

## **Philosophy 105**

### ***Critical Thinking and Discourse***

*3 unit; 3 hours lecture*

*Recommended Preparation: English 1A with a minimum grade of C*

*Degree applicable Transfer CSU and UC*

This course focuses on the study and development of critical reasoning and effective argumentation. Emphasis is placed on the application of critical thinking skills to the production of clear, well-argued position and advocacy papers and to the linguistic and logical analysis of the writings of others.

#### **Course Objectives:**

1. Identify and analyze arguments representing multicultural views and perspectives with an emphasis on the role of rhetorical language in argumentation.
2. Identify logical inconsistencies in arguments.
3. Demonstrate the basics of writing an argumentative essay.
4. Distinguish fact/knowledge from judgement/opinion.
5. Distinguish knowledge and beliefs obtained from sensory evidence from both ethics and metaphysics.
6. Evaluate the credibility and effectiveness of written argumentation in various domains of inquiry, with particular attention to the expertise and bias of speakers and writers.
7. Evaluate the credibility of evidence source materials.
8. Locate, analyze, and synthesize sources, evidence, and reasons in argumentative writing.
9. Analyze the written arguments of others.
10. Identify and analyze fallacies, analogies, statistics, studies, and surveys.
11. Interpret passages of texts, such as the Constitution and the Bible, paying close attention to problems of context, translations from other languages, contradictions, and exceptions to rules.
12. Analyze the myriad kinds of advertising, including being able to recognize and identify the fallacies, biases, and persuasive techniques used by advertisers.

#### **Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):**

1. Errors in Reasoning Students will be able to recognize and evaluate both errors in reasoning, including the primary fallacies, and linguistic techniques used in statements and arguments.
2. Problems in Positions Students will be able to recognize and articulate problems in the positions and arguments of themselves and others.
3. Composing Arguments Students will be able to compose coherent and well-reasoned arguments demonstrating research skills, and the ability to evaluate essays, studies, and statistical data. They will be able to analyze various arguments, including analogical and scientific ones as well as addressing counterarguments to their position.

#### **ADA Statement:**

El Camino College is committed to providing educational accommodations for students with disabilities upon the timely request by the student to the instructor. A student with a disability, who would like to request an academic accommodation, is responsible for identifying herself/himself to the instructor and to the Special Resource Center. To make arrangements for academic accommodations, contact the Special Resource Center.

## **Student Code of Conduct**

<https://www.elcamino.edu/administration/board/2019-policies/AP%205500%20Student%20Conduct%20.pdf>

## **Student Rights and Grievances Procedure 5530**

<https://www.elcamino.edu/administration/board/boarddocs/AP%205530%20STUDENT%20%20RIGHTS%20AND%20GRIEVANCES.pdf>