



PHIL 1115 G-Introduction to Philosophy Section Name Section Credit Hours Credits
Syllabus

Course Information

Meeting times and location: Section Meeting Times Section Location

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.

Prerequisites: ENGL-1110

Terms offered: Fall and Spring

Section-specific Course Description:

Course Level Objectives

1. Comprehend and differentiate between various philosophical approaches to questions within fields such as metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, and aesthetics.
2. Critically evaluate various philosophical arguments and positions.

General Education Student Learning Outcomes

This course meets the requirements set forth by the state of New Mexico for a general education course that is transferable to any public institution of higher education in New Mexico. Each general education course addresses three essential skills as outlined in the table below.

General Education Content Area

Essential Skills Associated with the Content
Area

Communication	Communication, Critical Thinking, Information & Digital Literacy
Creative and Fine Arts	Communication, Critical Thinking, Personal & Social Responsibility
Humanities	Critical Thinking, Information & Digital Literacy, Personal & Social Responsibility
Mathematics	Communication, Critical Thinking, Quantitative Reasoning
Science	Critical Thinking, Personal & Social Responsibility, Quantitative Reasoning
Social & Behavioral Sciences	Communication, Critical Thinking, Personal & Social Responsibility

For further information on the Essential Skills, visit the [General Education Essential Skills](#) page.

Required Texts and/or Materials

ROOTS OF WISDOM

9781305766662

MITCHELL

CUSTOM

Required Technology and Software

- Canvas
- Chrome, Safari, or Firefox

Course Requirements

Students will do the following activities: 1) evidence of serious reading in the assigned texts, 2) a reasonable amount of accurate knowledge and clear understanding of concepts, issues, and relationships, and 3) evidence of improvement in grasping the material and in written expression.

Other Classroom Policies and Expectations

STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES: 1) attend class regularly - you are responsible for all the materials covered in lectures and videos; 2) do the reading as assigned; 3) show up for all exams (no makeup tests will be given except in the case of a proven emergency); 4) if you decide to withdraw from the course, do so before or on the deadline, which is Friday, November 13; 5) take pride in your work and try to do a good job. This course will cover a large amount of material and in order to succeed the student must keep current with the material.

DIVERSITY: In order for learning to take place, all students must feel welcome in their learning environment. SJC has an open enrollment so that all members of the community can participate in the learning process. Diversity of students is not only expected in this classroom, it is welcomed and appreciated.

FEEDBACK: Learning involves a dialogue -- a discussion between teacher and students (and among students themselves). My role in this process requires feedback on how you are doing in this class -- what you understand, what you don't understand, how the material is being presented, etc. Periodically, you will be asked, through focus groups and/or by written evaluations, to express your thoughts on the progress of the course and my teaching. Please take this responsibility seriously and honestly as we both need to learn from one another.

Grading

Students will be evaluated for evidence of having seriously engaged the subject matter - both the assigned texts and the materials introduced in lectures, video tapes, and discussions. There will be a midterm exam counting twenty (20) percent of the final grade, and a final exam counting twenty-five (25) percent. A thought paper will count for twenty (20) percent of the grade. Twenty (20) percent of the grade will come from weekly quizzes. An additional fifteen (15) percent of the grade will reflect class participation.

MEANS OF EVALUATION	PERCENTAGE OF COURSE GRADE
MIDTERM EXAMINATION	20%
THOUGHT PAPER	20%
FINAL EXAMINATION	25%
QUIZ AVERAGE	20%
CLASS PARTICIPATION	15%
COURSE GRADE	100%

Weekly Quizzes: Reading and comprehending the material in the text is critical to mastering the subject matter in this course. In order to 1) give you an incentive to keep up with your reading, and 2) provide you with an additional study aid, every week (except on weeks when there is an examination scheduled

or a paper due) there will either be a short (15 minute) quiz of an identification and/or an essay format given on the readings for that week, or you will be asked to write a paragraph about the major concept covered in the readings. THE QUIZZES ARE ON THE MATERIAL YOU HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED TO READ, BEFORE WE DISCUSS IT IN CLASS. The questions should be simple to answer if you have done the reading - you should not have to study for these quizzes - just do the readings in a conscientious manner. The quiz grade will be based on the average of your top 8 quizzes. Make-ups are permitted for excused absences; in other instances a zero will be recorded.

Course Time Commitment

The standard time commitment is 6-9 hours outside of class for a 3-credit face to face course

Canvas Participation and Expectations

In this course, students are expected to log into Canvas twice a week. For the first meeting of the week, the main focus will be on the weekly quiz and discussion of some issues raised in the reading. The second meeting will focus on a PowerPoint presentation which will further develop aspects of the week's topic.

Participation and Attendance Policy

Participation and Attendance Policy:

CLASS PARTICIPATION: Frequently and constructively contributing to class discussions, along with asking relevant questions will positively affect class participation grades. IF YOU DO NOT POSITIVELY CONTRIBUTE TO THE CLASS DIALOGUE, YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE A POSITIVE GRADE FOR CLASS PARTICIPATION.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Required attendance is both college and my policy. Classroom instruction and interaction are a major part of this course. UNEXCUSED ABSENCES BEYOND THREE (3) WILL RESULT IN A GRADE REDUCTION OF ONE-THIRD ($1/3$) A GRADE POINT PER ABSENCE FROM THE FINAL GRADE. (i.e., a grade of B with six absences translates into a C)

Attendance will be taken for each class, based on students logging into the course on Canvas at least twice a week.

Instructor Response Times & Regular Interaction Expectations

I will do my best to respond to your communications by the following day. Your assignments will typically be returned at the next class meeting.

Key Dates to Remember

[Full Academic Calendar](#)

Course Schedule

1/19: Class orientation and introduction / What is Philosophy?: (pp. 2-13)

1/25: the Cosmologists, and Socrates: chapter 2 (pp. 14-32)

2/1: Plato: chapter 2 (pp. 32-38)

2/8: Aristotle, and others: chapter 2 (pp. 38-46)

2/16: Reality: chapter 3 (pp. 47-74)

2/22: Human Nature: chapter 4 (pp. 75-103)

3/1: Religion: chapter 5 (pp. 104-126)

3/4-6: MIDTERM EXAM

3/8: Knowledge: chapter 6 (pp. 127-141)

3/22: Aesthetics: chapter 7 (pp. 143-166)

3/29: Political Philosophy: chapter 8 (pp. 167-176)

4/5: Political Philosophy: chapter 8 (pp. 176-187)

4/12: Political Theory: chapter 8 (pp. 188-197)

4/19: Social Philosophy: chapter 9 (pp. 198--217)

4/22: THOUGHT PAPER DUE

4/26: Social Philosophy: chapter 9 (217--230)

5/3: Ethics: chapter 10 (pp. 231-248)

5/10-11: FINAL EXAM

Technical Support

Technical support is available through the San Juan College Help Desk 24/7/365. The help desk can be reached at 505-566-3266 or by creating a ticket at [San Juan College Help Desk](#).

For password reset and Canvas support, visit the [Student Technology Guide](#) website.

Accessibility/Privacy Policies for all Technology Tools Used

[Accessibility/Privacy Policies for all Technology Tools Used](#)

Student Support

At San Juan College, we are committed to supporting your academic success and overall well-being. We recognize that college life can be challenging and stressful, impacting both learning and personal health. We are here to help you succeed.

Academic Support and Resources

We provide a range of academic support services to help you stay on track on your educational journey. Free resources include tutoring, computer loans, life skills workshops, and so much more. Visit the [Academic Support and Resources](#) webpage to learn more about support and resources available through Academic Advising, the Tutoring Center, the Student Resource Center (formerly Student Achievement Center) and the Testing Center.

Student Support and Resources

If you or someone you know could benefit from counseling, accessibility services, career exploration, veteran transitional assistance, or any of our other support services, visit the [Student Support and Resources](#) webpage where you'll find detailed information about various resources available to you as an SJC student.

We encourage you to take advantage of these free resources to enhance your college experience and ensure your success.

College Policies and Resources for Current Students

The [Student Handbook](#) provides information on student support, student organizations, and student conduct policies at San Juan College.

The San Juan College catalog outlines the [Academic Policies](#) students need to know.

Healthy and Safe Practices for Being on Campus

We want a healthy and safe campus for students, faculty, staff, and guests.

Contagious diseases and your responsibility:

If you have COVID-19 symptoms, fever, flu or even the common cold, you should stay home. Do not come to campus if you are feeling sick. Contact your instructor about missing class (and review your instructor's policies on missed or late work). Being sick does not necessarily excuse you from completing your work on time.

Safety on campus and your responsibility:

If you are on campus and experience or witness an emergency, call 9-1-1 first and then the Department of Public Safety at 505-566-3333 (or just 3333 if calling from a campus phone).

When you are on campus, be aware of your surroundings. If you need an escort to your vehicle, call 505-566-4444 (DPS non-emergency line) or 505-215-3091 (officer on duty line).

The College will send information for campus emergencies through SJC AlertAware, email and the webpage. Stay informed and stay safe.

Inclement Weather Information

Students will receive notification of class delays and cancellations due to inclement weather via the SJC AlertAware and SJC student email. Face-to-face classes will not meet in person; however, students are advised to check with instructors about alternative meeting options, as some may choose to meet via zoom. Hybrid classes will meet as scheduled via zoom. For questions regarding your class delay or cancelation, please contact your instructor.

Online Course Fee

Online Courses - San Juan College requires all online courses to include some form of assessment to demonstrate the mastery of course objectives. This could include exams, capstone projects, e-portfolios, presentations, final papers or other appropriate assessments. The use of a proctoring

platform, plagiarism detection software or other method to ensure that assessments are completed by the enrolled student is required.

A course fee of \$5.00 is assessed for all online courses at San Juan College to cover the cost of the above services. Students who are required to take a proctored exam and choose to use a physical testing center outside the SJC Testing Center or SJC Disability Services will be responsible for the cost of using that center.