

**ICS Calendar Title:** Philosophers on Education

**ICS Course Code:** ICS 220309 F10

**Instructor:** Dr. Doug Blomberg

**Term and Year:** Tuesdays, 7:00pm-10:00pm, Fall 2010

**Last Updated:** September 20, 2010

### Course Description

Many major philosophical figures addressed educational issues and had a significant impact on the theory and practice of education, both in their own immediate contexts and in the longer term. Each time the course is offered, a selection will be made from the writings of two or three of these philosophers; the present course focuses on Plato and Augustine. Particular attention will be given to anthropological and epistemological convictions and the implications of these for an understanding of learning and the conception of an educated person. Participants will be able to focus on the connections between the selected authors' educational thought and their broader philosophical concerns or on the influence and implications of their writings for the current practice of education. They will be encouraged to discern insights and distortions in the light of a biblically informed view of the person as they develop further their own perspective on education.

### Course Learning Goals

- a. Critical understanding of philosophical reflection on the nature of humanness, learning and teaching
- b. Ability to think creatively and constructively across theoretical and practical concerns
- c. Knowledge of leading debates in educational theory

### Course Requirements

- a. Total reading: 1250 pages total, including research for paper, of which approximately 40–60 pages per week is required to prepare for class.
- b. In-seminar leadership: Faculty lectures and student presentations.
- c. Description of course paper: Research paper on course topics.
- d. Description and weighting of elements to be evaluated:

Class participation:	15%
Seminar Presentations:	25%
Research Paper:	60%

### Required Readings (selections)

Augustine. (1995). *Teaching Christianity [De Doctrina Christiana]*. That's Life Communications.

\_\_\_\_\_. (1995). *Against the Academicians and the Teacher*. Trans., Peter King. Indianapolis, IL/Cambridge, UK: Hackett. (ICS Library Reserve Shelf: B655 .C62 E5 1995)

\_\_\_\_\_. (2007). *Divine Providence and the Problem of Evil: A Translation of St. Augustine's de Ordine*. Trans., Robert P. Russell. Whitefish, MT: Kessinger. (ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BR65 .A69 1942a ; 1942 ed. SMC: BR65 .A69 1942)

- Plato. (1955). *The Republic*, III, VII, VIII. Trans., H. D. P. Lee. Ed., Betty Radice and Robert Baldick. Harmondsworth: Penguin. (ICS Library Reserve Shelf: JC71 .P36)
- \_\_\_\_\_. (1956). *Protagoras and Meno*. Trans., W. K. C. Guthrie. Harmondsworth: Penguin. (OISE: 170.938 P718P)
- \_\_\_\_\_. (2003). *Plato's Theory of knowledge: The Theaetetus and the Sophist*. Trans., with commentary by Francis M. Cornford. Mineola, NY: Dover Publications. (ICS Library Reserve Shelf: B386 .A5 C6)

### Recommended Readings

- Arendt, H. (1971). "Quaestio mihi factus sum: The discovery of the inner man." In *The Life of the Mind*, Part Two, 55-110. San Diego, CA: Harcourt, Brace & Co. (ICS Library Reserve Shelf: B29 .A73 1981)
- Barrow, Robin. (2007). *Plato*. Continuum Library of Educational Thought, Vol. 9. London/New York: Continuum International Publishing Group. (OISE: 370.1 C762 v.9)
- Barthold, L. S. (2000). "Towards an ethics of love. Arendt on the will and Augustine." *Philosophy and Social Criticism* 26(6), 1-20. (ICS Library Reserve Shelf)
- Chang, Han-liang. (2002). "The Paradox of Learning and the Elenchos: Plato's *Meno*, Augustine's *De Magistro*, and Gongsunlong's *Jianpailun (on Hardness and Whiteness)*." In *International Conference on Comparative Literature Towards the 21st Century*. Nanjing Normal University.
- Crosson, Frederick J. (1989). "The Structure of the *De Magistro*." *Revue des Études Augustiniennes*, 35, 120-7. (PIMS: PER)
- Day, Jane M. (ed.). (1994). *Plato's Meno in Focus*. London, UK: Routledge. (ROBA: B377 .P53 1994 )
- Egan, Kieran. (1984). *Education and psychology: Plato, Piaget and scientific psychology*. London: Methuen. (ROBA: LB1051 .E43 1984)
- Grumett, David. (2000). "Arendt, Augustine and Evil," *Heythrop Journal* 41(2), 154-169. (ICS Library Reserve Shelf)
- Henninger, Mark G. (1989). "The Adolescent's Making of Meaning: The Pedagogy of Augustine's Confessions." *Journal of Moral Education*, 18(1), 32-44. (ICS Library Reserve Shelf)
- Herzman, Ronald B. (1997). "Confessions 7.9: what has Athens to do with Jerusalem?" *Journal of Education*, 179(1), 49-60. (OISE: PER)
- Houghton, John William. (1984). "The Augustinian Tradition: A Different Voice." *Religious Education*, 79(2), 184-191. (ICS Library Reserve Shelf)
- Howie, George. (1969). *St. Augustine: On Education*. Chicago: Henry Regnery Company, 1969. (KNOX: LB125 .A7933 1969)
- \_\_\_\_\_. (1969). *Educational Theory and Practice in St. Augustine*. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul. (ROBA: LB125 .A8 H6 1969B)
- \_\_\_\_\_. (1994) "Plato (428-348 B.C.)." *Prospects: the quarterly review of comparative education* 24(1/2), 329-42.
- Klein, Jacob. (1965). *A commentary on Plato's Meno*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press. (ICS Library Reserve Shelf: B377 .K55 1989; ROBA: B377 .K55)
- Nehamas, Alexander. (1985). "Meno's Paradox and Socrates as a Teacher." *Oxford Studies In Ancient Philosophy*, 3, 1-30. (ROBA: B1 .O86)

- Paffenroth, Kim, and Kevin L. Hughes (eds.). (2000). *Augustine and Liberal Education*: Ashgate Publishing. (ICS Library Reserve Shelf: LB125 .A8 A84 2008 ; TRIN: LB125 .A8 A84 2000)
- Poulimatka, Tapio. (2005). "Augustine and Education in Critical Thinking." *Journal of Beliefs and Values* 26(2): 191-200. (ICS Library Reserve Shelf)
- Quinn, Philip L. (1988). "Augustinian Learning." In *Philosophers on Education: New Historical Perspectives*. Ed., A. O. Rorty, 81-94. London, UK: Routledge. (ICS Library Reserve Shelf: LB41 .P572 1998 ; ROBA: LB41 .P572 1998X)
- Sesonske, Alexander, and Noel Fleming (eds.). *Plato's Meno: Text and Criticism*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth. (SMC: B377 .A5 S4)
- Shanon, Benny. (1984). "Meno - a Cognitive-Psychological View." *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, 35, 129-47. (ICS Library Reserve Shelf)
- Topping, Ryan N. S. (2010). "Augustine on Liberal Education: Defender and Defensive." *Heythrop Journal*, 51(3), 377-387. (ICS Library Reserve Shelf)
- Valentine, Timothy S. (2001). "Enlightened and Eloquent: Augustine on Education." *Philosophy of Education*. Urbana, IL: Philosophy of Education Society, 385-393. (OISE Library: 370.1 P568 P3 2001)