Course Title: Stoicism: An Ancient Philosophy for Modern Times
Course Code: PHI 116
Instructor: Ray Kania

A Note on Texts and Translations
The required readings for this course are ancient texts in English translation. They have been translated many times since they were originally written in ancient Greek or Latin roughly 2,000 years ago. You can find many of those translations in print or online, often for free. Nonetheless, it is strongly recommended that you acquire the translations that the instructor has assigned. Many of the translations that can be accessed freely online were made decades or even centuries ago and thus are written in an antiquated mode that makes reading slower and less enjoyable (for most people, at least). Moreover, discussion is easier when all students and the instructor are working from the same translation (that is, texts by the same translator and with the same pagination).

*Please see course page for full description and additional details.

Grade Options and Requirements:
- No Grade Requested
  - This is the default option. No work will be required; no credit shall be received; no proof of attendance can be provided.
- Credit/No Credit (CR/NC)
  - Students must attend at least five (of six) class sessions.
- Letter Grade (A, B, C, D, No Pass)
  - Students must attend at least five (of six) class sessions and write a paper (about five pages on a topic to be determined in consultation with the instructor)

*Please Note: If you require proof that you completed a Continuing Studies course for any reason (for example, employer reimbursement), you must choose either the Letter Grade or Credit/No Credit option. Courses taken for NGR will not appear on official transcripts or grade reports.
Tentative Weekly Outline:

Week 1
- Introduction to the course
- The Stoic paradoxes
- Epictetus, *Enchiridion* (a “handbook” on Stoic philosophy)

Week 2
- Cicero, *On the Nature of the Gods*

Week 3
- Seneca, *On the Shortness of Life*

Week 4
- Seneca, *On Anger*

Week 5
- Seneca, *Medea*

Week 6
- Marcus Aurelius, *Meditations*
- Critics of Stoicism
- Stoicism in today’s world