Course Syllabus  
Fall 2011  
Drew University

**PHIL 128: Philosophy of Religion**

Time: Wed. 7:00-9:30PM  
Room: BC 203  
Instructor: Dr. Seung-Kee Lee

Office: Sycamore Cottage 205  
Office Hours: T, TH: 1:30-2:30pm and by Appt.  
Phone: (973) 408-3509, e-mail:slee3@drew.edu

**Course Description**

An exploration of whether or not belief in the existence of God is rational. Arguments are considered based on the origin of the universe, the problem of evil, the nature and variety of religious experience, the phenomenon of morality, and the ethics of belief. Other topics discussed include miracles, science and religion, and religious pluralism.

**Learning Outcomes**

- Identify some key philosophical concepts and arguments  
- Acquire an ability to analyze a piece of philosophical writing  
- Acquire an ability to write clearly, in both exegetical and critical pieces  
- Acquire an appreciation of some of the main historical figures and movements in Philosophy.

**Required Text**


**Course Requirements**

1.) Attendance is required and will be checked on a daily basis.  
2.) Come to class prepared. This means read and think about the text carefully before each class. Reading the text in preparation for class is required, not optional. If you come to class having prepared the assigned reading you will find the lectures much more interesting and take better notes, a boon when writing papers.  
3.) Four 5-page papers, and quizzes
Grade Determination

Paper #1: 20%
Paper #2: 20%
Paper #3: 20%
Paper #4: 20%
Quizzes: 20%

Class Schedule

Week One (Aug. 31)
Introduction

Week Two (Sept. 7)

Week Three (Sept. 14)
Paper #1 Assigned

Week Four (Sept. 21)
The Ontological Argument: St. Anselm, “The Ontological Argument” and Gaunilo’s criticism, pp. 138-141; William Rowe, “The Ontological Argument” (handout)

Week Five (Sept. 28) Paper #1 Due
The Ontological Argument: Alvin Plantinga, “A Contemporary Modal Version of the Ontological Argument” (handout); William Rowe, “Modal Versions of the Ontological Argument” (handout)

Week Six (Oct. 5)

Week Seven (Oct. 12)
Week Eight (Oct. 19)

Week Nine (Oct. 26) **Paper #2 Due**
The Moral Argument: Bertrand Russell, “A Free Man’s Worship” (handout); George Marvrodes, “Religion and the Queerness of Morality” (handout).

Week Ten (Nov. 2)

Week Eleven (Nov. 9)

Week Twelve (Nov. 16) **Paper #3 Due**

Week Thirteen (Nov. 23) **No Class (Thanksgiving Recess)**

Week Fourteen (Nov. 30) **Paper #4 Due**

Week Fifteen (Monday, Dec. 5)