

Identification	Subject(title, code, credits)	ENGL 107 / A -THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE
	Department	English Language and Literature
	Program(undergraduate,graduate)	Undergraduate
	Term	Fall Semester (2024/2025) Academic Year
	Instructor	Oluwaseyi Olubunmi Sodiya (PhD)
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	Classroom/hours	In-class 4 Hours per week According to the schedule
Language	English	
Compulsory/Elective	Compulsory	
Required textbooks and course materials	<p>Required Textbook:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.An Introduction to the Theory of Knowledge: Noah Lemos Series: Cambridge Introductions to Philosophy Publisher: Cambridge University Press, Year: 2007 ISBN: 0521842131,9780521842136 2. Virtues of the mind :An inquiry into the nature of virtue and the ethical foundations of knowledge LINDA TRINKAUS ZAGZEBSKI Loyola Marymount University, Published (1996) ByThe Press Syndicate Of The University Of Cambridge The Pitt Building, Trumpington Street, Cambridge Cb2 1rp, United Kingdom 3.Keith Lehrer - Theory of Knowledge (Dimensions of philosophy series)-Westview Press (1990) 	
Course outline	<p>Course Description:</p> <p>The intent of theory of knowledge is to encourage students to critically evaluate their own ideas and presumptions in order to live more purposeful, responsible, and thoughtful lives. Students have the chance to debate, hypothesize, plan, and analyze over a range of issues. Students will be better equipped to take on new challenges and continue learning and reflect on what they have learned and apply it to their personal and professional lives. This subject will raise students' awareness of the interpretative character of information, which includes their own ideological biases and whether they should be accepted, rejected, or corrected. It provides teachers and students with the chance to: critically reflect on various knowledge domains and modes of knowing.</p>	
Course objectives	<p>The aims of the course are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To familiarize students with the core ideas and issues of the theory of knowledge and assist them in comprehending the essence of knowledge and its formation, organization, and expression. ▪ To cultivate in students the capacity to assess various modes of information acquisition, organization, and expression and to use this capacity in their own lives and careers. ▪ To encourage students' critical thinking and problem-solving abilities, to teach them the importance of integrity in knowledge acquisition and solving issues, and to assess the ethical implications of various fields of study. ▪ To prepare students for the theory of knowledge assessment and to assist them comprehend the significance of theory of knowledge ▪ 	

Learning outcomes	<p>Learning Objectives: By the end of the course, students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Understand the importance of theory of knowledge ▪ Recognize and put into practice the core ideas and issues of the theory of knowledge. ▪ Critically assess and use many methods of information acquisition, organization, and expression in their personal and professional lives. ▪ Encourage the growth of analytical thinking, problem-solving abilities, and ethical reasoning when acquiring knowledge and addressing issues. 		
Teaching methods	Instructor's Lectures	√	
	Group and Class Discussion and Students' Presentations	√	
	Students' Completion of Exercises Assigned on the Textbooks and other sources	√	
Evaluation	Methods	Date/deadlines	Percentage (%)
	Midterm Exam	The 8 th Week	30
	Participation	Every Session (Class Discussion & Short Essay)	5
	Activity		5
	Presentations	Essay and Presentation	10
	Action Research on TOK	Action Research	10
	Final exam	The 16 th Week	35
	Total		100
Policy	<p>Assessment Course Evaluation: The course includes regular lectures, but students must prepare by reading materials and responding to in-class questions. A midterm and final exam are also required, both of which count heavily toward the overall course score. The remaining grade is determined by how well you present the allocated portions and how much time you contribute to the course.</p> <p>Attendance & Participation: Attendance (in- class) is vital to student success and students should attend all classes. Class participation will be judged and graded based on the quality and daily consistency of effort. Attendance is NOT participation. Each student can learn about the adequacy of their participation by informal discussion with the instructor. Satisfactory participation will require active involvement in the discussions and all other class activities. In addition, it will involve careful study of the assigned materials, homework completion, and reflection on the topics or questions given before the start of each class.</p> <p>Rules and Classroom Management: Late homework and assignments need prior approval, and you can't make up for missed quizzes or graded activities. Students must behave in a courteous manner, show kindness, patience, and lack of judgment, and refrain from plagiarizing or cheating. Failure could mean you fail the whole course.</p> <p>Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty, such as plagiarism, copying, and cheating, is prohibited and is a serious infraction. This includes using content from websites or documents available online without giving due credit or acknowledgment. Except for partner or group projects and assignments, where each student in the group must contribute equally, students are expected to finish their own work. Any incident of academic dishonesty will therefore result in a zero on the assignment for all implicated students. If the instructor decides it is necessary, department heads and/or rectors may be notified for additional disciplinary action.</p> <p>Flexibility Clause:</p>		

This syllabus may change the prerequisites, assignments, rules, evaluation methods, and other items listed. The course will be adjusted to consider new knowledge as well as the demands of the instructor and students. Every effort will be made to inform students as soon as feasible if any changes are made.

Tentative schedule

Week	Topic and Activities	Required Reading for this Week
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is knowledge? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge and Its Problems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occurrent knowledge • Dispositional knowledge • Inferential knowledge • What is Theory? • What is concept? 	PowerPoint Slides Keith Lehrer - Theory of Knowledge (Dimensions of philosophy series)- Westview Press (1990) page 2-6
2	<p>SKEPTICISM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skepticism and Agnology, • Conception and the Chance of Error <p>A Refutation of Skepticism: Fallibility, Not Ignorance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Merits of Skepticism 	PowerPoint Slides Keith Lehrer - Theory of Knowledge (Dimensions of philosophy series)- Westview Press (1990) page 176- 181
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Truth and Acceptance • Self-explanatory Beliefs 	Keith Lehrer - Theory of Knowledge (Dimensions of philosophy series)- Westview Press (1990) page 20-26
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Foundation Theory: Infallible • Foundationalism • Explanatory Coherence and Observation Statements 	Keith Lehrer - Theory of Knowledge (Dimensions of philosophy series)- Westview Press (1990) page 39-44
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theory of Epistemology • An Ethical Analogy 	Keith Lehrer - Theory of Knowledge (Dimensions of philosophy series)- Westview Press (1990) page 153 - 162
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the necessary and sufficient conditions for knowledge? • What is the relationship between knowledge and justification? • The traditional analysis and the Gettier problem 	Research & An Introduction to the Theory of Knowledge: Noah Lemos Series: Cambridge Introductions to

		Philosophy Publisher: Cambridge University Press, Year: 2007 ISBN: 0521842131,97805 21842136 Page 7- 27
7	Mid-term Exam!	Both multiple-choice or and an open-ended
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal Coherence and Personal Justification • The Principle of Trustworthiness • Coherence, Truth, and Undefeated • Justification 	Keith Lehrer - Theory of Knowledge (Dimensions of philosophy series)- Westview Press (1990) Page 112- 131
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the relationship between knowledge and belief? • What are the different sources of knowledge? • What criteria do we use to judge the validity of different sources of knowledge? 	Research
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge, truth, and justification • Language and the Limits of Language • Problem and notion of justification (<i>Virtues of the mind</i> page 29-43) • Neglect of understanding and wisdom 	An Introduction to the Theory of Knowledge: Noah Lemos Series: Cambridge Introductions to Philosophy Publisher: Cambridge University Press, Year: 2007 ISBN: 0521842131,97805 21842136 Page 2- 7
11	<p>The problem of the criterion</p> <p>Chisholm and the problem of the criterion</p> <p>What's wrong with methodism?</p> <p>The objection from supervenience</p> <p>Does particularism stifle epistemic inquiry?</p> <p>Moser's objections to common sense particularism</p> <p>Is common sense particularism dogmatic?</p>	An Introduction to the Theory of Knowledge: Noah Lemos Series: Cambridge Introductions to Philosophy Publisher: Cambridge University Press, Year: 2007 ISBN: 0521842131,97805 21842136 Page 156- 178
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reliabilism and virtue epistemology • Perception and Reality • Perception and Sensation • The Theory of Knowledge and the Society • The Concept of Society 	An Introduction to the Theory of Knowledge: Noah Lemos Series: Cambridge Introductions to Philosophy Publisher: Cambridge

		University Press, Year: 2007 ISBN: 0521842131,97805 21842136 Page 85- 90
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Theory of Knowledge and Ethics • The Theory of Knowledge and Ethics • The Role of Ethics in the Theory of Knowledge 	Virtues of the mind An inquiry into the nature of virtue and the ethical foundations of knowledge LINDA TRINKAUS ZAGZEBSKI Loyola Marymount Universi Research
14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Psychology and the Theory of Knowledge • The Mentalists Approach to Knowledge 	
15	Revision week	
16	FINAL EXAM! (Both multiple-choice and open-ended)	

