

PHIL-1115 INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY**3 CREDITS****SYLLABUS**

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

In this course, students will be introduced to some of the key questions of philosophy through the study of classical and contemporary thinkers. Some of the questions students might consider are: Do we have free will? What is knowledge? What is the mind? What are our moral obligations to others? Students will engage with and learn to critically assess various philosophical approaches to such questions.

Formerly PHIL 110

Prerequisites: ENGL-1110 or appropriate English Accuplacer score.

Semester Offered: Fall, Spring

COMMON STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of San Juan College programs and degrees, the student will demonstrate competency in...

BROAD AND SPECIALIZED LEARNING

Students will actively and independently acquire, apply, and adapt skills and knowledge with an awareness of global contexts.

CRITICAL THINKING

Students will think analytically and creatively to explore ideas, make connections, draw conclusions and solve problems.

CULTURAL AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Students will act purposefully, reflectively, and ethically in diverse and complex environments.

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

Students will exchange ideas and information with clarity in multiple contexts.

INFORMATION LITERACY

Students will be able to recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use it effectively.

INTEGRATING TECHNOLOGIES

Students will demonstrate fluency in the application and use of technologies in multiple contexts.

Student work from this class may be randomly selected and used anonymously for assessment of course, program, and/or institutional learning outcomes. For more information, please refer to the Dean of the appropriate School.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to...

1. Developing the student's ability to read and comprehend philosophy texts.
2. Developing the student's critical thinking skills.
3. Providing students with conceptual frameworks for understanding the human experience.
4. Developing the student's understanding of the great questions of human existence both from a historical perspective and as issues of contemporary life.
5. Providing students with a better appreciation of the study of philosophy.
6. Enabling students to see the underlying tensions in human knowledge as illustrated by the branches of philosophy.

SPECIFIC LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Developing the student's ability to read and comprehend philosophy texts.
 - a. demonstrate mastery of texts in quizzes, and tests
 - b. use material appropriately in papers and classroom discussion
2. Developing the student's critical thinking skills.
 - a. understand the importance of ideas in human events
 - b. understand the relationship between ideas and action in human affairs
 - c. appropriately use these concepts in tests, papers, and classroom discussion
3. Providing students with conceptual frameworks for understanding the human experience.
 - a. understand the issues raised by metaphysics
 - b. understand the issues raised by epistemology
 - c. understand the issues raised by axiology
 - d. appropriately use these concepts in tests, papers, and classroom discussion
4. Developing the student's understanding of the great questions of human existence both from a historical perspective and as issues of contemporary life.
 - a. understand the issues associated with questions about the nature of reality, knowledge, and value systems
 - b. express their understanding in papers and classroom discussion
5. Providing students with a better appreciation of the study of philosophy
 - a. relate the questions raised by philosophy to their own lives
 - b. appropriately use their understanding in tests, papers, and in classroom discussion
6. Enabling students to see the underlying human knowledge as illustrated by the branches of philosophy.
 - a. understand the issues raised by metaphysics including:
 - i. (1). the questions of ontology ("what is real?")
 - ii. (2). the questions of cosmology ("is there order and purpose in the universe?")
 - iii. (3). the questions of human nature ("who are we and what are we doing here?")
 - iv. (4). the questions of teleology ("Who's in charge?")
 - b. understand the issues raised by epistemology including:
 - i. (1). the question about the sources of knowledge ("how do we know what we know?")
 - ii. (2). the questions about logic ("how do we test for true and false ideas?")

- iii. (3). the questions about aesthetics (“what is beauty?”)
- c. understand the issues raised by axiology including:
 - i. (1). the question of political philosophy (“what is the best regime?”)
 - ii. (2). the questions of social philosophy (“what is justice?”)
 - iii. (3). the questions of ethics (“what is virtue?”)
- d. appropriately use these concepts in tests, papers, and classroom discussion