

Brief Course Outline

Course Title: **The Meaning of Life**

Course Number and Section:

GGB

1003G 550

Instructor Name(s): Dr. John P. Hope

Instructor Email(s): jhope24@huron.uwo.ca

Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

This course will take the shape of twice-weekly discussions. Students are expected to come to class having done the reading and identified questions and topics of interest. Class participation, in person and on OWL, will be worth 25% of your final grade.

Learning Outcomes:

- Explore ideas about the human condition and articulate their own
- Understand the historical and cultural contexts of ideas
- Analyze and articulate their own belief systems
- Improve their ability to understand and engage with philosophical arguments
- Increase their skills in literary analysis
- Gain familiarity with works from a variety of global traditions
- Hone their ability to write clearly and argue convincingly

Textbooks and Course Materials:

Required Materials:

- The Epic of Gilgamesh (translated by Andrew George), Penguin Classics \$23.00
- Genesis: Translation and Commentary (translated by Robert Alter), Norton \$19.95
- The Bhagavad Gita (translated by Stephen Mitchell), Harmony \$21.99
- The Inferno of Dante (translated by Robert Pinsky), Farrar, Straus, & Giroux \$33.00
- Hermann Hesse, Siddhartha (translated by J. Neugroschel), Penguin Classics \$33.00

All other readings will be provided on OWL.

Methods Of Evaluation:

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
• Preparation and participation		25%
• Writing assignment #1		20%
• Writing assignment #2		20%
• Final Exam		20%
• Podcast Assignment		15%

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.

Friday, January 24, 2025