Expectations and Evaluation
Introduction to Philosophy, Finn

1. One In-Class Test (20% of Course Grade)

The test will have 25 questions. The first 15 questions (worth 3 pts. each) will be on logic and will be based upon exercises done in class. Questions 16-23 (worth 4 pts. each) will be short answer questions based upon the Quiz Study Questions. Questions 24 and 25 will be essay questions (worth 10 points each). The test will be graded according to the 100-point scale.

2. Two Short Papers (20% of Course Grade)

The short papers will be based upon essay questions handed out in class. You will have approximately 1-2 weeks to turn in the papers (see syllabus schedule for exact deadlines). Each paper will be 3-4 pages long, double-spaced, typed and STAPLED. We will do exercises in class on writing philosophy on 1/27. It is especially important that you attend this class session. I grade papers primarily on 3 areas: writing style, analysis of philosophical positions, and argumentative strength. I ask myself the following questions when I grade papers:

Writing Style
1. Is the paper well organized?
2. Is each paragraph unified around one central theme?
3. Are there grammatical and/or spelling errors?
4. Are there awkward sentences?

Analysis and Explanation of the Philosophical Positions
1. Are the philosophical positions clearly identified and carefully explained?
2. Are the thesis statements, reasons, and evidence of the philosophical positions clearly identified and explained?
3. Did the student properly understand the philosophical argument(s) being evaluated?
4. Did the student properly identify and define key terms of the issue?

Argumentative Strength
1. Does the essay clearly state the student’s opinion on the topic?
2. Does the student provide strong reasons in support of his/her opinion?
3. Does the student provide evidence in support of those reasons?
4. Do the reasons and evidence actually support the thesis being advanced?

3. **Two Group Writing Projects** (Worth 20% of the course grade).

You will be given one essay question on a philosophical topic related to the course material. You will then work in groups of 3-5 people to answer the question. Course lecture notes, study materials, and the philosophical texts may be used. You are also free to converse with other groups. You will have two hours to complete the essay. We will meet in a computer lab for these projects. In grading, I use the same criteria as with short papers.

4. **Five (of Six) Pop Quizzes** (Worth 20% of the course grade).

There will be 6 pop quizzes. The lowest score will be dropped. The quizzes will be based upon the Quiz Study Questions handed out at the beginning of the quarter. Each quiz will have 2 questions. All quizzes will be administered at the start of the class session. If you are late, you will not be given extra time to complete the quiz. If you very late, you will miss the quiz and not receive credit. If you are absent, you will not be allowed a make-up unless you notified the instructor via e-mail prior to your absence. Make-up quizzes are done at home--you will write out the answers to ALL of the quiz study questions for the assigned day.

5. **One Take-Home Final** (Worth 20% of the course grade). The final take-home will consists of 20 questions, all worth 5 points. The first 10 questions are short answer questions (1-2 sentences). Questions 11-20 are short essay questions (5-10 sentences). The take-home will cover the entire course.