Phil 1: The Nature of Philosophy
Topic: Skepticism
Fall 2023

Prof. Gila Sher
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Grades: Midterm (1/3), Final (2/3).

Extra-Credit: Class participation.

Announcements:
1. The class is an in-person class (not a hybrid class).
2. Students with COVID symptoms are not allowed in class.
3. Statement Concerning Integrity: See end of Syllabus

Schedule of Classes:

M 10/2 Introduction to Class
W 10/4 Plato: “Allegory of the Cave”
W 10/11 Discourse on Method: Part 4 (1st page), Meditations on First Philosophy: Meditation 1
M 10/16 Discourse: Part 4 (1st and 2nd pages), Meditations: Meditation 2
W 10/18 Discourse: Part 4 (Rest of Part 4), Meditations: Meditation 3
M 10/23 Continuation
W 10/25 Discourse: Part 5, Meditations: Meditation 4
M 10/30 Review for Midterm
W 11/1 Midterm
**Required Reading:**

1. Plato: “Allegory of the Cave”. Canvas, under "files".

2. Descartes: *Discourse on Method & Meditations on First Philosophy*. UCSD Bookstore

3. Hume: *An Inquiry Concerning Human Understanding*. UCSD Bookstore


5. Putnam: “Brains in a Vat”. Course electronic reserves (through Canvas)

**Integrity Statement**

Truthfulness and integrity are expected from all students.

The usual UCSD integrity requirements are in force.

In taking exams:

(a) Do not bring notes to class or use your cell phone or any other internet connection or electronic device.
(b) Do not give or receive help to/from anyone during the exam. After completing your exam and leaving the class, do not give help to anyone who is still taking the exam.

I wish you success in the exams, but remember: An exam is just an exam. Don't compromise your integrity for an exam.