



SAMUEL ADEGBOYEGA UNIVERSITY
OGWA, EDO STATE
COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

2018/2019 ACADEMIC SESSION

Course Code: RPR 813

Course Title: The Problem of Evil

Units: 3

Semester: Second

Time: Thursday, 10am – 12pm

Venue: PJABHM L2

Lecturer: Samson O. Ijaola.

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Office No: PJABMH, Room 3

A. Introduction.

Evil is a reality in our world from past experiences, to the present and the foreseeable future. It is a universal experience that cannot be denied. It appears to that evil has a long history as man. In this course, the problem of evil focuses on the difficulty to explain the reasonableness of the existence of evil and the existence of God. The traditional theistic description of God from Christian view has generated so much arguments on the possibility of the existence of such a supernatural being, the creator of the universe and the reality of evil. Thus, this course will examine various arguments on the problem of evil such as pain, suffering and death. It will also state how a believer could look at the problem of evil from the perspective of reason and faith.

B. Objectives/ Goals

At the end of this course students should be able to:

1. Explain the logical problem of evil
2. Discuss, the skepticism view of evil
3. Identify moral and natural evil
4. State the Plantinga's freewill response to evil
5. Explain Leibniz's theodicy.
6. Criticize Augustine's theodicy

C. Course Outline

WEEK	TOPIC
1	Defining Problem of Evil
2	Conceptual Discourse on the Problem of Evil
3	Logical Problem of Evil
4	Evidential Problem of Evil
5	Skepticism and the Problem of Evil
6	Skepticism and the Problem of Evil Con
7	Augustine Theodicy
8	Leibniz Theodicy
9	Reason and Faith
10	Plantinga's and Freewill Response
11	Radical Response to the Problem of Evil
12	Revision

D. TUTORIALS

Tutorial classes will be organized as the need arises.

E. STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMME/METHOD OF GRADING

Attendance.....	5%
Article Review.....	3%
Chapters in Book Review.....	3%
Term Paper.....	9%
Test.....	10%
Examination.....	70%

F. Office Hour: 9am-12pm Wednesdays

G. GROUND RULES & REGULATIONS

- 1) University guidelines on attendance requirements will be strictly observed in this course. Thus, attendance as well as participation is a prerequisite and counts for 10 % of students' overall grade.
- 2) No student will be allowed into the lecture hall 5 minutes after lecture must have commenced.
- 3) Improper and indecent dressing will not be allowed in the lecture hall

4) Students are expected to be well disciplined and they should exhibit this through their punctuality at lectures and prompt attendance to class assignments.

H. ALIGNMENT WITH SAU VISION/MISSION/CORE VALUES/GOALS

Samuel Adegboyega University has the vision of becoming a world class university. For this to happen, business administration department must be the flagship.

I. Reading Texts

Philosophy of Religion by Chad Meister, Palgrave Macmillan, New York, 2014

The Philosophy of Religion: An Introduction by G.A. Oshitelu Hope Publications, Ibadan Nigeria.

Theology in the Context of Science by John Polkinghorne, SPKC, London 2008

In Defence of the Soul by Keith Ward, Oneworld Publications, Oxford, 1998

Africa Cultural Knowledge: Themes and Embedded Beliefs by Michael C. Kirwen editor, MIAS Books, Nairobi, 2011.