



El Camino College
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD – Approved

I. GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

Subject and Number: Philosophy 101
Descriptive Title: Introduction to Philosophy
Course Disciplines: Philosophy
Division: Behavioral and Social Sciences

Catalog Description:

This course investigates the big questions of philosophy, such as: What is the meaning of life? What can I know? Do I have free will? How do we know we are not living in a computer simulation? Emphasis is on how philosophers go about answering such questions, and how these questions are relevant to our lives.

Note: Students may take either Philosophy 101 or Philosophy 101H. Duplicate credit will not be awarded.

Conditions of Enrollment:

Recommended Preparation: English 1 or eligibility for English 1A or qualification by appropriate assessment

Course Length:	X Full Term	Other (Specify number of weeks):
Hours Lecture:	3.00 hours per week	TBA
Hours Laboratory:	0 hours per week	TBA
Course Units:	3.00	

Grading Method: Letter
Credit Status: Associate Degree Credit

Transfer CSU: X Effective Date: Prior to July 1992
Transfer UC: X Effective Date: Prior to July 1992

General Education:

El Camino College:
3 – Humanities
 Term: Other: Approved

CSU GE:
C2 - Humanities
 Term: Other: Approved

IGETC:
3B - Humanities
 Term: Fall 1991 Other:

II. OUTCOMES AND OBJECTIVES

A. COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (The course student learning outcomes are listed below, along with a representative assessment method for each. Student learning outcomes are not subject to review, revision or approval by the College Curriculum Committee)

1. Epistemological Terminology: Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the basic epistemological terminology and issues, such as the source and basis of our beliefs, empiricism vs. rationalism, and the problem of induction.
2. Metaphysical Concepts and Arguments: Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the metaphysical concepts and arguments regarding such issues as free will versus determinism, the mind-body problem, and whether God exists.
3. Morality: Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of some of the basic issues and topics related to morality, such as justice, minority perspectives, moral objectivism versus moral relativism, various ethical theories, and/or a basic understanding of how those theories can be applied to contemporary moral issues.

The above SLOs were the most recent available SLOs at the time of course review. For the most current SLO statements, visit the El Camino College SLO webpage at <http://www.elcamino.edu/academics/slo/>.

B. Course Student Learning Objectives (The major learning objective for students enrolled in this course are listed below, along with a representative assessment method for each)

1. Demonstrate an ability to articulate ideas about philosophical issues.
 - Essay exams
2. Demonstrate a basic understanding of philosophical methods.
 - Essay exams
3. Use philosophical methods, assumptions and principles to analyze philosophical ideas and positions.
 - Essay exams
4. Evaluate philosophical arguments, methods, assumptions, and principles for consistency, relevance, and truth.
 - Essay exams
5. Explain and differentiate three main areas of philosophy: ethics, epistemology and metaphysics.
 - Essay exams
6. Explain the difference between knowledge and beliefs about the physical world (the realm of science) and knowledge and beliefs about moral issues and metaphysical things such as God, Heaven and Hell, and souls.
 - Essay exams
7. Assess and explain perspectives and outlooks on life that are beyond traditional societal paradigms, such as minority, feminist and Taoist perspectives.
 - Essay exams
8. Distinguish between normative and descriptive ethics.
 - Essay exams
9. Explain the difference between duty ethics and consequentialism, and illustrate this difference by applying the theories to an ethical problem.
 - Essay exams
10. Differentiate moral relativism from moral objectivism, and explain their relationship to contemporary moral issues.
 - Essay exams
11. Discuss and analyze what constitutes a good and fulfilling life, such as the roles of money and happiness.
 - Essay exams

12. Clarify the difference between conviction, belief and knowledge.
 - Essay exams
13. Identify and analyze metaphysical problems, such as the problem of free will versus determinism; the existence of God; the ultimate nature of reality; and the nature and existence of consciousness.
 - Essay exams
14. Compare and contrast epistemological theories concerning the source, extent and limits of knowledge.
 - Essay exams
15. Analyze different systems of government, focusing especially on their justifications and their assumptions about human nature.
 - Essay exams

III. OUTLINE OF SUBJECT MATTER (Topics are detailed enough to enable a qualified instructor to determine the major areas that should be covered as well as ensure consistency from instructor to instructor and semester to semester.)

Lecture or Lab	Approximate Hours	Topic Number	Major Topic
Lecture	6	I	Nature and Purpose of Philosophy A. Problem of Defining Philosophy B. Relation of Philosophy to Science and Religion C. Examples of Classical and Modern Philosophers
Lecture	16	II	Metaphysics A. The Nature of Metaphysical Claims B. Arguments for God's Existence C. Arguments Against God's Existence D. Determinism and Free Will E. Mind-Body Problem F. The Nature of Personal Identity
Lecture	16	III	Epistemology A. Nature and Limits of Knowledge B. Descartes' Methodological Skepticism C. Hume's Problem of Induction D. Sources of Knowledge 1. Rationalism 2. Empiricism E. Theories of Truth 1. Correspondence 2. Coherence 3. Pragmatism
Lecture	16	IV	Axiology A. Ethics and Social Philosophy 1. Ethical Theories - Duty, Consequentialist, and Virtue Ethics 2. Egoism, Relativism, and Objectivism 3. Justice and Discrimination B. Political Philosophy: Capitalism and Communism
Total Lecture Hours			54
Total Laboratory Hours			0
Total Hours			54

IV. PRIMARY METHOD OF EVALUATION AND SAMPLE ASSIGNMENTS

A. PRIMARY METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Substantial writing assignments

B. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENT USING PRIMARY METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Read the chapter in your textbook on epistemology. In a three- to five-page essay, write a critical comparative analysis of rationalism and empiricism. Include in your analysis a comparison of the epistemic and practical implications of each of these epistemological theories.

C. COLLEGE-LEVEL CRITICAL THINKING ASSIGNMENTS:

1. In a three- to five-page essay, construct an analytical argument that addresses how a determinist might respond to an existentialist's accusation that the determinist is providing an excuse for, rather than an explanation of, human behavior.
2. In a two- to five-page essay, select a contemporary moral issue such as abortion, universal health care, or same sex marriage, and argue against the traditionalist view by taking and supporting an alternative perspective, such as a feminist, Taoist, socialist, or a minority perspective.

D. OTHER TYPICAL ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION METHODS:

Essay exams
Objective Exams
Reading reports
Written homework
Term or other papers
Multiple Choice
True/False

V. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

Discussion
Lecture
Multimedia presentations

Note: In compliance with Board Policies 1600 and 3410, Title 5 California Code of Regulations, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Sections 504 and 508 of the Americans with Disabilities Act, instruction delivery shall provide access, full inclusion, and effective communication for students with disabilities.

VI. WORK OUTSIDE OF CLASS

Study
Answer questions
Required reading
Written work

Estimated Independent Study Hours per Week: 6

VII. TEXTS AND MATERIALS

A. UP-TO-DATE REPRESENTATIVE TEXTBOOKS

Steven M. Cahn, ed. The World of Philosophy. 2nd ed. New York: Oxford Press University Press, 2019.

Gideon Rosen, Alex Byrne, Joshua Cohen, Elizabeth Harman, Seana Shiffrin, eds. The Norton Introduction to Philosophy. 2nd ed. W.W. Norton & Company, 2018.

John Perry, Michael Bratman, John Martin Fischer, eds. Introduction to Philosophy: Classical and Contemporary Readings. 8th ed. Oxford University Press, 2018.

Kit Richard Christensen. Philosophy and Choice: Selected Readings from Around the World. Mayfield Publishing Company, 2009.

Qualifier Text: (Discipline Standard),

Gary E. Kessler. Voices of Wisdom. 8th ed. Wadsworth Publishing Company, 2013.

Manuel Valasquez. Philosophy: A Text with Readings. Wadsworth Publishing Company, 2007.

Qualifier Text: (Discipline Standard),

B. ALTERNATIVE TEXTBOOKS

C. REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS

D. OTHER REQUIRED MATERIALS

VIII. CONDITIONS OF ENROLLMENT

A. Requisites (Course and Non-Course Prerequisites and Corequisites)

Requisites	Category and Justification
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B. Requisite Skills

Requisite Skills

C. Recommended Preparations (Course and Non-Course)

Recommended Preparation	Category and Justification
English 1	Category: Course Justification: This course involves reading college level textbooks and answering essay questions. A student's success in this class will be enhanced if they have these skills.
Eligibility for English 1A or qualification by appropriate assessment	Category: Non-Course Justification: This course involves reading college level textbooks and answering essay questions. A student's success in this class will be enhanced if they have these skills.

D. Recommended Skills

Recommended Skills
Students need well-developed reading skills in order to understand and interpret information in their textbooks and writing skills to develop essays and projects.
ENGL 1 – Summarize, analyze, evaluate, and synthesize college-level texts.
ENGL 1 – Write a well-reasoned, well-supported expository essay that demonstrates application of the academic writing process.

E. Enrollment Limitations

Enrollment Limitations and Category	Enrollment Limitations Impact
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Course created by Philosophy Staff on 01/01/1962.

BOARD APPROVAL DATE:

LAST BOARD APPROVAL DATE: 11/18/2019

Last Reviewed and/or Revised by: Felipe Leon
18056

Date: 09/12/2019