately and calmly inform your instructor. (See also www.alert.msu.edu.) Please see also the information sheet found at the [MSU Ombudsperson's Handling Emergency Situations in the Classroom](#) webpage.

- 12. Grief Absence Policy:** In the Spring Semester of 2015, Academic Governance approved a Grief Absence Policy (see <http://splife.studentlife.msu.edu/regulations/student-group-regulations-administrative-rulings-all-university-policies-and-selected-ordinances/grief-absence-policy>). I am writing to remind you of the online system which facilitates the processes for accommodating a grief absence - including the student's request, authorization of that request, notification of faculty, and verification.

Students seeking a grief absence should be directed to the Grief Absence Request Form found on the RO home page (<https://reg.msu.edu/>) under 'Student Services - Grief Absence Request Form' OR to StuInfo (<https://stuinfo.msu.edu/>) under 'Academics - Enrollment Information and Services - Grief Absence Request Form.' Per policy, graduate students who should see their major professor and notify course instructors are directed to do so when they access the form.

Students will be asked to supply information on the nature of the loss, the date they became aware, and the expected period of absence. Once completed, the information is routed to the Assoc. Dean of the student's college and must be received prior to the student leaving campus. The student will receive a confidential message confirming the submission and reminding them that supporting documentation must be provided and who to send it to. In addition, the appropriate dean's office will be notified that a request has been submitted. Once the appropriate administrator has either approved or denied the request, the student will again receive a confidential message notifying them of the decision of the dean's office. If approved, instructors will be notified by the appropriate dean's office of the period of absence. Instructors are expected to arrange for students to make up the missed work.