



A. Y. Jackson S. S.
www.ayjackson.ca

HZT 4U1 Philosophy: Questions and Theories Grade 12, University

General Course Information

Prerequisite:	Any university or university/college preparation course in Social Sciences and Humanities, English, or Canadian and World Studies
Department:	History, Geography and Social Science
Extra Help:	By appointment; ayjhistory@gmail.com
Textbook and Replacement Cost:	Philosophy: Thinkers, Theories & Questions, \$100
Material Required:	Binder, pens, notebook, textbook etc.

Course Description

This course enables students to acquire an understanding of the nature of philosophy and philosophical reasoning skills and to develop and apply their knowledge and skills while exploring specialized branches of philosophy (the course will cover at least three of the following branches: metaphysics, ethics, epistemology, philosophy of science, social & political philosophy, aesthetics). Students will develop critical thinking and philosophical reasoning skills as they formulate and evaluate arguments related to a variety of philosophical questions and theories. They will also develop research and inquiry skills related to the study and practice of philosophy.

A detailed list of the course expectations can be found at <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/secondary/sstudies1112curr.pdf>

Assessment and Evaluation

To promote student success, ongoing assessment and feedback will be given regularly to students. A variety of assessment and evaluation strategies will be used in this course, including tests, essays, debates, quizzes, oral presentations, defense papers, cafés, seminars and other assignments. Expectations will be evaluated based on the provincial curriculum expectations and the achievement levels outlined in the ministry document.

Expectations are organized into four categories of knowledge and skills. The categories and their corresponding weighting is as follows:

Knowledge and Understanding	25%
Thinking	25%
Communication	25%
Application	25%

Each student's final mark will be in the form of a percentage grade based on their achievement in the 4 categories on the achievement chart. The breakdown of the final mark is as follows:

Term Evaluation	70%
Final Evaluation	30%

The final Evaluation will be completed during the final 6 weeks of the course and may include a variety of summative activities including an exam, a presentation, a seminar, or an essay or another writing assignment. In addition to students' performance in the achievement categories, students will also be assessed on their performance in the following learning skills:

- Responsibility
- Organization
- Independent Work
- Collaboration
- Initiative
- Self-Regulation

For specific policies on assessment and evaluation, and academic honesty, please refer to *School Procedures* in the student agenda.

Course Specifics



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Units of Study:

Introduction to Philosophy and the Paradox

Logic (Philosophy of Science)

Metaphysics

Ethics

Social and Political Philosophy

Culminating – Essay and Exam

DEPARTMENTAL POLICIES

Late Assignments

Students must communicate with the teacher in advance if they anticipate that an assignment will be late. Different situations will require specific decisions based on professional judgment. Late assignments will not be accepted after the assignment has been taken up in class or the marked assignment has been returned.

Missed Evaluations

A student who misses an evaluation must submit upon return to class a parental/guardian note or a doctor's note detailing the reason for the absence. The student may have the opportunity to demonstrate their proficiency of the learning expectations at a later date, at the teacher's discretion. This may or may not be in the same format as the original evaluation. The teacher will determine the time and form in which the evaluation will take place.

Homework Assignments

The purpose of homework assignment is to reinforce and enhance the learning that has taken place in the classroom. It provides students with opportunities for personal growth in independence, self-discipline and resourcefulness.

A student who reviews daily will be prepared for **Quizzes**, which are often spontaneous. **Tests** will be announced before they are given. Students who prepare for a test, other than the night before, will have opportunities to seek help if they encounter difficulties. **Examinations** will cover material that is presented over two to five months.

Essay Format and Citations

- All papers **must** include embedded citations within all written work and in proper MLA formatting. A work cited list must also be included on a separate piece of paper.
- Refer to Library Website, Citationmachine.net, the MLA Website (MLA generator), or Easybib.com.
- Essays without citations **will not** be accepted or given a mark accordingly – **zero**.
- All essays are FORMAL (no I, you, etc). All essays need to have an ARGUMENT and embedded citations.

Classroom Expectations

1. Respect all people and property. This includes listening to and respecting all members of the class.
2. Bring all texts and supplies (eg. textbook, paper, pens, & other items) necessary for class.
3. Complete your homework daily.
4. Come to class on time each day.
5. It is **your** responsibility to catch up on any work that you missed due to absence. This includes any missed tests. **You** should notify the history office before class and explain the reason for your absence if there is a test or an assignment due. **You** must arrange a time and place for a make-up test when you return to class.
6. All cell phones, iPods or any other electronic device should not be used in class without the teacher's permission.