Ryerson University  
Department of Philosophy  
PH 8104: Philosophy of Religion (Winter 2019)

Contact Information:

Professor: Prof. K.J. Kraay  
Email: kraay@ryerson.ca  
Phone: 416.979.5000 x 1-6165  
Office: Room 416, 4th Floor, Jorgensen Hall  
Office Hours: ... will be posted on D2L and on my office door.

Course Description:

Disagreement about religious claims is a pervasive and extremely important feature of human history and the present day. Notoriously, there is widespread disagreement between different religious traditions, within religious traditions, and between religious and non-religious worldviews. This course will explore and critically evaluate some philosophical accounts of, and responses to, such disagreements.

Evaluation Scheme:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tasks</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Due Date and Submission Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Four Short Essays</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Four Tuesdays of your choosing, 12:00pm sharp. Email your paper to me at <a href="mailto:kraay@ryerson.ca">kraay@ryerson.ca</a>, and I will upload it to a shared folder on D2L on Tuesday afternoon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Five Two-Paragraph Commentaries</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Five Wednesdays of your choosing (on the weeks when you are not doing a short essay), by 9:00am sharp. Post your commentary on the D2L thread for that week. See: Communication &gt; Discussions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term Paper (approximately 5000 words)</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Email your paper to me by no later than Wednesday, May 1st, 12:00pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions to Class Discussion</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Further instructions about the latter requirement will be given later in the semester.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Course Policies for PH 8104:

Late Penalty

- Assignments submitted late without sufficient justification will be penalized at the rate of 10% per day. (Weekends count as one day.)

Alternate Arrangements

- Students are required to inform their instructors of any situation which may have an adverse effect upon their academic performance, and must request any accommodations according to the relevant policies and well in advance. Failure to do so will jeopardize any academic appeals.

- Students shall inform their instructor, in advance, when they will miss an exam, test or assignment deadline. When circumstances do not permit this (e.g. in an emergency) the student must inform the instructor as soon as possible. Alternate arrangements may include the setting of a make-up test, transferring the weight of a missed assignment to the final examination or extending a deadline. Ryerson University’s complete policy concerning alternate arrangements for medical and compassionate reasons may be found at www.ryerson.ca/content/dam/senate/policies/pol134.pdf.

Medical Considerations: In order for alternate arrangements to be made on medical grounds, a student must provide, within three working days, (1) a Ryerson Medical Certificate and (2) an Academic Consideration Form. Both documents must be submitted to the student’s program department. They can be found here: www.ryerson.ca/senate/forms/medical.pdf.

Religious Observance: If a student needs accommodation due to religious observance, he or she must submit (1) a Request for Accommodation of Student Religious, Aboriginal and Spiritual Observance Form and (2) an Academic Consideration Form, within the first two weeks of classes, or, for a final examination, within two weeks of the posting of the examination schedule. If the required absence occurs within the first two weeks of classes, or the dates are not known well in advance as they are linked to other conditions, these forms should be submitted with as much lead time as possible in advance of the required absence. Forms must be submitted to the student’s program department. They can be found here: www.ryerson.ca/senate/forms/relobservforminstr.pdf.

Compassionate Considerations: In order for alternate arrangements to be made on compassionate grounds, the student must deliver, within three working days, an Academic Consideration Form, along with appropriate documentation (if necessary), to the student’s program department. This form can be found here: www.ryerson.ca/content/dam/senate/forms/academic_consideration_document_submission.pdf.

- Alternate arrangements will only be made on the basis of circumstances that are both (1) legitimate and (2) unforeseeable. Some examples of circumstances that typically fail to meet one or both of these conditions are: extra-curricular activities, employment obligations, multiple deadlines / academic workload, and computer malfunctions.
Provisional List of Readings

All readings are posted on the D2L site for this course. You must bring the readings to class each week, either in paper or electronic form. This list of readings may be revised as the course progresses, depending on the interests of the class and the pace of discussion.

## Provisional Course Schedule for PH8104

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Seminar Date</th>
<th>Provisional Topics and Required Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1    | Jan. 16\textsuperscript{th} | Introductory Material  
Exclusivism, Round One: Margalit ... |
| 2    | Jan. 23\textsuperscript{nd} | ... and Smith. Exclusivism, Round Two: Plantinga, Basinger |
| 3    | Jan. 30\textsuperscript{th} | Inclusivism: Rahner, Irlenborn |
| 4    | Feb. 6\textsuperscript{th} | Pluralism: Hick, Ward |
| 5    | Feb. 13\textsuperscript{th} | Relativism: Pannikar, Runzo |

**February 18\textsuperscript{th}-22\textsuperscript{nd}: Winter Reading Week (NO CLASSES)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Provisional Topics and Required Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Feb. 27\textsuperscript{th}</td>
<td>Skepticism: Bloom, Murray, Murray and Goldberg, and Schellenberg (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Mar. 6\textsuperscript{th}</td>
<td>Peer Disagreement, Round One: Feldman, Kelly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Mar. 13\textsuperscript{th}</td>
<td>Conciliationism: Christensen, Elga 2007, Elga 2010.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Mar. 20\textsuperscript{th}</td>
<td>Steadfastness: Moffett, Bergmann, Elgin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Mar. 27\textsuperscript{th}</td>
<td>Broadening the Debate: Unpossessed Evidence and Counterfactual Interlocutors - two chapters from Ballantyne (forthcoming)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Apr. 3\textsuperscript{rd}</td>
<td>Back to Religious Disagreement: King and Schellenberg (2004)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Apr. 10\textsuperscript{th}</td>
<td>Term Paper Workshop</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>