

Philosophy 3720 Philosophical Theology Fall 2013 Dr. Sherlock

MWF 1—1:50 FL 206

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Office hours MWF 9—11:30

Topic for the Term: Bernard Lonergan's *Insight*

Text : Insight

In April of 1970 Time magazine reported that Bernard Lonergan s.j. "is considered by many intellectuals to be the finest philosophic thinker of the 20th century". Since he is both a philosopher and a theologian it is apt that we study him in this class. It is also apt because when he was a visiting professor at Harvard I had the great privilege of studying under him. We will only read a large section of his masterpiece *Insight*

Requirements: The dates and pages to read are below. Our method will involve a substantial amount of class discussion. The assignments will be 14 three page papers. You will need to do 12 of the 14 offered. If you do all 14 I will drop your lowest 2. If you do 13 I will drop your lowest 1 The nature of the papers, topics and due dates are described below. There will be no exams.

Dates, Topics, Readings

August

26 Introduction to class and Lonergan

28 The structure of *Insight* and Archimedes pp. 27—30 Also chapter passed out

30. Definitions pp. 31—36

September

4 Higher Viewpoints pp. 37—56

6 Heuristic Structures pp. 57—75

9 Canons of Empirical Method I pp. 93—108

11 Canons Empirical Method II pp. 109—120

- 13 Complimentarity I pp. 126—137
16 Complimentarity II pp. 138—162
18 Common Sense I pp. 196—213
20 Common Sense II 214—231
23 Common Sense as Object I pp. 232—249
25 Common Sense as Object II pp. 250—269

27 OUT OF TOWN

30 Judgment pp. 296—303

October

- 2 Reflection I pp. 304—323
4 Reflection II pp. 324—342
7 Self Affirmation of the Knower I pp. 343—356
9 Self Affirmation of the Knower II pp.. 357—371
11 Being I pp. 372—387
14 Being II pp. 388—398
16 Objectivity pp. 399—409
18 FALL BREAK
21 Method of Metaphysics pp. 410—425
23 Method of Metaphysics II pp. 426—455
25 Elements of Metaphysics I pp. 456—475
28 Elements of Metaphysics II pp. 476—511
30 Metaphysics as science I pp. 512—532

November

- 1 Metaphysics as Science II pp. 533—552
- 4 Ethics I pp. 618—630
- 6 Ethics II pp. 631—642
- 8 Ethics III pp. 643—656
- 11 General Transcendence I pp. 657—663
- 13 General Transcendence II pp. 667—679
- 15 General Transcendence III pp. 680—708
- 18 Special Transcendence I pp. 709—724
- 20 Special Transcendence II pp. 725—739
- 22 Special Transcendence III pp. 740—752

December

- 2 Discussion of My Paper
- 4. Conclusion
- 6. Conclusion

Papers

This course is designed to have you read carefully and understand as much as possible a true masterpiece of philosophical theology, especially a 20th century masterpiece. To this end the requirements are a series of short papers in which you are to summarize key parts of the text in your own words. I have provided specific questions that Lonergan addresses and you are to summarize his answer. Each of your essays must contain at least two quotations from the text.

Each paper must be at least 2 ½ pages. 4 or more is too long. just 2 or less is 2 short. There are 14 papers. You must do at least 12. If you do 13 I will drop your lowest score. If you do 14 I will drop your lowest 2 scores. Some the papers are required. If it has an* by it is required.

Each paper will be graded on a 100 point scale. I will start assuming that the paper is a 100 point paper and I will grade as follows.

Spelling errors—2 points off for each one

Grammar errors—2 points off for each one

Clarity errors—3 points off for each one

Lack of quotes—5 points off for each lack. If you have only one quote you lose 5 points. If you do not have any you lose 10 points

Grading Breakdown

1200---1140 A

1139—1060 A-

1059—1010 B+

1009—970 B

969—930 B-

929—890 C+

889—850 C

849--820 C-

DATES AND TOPICS

DUE SEPT. 4

Describe what Lonergan concludes from the example of Archimedes*

DUE SEPT. 11

Describe his account of abstraction

DUE SEPT 18

Describe his account of Galileo's world view and 1 of his criticisms*

DUE SEPT. 25

Describe his account of the general bias of common sense

DUE OCT. 2

Describe his account of the relation between phenomenal experience and judgment

DUE OCT 6

Describe his account of the relation between judgment and science

DUE OCT. 11

What is the relation between common sense judgments and empirical science

DUE OCT 16

What is the core meaning of being*

DUE OCT. 23

How does he define metaphysics

DUE OCT. 30

Describe potency, form and act

DUE NOV. 4

Describe his view of the unity of man

DUE NOV.11

Describe his view of the ontology of the good*

DUE NOV. 20

Describe how he affirms the existence of God

DUE DEC. 6

Write a critical response to my paper that we will discuss the last week