Office Information
Faculty Center, Rm. 276, ph#: 825-6035
Office Hours: TR 2:30-3:30; W 1:30-4:30; and by appointment

E-Mail Address
andrew.piker@tamucc.edu

Written Assignments
Two tests and a final exam; one paper of at least 4-6 pages; short (mostly in-class) assignments, including a progress report (a short first draft of the paper) and an in-class progress report discussion assignment

Grading
I will grade work on a 100 point scale, where A=90-100, B=80-89, etc. Your overall grade will consist of the following: 25% for each test and for the final exam; 20% for the paper; and 5% for the short assignments. Attendance, class participation, and improvement will be considered in deciding borderline cases.

Texts
The main text for the class is Philosophy of Religion: An Anthology, eds. Louis Pojman and Michael Rea, 6th edition, Wadsworth.

Additional readings will be posted online.

Late Assignments and Incompletes
Students who miss a test or fail to turn in another assignment on time for a good reason will be given a chance to make up the assignment and turn it in during the same or following week, at a time arranged with the instructor. An incomplete for the course is possible only in cases in which the course work is nearly complete, and the student has a legitimate reason for not completing the course work by the end of the semester.

Plagiarism
Plagiarism is the presentation of work as one’s own, that was in fact produced by another author (e.g., the submission of a paper as one’s own work, when it was written by someone else; or the submission of a portion of a paper written by another author, without citing the source of the material). University policy strictly prohibits plagiarism. Plagiarized work will be assigned a grade of “F.”

Advisement
Academic advisors are available to assist students with course selection, degree plans, and other academic matters. Each college has an academic advising center, staffed by full-time, professional advisors. For the College of Liberal Arts the undergraduate advisor is Linda Miller (825-3466; linda.miller@tamucc.edu). The graduate advisor is Rachelle Stanley (825-5896;
Rachelle.stanley@tamucc.edu). Both are located on the second floor of Driftwood. Students who have yet to declare a major are advised by the Academic Advising Transition Center. For more information please call (361) 825-5931 or log on to http://www.tamucc.edu/~aac.

Notice to Students with Disabilities
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you suspect that you may have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.), please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office, located in Driftwood 101, at 825-5816. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible.

Grade Appeal Process
As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. If the problem cannot be resolved at this level, the student may take the steps below.

1. Presentation of grievance to instructor. (This step must be taken within fourteen calendar days after the beginning of the next term.)
2. Appeal to department chair or area coordinator.
3. Written appeal to the University Academic Standards Grievance Committee.
4. Preliminary review and advising by an ombudsman appointed by the Provost.
5. Submission of file by department chair to the chair of the University Academic Standards Grievance Committee.
6. Review of file by committee chair and submission of case to committee.
7. Proceedings of the University Academic Standards Grievance Committee. (Committee holds hearing, reviews data, presents findings to all parties, and makes recommendation to Provost.)
8. Decision by Provost.
9. Final appeal in writing to the Provost if student or instructor thinks appropriate procedures have not been followed.

For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at: http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.htm. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

Course Schedule
All readings are from the Pojman text, unless marked online

September 5 Introduction
10 **Religion, Theism, and Philosophy of Religion**  
Reading: Morris, pp. 11-21  
   Peterson, online

12 **Divine Attributes**  
Reading: Aquinas, pp. 87-89  
   Mavrodes, pp. 89-91  
   Frankfurt, pp. 91-93

17 Reading: Boethius, online  
   Pike, pp. 96-107  
   Shankara, online

19 **Arguments for the Existence of God**  
Reading: Aquinas, pp. 147-149  
   Rowe, pp. 150-159

September 24 Reading: Paley, 181-184  
   Hume, pp. 184-190

26 Reading: Swinburne, 191-201  
   Smart, online

October 1 **The Problems of Evil and Hiddenness**  
Reading: Rowe, pp. 307-314  
   Swinburne, online

3 Review

8 **Test**

10 Reading: McKim, online  
   Rea, pp. 266-275

15 **Religious Experience, Naturalism, and Faith**  
Reading: Selections, pp. 223-224  
   James, pp. 224-241

17 Reading: Alston, pp. 241-247  
   Hick, pp. 513-522  
   Gaivett, online

22 Reading: Jordan, pp. 258-266  
   Hume, online

24 Reading: Feuerbach, online  
   Freud, online

29 **Progress Reports Due; In-Class Progress Report Discussion Assignment**

31 Reading: Taylor, online  
   Scriven, online  
   Pojman, pp. 549-560
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 5</td>
<td>Reading: Flew, Hare, and Mitchell, online</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td><strong>Test</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td><strong>Science and Religion</strong></td>
<td>Peterson, online</td>
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<td>Dennett, online</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Reading: Gould, pp. 568-576</td>
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<td>Pope John Paul II, pp. 577-581</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td><strong>Religious Pluralism</strong></td>
<td>Hick, pp. 632-640</td>
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<td>Plantinga, pp. 640-654</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>Reading: Basinger, pp. 654-661</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td><strong>No Class, Thanksgiving</strong></td>
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<td>December 3</td>
<td>Reading: Dalai Lama, pp. 661-666</td>
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<td>Runzo, pp. 667-679</td>
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<td><strong>Death and Immortality</strong></td>
<td>Reading: Davis, online</td>
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<td>Russell, pp. 468-470</td>
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<td>Hick, pp. 471-477</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Review</td>
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<td><strong>Paper Due</strong></td>
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**Final Exam: Thursday, December 12, 1:45-4:15**