PART I

Week 1  
Introduction and Organization
Aug. 30  
The Trolley Problem (Handout)
Twenty-One Puzzlers (Handout)
Queen v. Dudley, 1884 (Handout)
Course Requirements and Reading (Handout)

Sept. 3
Why Philosophy?
Bertrand Russell (1872-1970), "The Value of Philosophy," in INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY, pp. 18-21; also online: http://www.ditext.com/russell/rus15.html
Plato (428-348), "Apology: Socrates' Defense" in INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY, pp. 22-37; also online: http://classics.mit.edu/Plato/apology.html

Week 2
Arguments for God's Existence
Sept. 10
What Sign Would Convince You That God Exists? (Handout)
http://courses.dce.harvard.edu/~phils4/sign.html
God's Nature (Handout)
http://courses.dce.harvard.edu/~phils4/omnix.html
Traditional Arguments for God's Existence (Handout)
http://courses.dce.harvard.edu/~phils4/traditional.html

The Ontological, Cosmological and Design Argument
Anselm (1033-1109), "The Ontological Argument," in INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY, pp. 42-3
Aquinas (1033-1109), "The Existence of God," in INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY, pp. 44-6
Samuel Clarke (1675-1725), "A Modern Version of the Cosmological Argument" (Class Handout)
William Paley (1734-1805), "Natural Theology," in INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY, pp. 46-51
Stephen Jay Gould, "The Panda's Thumb" (Handout)

Sometimes I think the subject sign that intelligent life exists elsewhere in the universe is that none of it has tried to contact us.
Sept. 13

**Reason and Belief**

John Perry, "Dialogue on Good, Evil and the Existence of God," in *INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY*, pp. 96-119

Bertrand Russell (1872-1970), "Why I Am Not a Christian," in *INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY*, pp. 55-8; also online: [http://users.drew.edu/~jlenz/whynot.html](http://users.drew.edu/~jlenz/whynot.html)

W. K Clifford, The Ethics of Belief
[http://people.brandeis.edu/~teuber/Clifford_ethics.pdf](http://people.brandeis.edu/~teuber/Clifford_ethics.pdf)

William James, “The Will To Believe,” (excerpt) (Online)
[http://educ.jmu.edu/~omearawm/ph101willtobelieve.html](http://educ.jmu.edu/~omearawm/ph101willtobelieve.html)

*Topics for the first writing exercise will be handed out on Friday, Sept. 13th. Exercises are due on Tuesday, September 24th, at the beginning of class. The exercise will be a credit/no credit exercise. It will not receive a letter grade, but it will give everyone an opportunity to try their hand at making an argument and defending their own position.*

“‘I think you should be more explicit here in step two.’”