

## **Philosophy 113**

### ***Contemporary Philosophy***

*3 unit; 3 hours lecture*

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

*Degree applicable Transfer CSU and UC*

This course addresses the main themes and ideas of 19th and 20th century philosophy. In addition to major contributions in the philosophy of language and ethics, some of the major philosophical movements covered include existentialism, phenomenology, analytic philosophy and logical positivism, pragmatism, plus post-modernism and post-structuralism.

### **Course Objectives:**

1. Demonstrate mastery of critical philosophical skills based on readings of primary texts to accurately interpret and present the positions of 19th and 20th Century philosophers.
2. Critically analyze and evaluate arguments, assumptions, principles, and methods of 19th and 20th Century philosophers.
3. Understand and evaluate some of the seminal writings on ethics over the last 200 years, such as Mill's Utilitarianism and Rawl's views on societal justice, and be able to distinguish these positions from earlier and/or competing views.
4. Describe the Analytic movement of philosophy, with attention to the works of the Logical Positivists, and explain how it challenges all metaphysical beliefs.
5. Understand the main ideas of the Existentialist movement, and describe how later Existentialist thinkers built upon the ideas of earlier Existentialist thinkers.
6. Critically assess the similarities and differences between the various thinkers in the Existentialist movement, including such philosophers as Kierkegaard, Nietzsche, Heidegger, Beauvoir, and Sartre.
7. Understand and describe the basic tenets of Phenomenalism.
8. Explain and describe the basic tenets of Post-Modernism and Post-Structualism, and assess how these philosophies depart from earlier ways of doing philosophy.
9. Understand and assess the major views in philosophy of language and linguistics, such as those espoused by Carnap, Chomsky, Wittgenstein, Russell, and/or Kripke.
10. Describe and evaluate the recent thinking and areas of contention in the field of philosophy of mind, as typified in the works of Searle.

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

1. Recent Philosophical Ideas  
Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of some of the more recent philosophical ideas in areas such as ethics, philosophy of mind, and philosophy of language.
2. Leading Philosophers of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries  
Students will be able to explain the positions and arguments of the leading philosophers of the 19th and 20th Centuries.
3. Main Contemporary Philosophical Movements  
Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of and distinguish between the main Contemporary philosophical movements, including Existentialism, Phenomenology, Analytic Philosophy and Logical Positivism, Pragmatism, plus Post-Modernism and Post-Structuralism.

### **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>