think critically and yet deeply regarding these major philosophical issues and the possible answers for them, learning to give their own opinions and to form conclusions rationally.

Some topics are: (1) the method of linguistic-conceptual analysis; (2) fallacy; (3) the method of logic; and (4) scientific method. Special attention will be given to the basic concepts and principles of the above areas. Attention will be given to the application of these concepts and principles as well. The course, in particular, will show how to apply these concepts and principles to problem solving, the construction of sound arguments as well as the tackling of linguistic pitfalls and fallacies by using both daily life and academic examples. Students are encouraged to develop their own critical thinking skills by applying the concepts and principles in question to issues and problems that they encounter.

This course aims to provide a basic introduction to the methodology of critical thinking, in particular, the basic method of the following areas: (1) the method of linguistic-conceptual analysis; (2) fallacy; (3) the method of logic; and (4) scientific method. Special attention will be given to the basic concepts and principles of the above areas. Attention will be given to the application of those concepts and principles as well. The course, in particular, will show how to apply these concepts and principles to problem solving, the construction of sound arguments as well as the tackling of linguistic pitfalls and fallacies by using both daily life and academic examples. Students are encouraged to develop their own critical thinking skills by applying the concepts and principles in question to issues and problems that they encounter.

R.P. 1020 Critical Thinking (3,2,1)

This course aims to provide a basic introduction to the methodology of critical thinking, including linguistic-philosophical analysis, the detection of fallacies, deduction and induction, and the methods and techniques of persuasion and debating. The application of those principles, methods and techniques to public debating is emphasized.

Public debating is an art of persuasion. Debaters have to bring together facts and arguments to a conclusion. More importantly, they have to present their views in a clear and logical manner so that the adjudicators, or even the audience, are persuaded to accept that their conclusion is better reasoned. Critical thinking, logic, rhetoric and the method of persuasion are all essential elements of the art of debating. This course aims to provide a basic introduction to critical thinking, including linguistic-philosophical analysis, the detection of fallacies, deduction and induction, and the methods and techniques of persuasion and debating. The application of those principles, methods and techniques to public debating is emphasized.

R.P. 1030 Public Debating and the Art of Thinking (3,2,1)

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R.P. 1040 Religion and the Meaning of Life (3,2,1)

Religious and Life Meaning

This course aims to help students to gain a basic understanding of how people in different living religious traditions conceive of the nature of life and manage shared existential problems. Students will therefore be introduced to worldviews and religious institutions found in Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Selective studies of authoritative scriptures and those describing rituals of worship, historical transmission of traditions and contemporary problems within these traditions will allow students to assess how religious advocates in various traditions resolve problems of life.

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R.P. 1070 Religion, Psychology and Personal Growth (3,2,1)

Religious and Life Meaning

This course deals with issues relating to the interface between religious and psychological. Relevant theories of a selection of influential psychologists, such as Freud and Jung, will be thoroughly examined, with special emphasis on their views of the structure of human personality, the process of personal growth, and the nature and significance of religion. This theoretical focus will be balanced by an emphasis on practical issues, such as dream interpretation, with a view towards assessing and promoting one's own personal growth.

R.P. 1100 Biblical Wisdom for Human Life (3,2,1)

Biblical and Life Meaning

This course introduces the Bible’s understanding of the meaning of life from its various perspectives. Instead of forcing texts into preconceived topics, it follows the structure of the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament without assuming an exegetical dependence of one upon the other. The diversity of views of different biblical authors that have taken positively and each is understood against its own particular historical, religious, and cultural background. Basic exegetical methods will be introduced. Students are guided to appreciate, understand, and interpret texts pertinent to the theme of Human Life.

R.P. 1110 Christianity and Modern Life (3,2,1)

Christianity and Life Meaning

Christianity and Modern Life

This course is a systematic examination of the relevance of the Christian view to modern society. The basic tenets of the Christian faith will first be introduced. Then different ideas and thoughts concerning contemporary issues in politics, philosophy, science and ethics will be brought up and compared with the Christian worldview. The course ends with an examination into value systems of modern man with the aim of challenging students to make choices that reflect their quest for a life which is worth living.

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R.P. 1120 Nature and Human Beings in Chinese and Western Cultures (3,2,1)

Nature and Human Beings

This course provides a comparative examination of the various views on the relationship between nature and human beings found in Western and Chinese cultures. Besides an exploration of the similarities and differences of these views, the focus of discussion will be on the fundamental ideas and the modes of thinking employed, and how they have shaped the contemporary way of life in terms of humans, the environment and the issues created by their association. Current ecological debates such as the significance of wilderness, animal rights, environmental policy-making, and the duty to preserve will be addressed as well.

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