INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY
PHL 1010

Catalog Course Description:

An investigation of the fundamental questions pertaining to reality, truth, freedom, the nature of humankind, the existence of God and social/political theory.

Entry Level Standards:

Students must be able to read and write at a college level. Students must also be responsible enough to prepare for, attend, and participate in class regularly.

Prerequisites:

None

Textbook(s) and Other Reference Materials Basic to the Course:


The PHL 1010 video course uses:


One set of 13 VCR tapes (which can be gotten at the Media Center).

I. Week/Unit/Topic Basis:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>What is Philosophy?</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>What is Philosophy?</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Philosophy of Art/Ethical Theory</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Ethical Theory</td>
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<td>Social &amp; Political Philosophy</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Social &amp; Political Philosophy</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Theory of Knowledge</td>
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II. Course Objectives*:

A. Demonstrate a basic understanding of philosophy. I.5
B. Demonstrate a basic understanding of the various branches of philosophy. I.5
C. Demonstrate a better sense of the questions/problems that have occupied famous philosophers during the last twenty-five centuries. I.5, III.2
D. Demonstrate knowledge of the lives and basic ideas of twenty or thirty famous philosophers. I.5
E. Demonstrate an enhanced ability to think critically about these philosophical questions/problems. III.1, III.2
F. Demonstrate an enhanced ability to think critically about various other philosophical issues. III.1, III.2
G. Demonstrate an enhanced ability to articulate ideas about philosophical issues. I.3, I.4, I.5, III.1, III.2

*Roman numerals after course objectives reference goals of the university parallel program.

III. Instructional Processes*:

Students will:

1. Read and study the chapters assigned. *Communication Outcome, Problem Solving and Decision Making Outcome, Cultural Diversity and Social Adaptation Outcome*
2. Attend lectures about the material in the relevant chapters. *Communication Outcome, Cultural Diversity and Social Adaptation Outcome*
3. Participate in classroom discussions of the relevant material. *Communication Outcome, Personal Development Outcome, Problem Solving and Decision Making Outcome, Cultural Diversity and Social Adaptation Outcome, Active Learning Strategy*
4. Write essays articulating their own ideas about the material studied and discussed. *Communication Outcome, Personal Development Outcome, Problem Solving and Decision Making Outcome, Cultural Diversity and Social Adaptation Outcome*
Making Outcome, Cultural Diversity and Social Adaptation Outcome, Information Literacy Outcome, Transitional Strategy

5. Search for ways in which these ideas are relevant in their lives. Personal Development Outcome, Transitional Strategy

6. Become more tolerant of others and their ideas. Personal Development Outcome, Cultural Diversity and Social Adaptation Outcome, Transitional Strategy

7. Internalize the work ethic by regularly attending class, being punctual, being dependable, contributing to class discussions, cooperating with the teacher and classmates, and acting in a professional manner while in class. Personal Development Outcome, Cultural Diversity and Social Adaptation Outcome, Transitional Strategy

8. Be encouraged to live a life enriched by some of the best ideas born in some of the greatest minds that have ever existed. Personal Development Outcome, Cultural Diversity and Social Adaptation Outcome, Transitional Strategy

*Strategies and outcomes listed after instructional processes reference Pellissippi State’s goals for strengthening general education knowledge and skills, connecting coursework to experiences beyond the classroom, and encouraging students to take active and responsible roles in the educational process.

IV. Expectations for Student Performance*:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Define philosophy. A

2. Define ethics and articulate/explain the various questions that set the parameters of this branch of philosophy. A, B

3. Define social philosophy and articulate/explain the various questions that set the parameters of this branch of philosophy. A, B

4. Define political philosophy and articulate/explain the various questions that set the parameters of this branch of philosophy. A, B

5. Define the philosophy of art and articulate/explain the various questions that set the parameters of this branch of philosophy. A, B

6. Define philosophy of religion and articulate/explain the various questions that set the parameters of this branch of philosophy. A, B

7. Define epistemology and articulate/explain the various questions that set the parameters of this branch of philosophy. A, B

8. Define metaphysics and articulate/explain the various questions that set the parameters of this branch of philosophy. A, B

9. Discuss/explain the human tradition in western philosophy. A, B, C

10. Discuss/explain the cosmological tradition in western philosophy. A, B, C

11. Discuss the life and ideas of some Presocratic philosophers. D

12. Discuss the life and times of Socrates. D
13. Articulate the basic philosophical ideas of Socrates. D
15. Explain/evaluate the moral philosophy of Kant. D
16. Explain/evaluate the moral philosophy of Bentham. D
17. Discuss/explain Plato's view of the state, the soul, and justice. D
18. Discuss/explain Mill's Classical Laissez-Faire Liberalism. D
19. Discuss/explain the basic philosophical/economic ideas of Adam Smith. D
20. Discuss/explain the Conservative attack on Capitalism and identify the philosophers responsible for it. E
21. Discuss/explain the Socialist attack on Capitalism and identify the philosophers responsible for it. E
22. Define/explain Marxism and identify the philosophers associated with it. D, E
23. Articulate the major arguments on both sides of the debate in regard to the Welfare State. E
24. Discuss/explain the Theory of the Social Contract and identify the major philosophers associated with it. D, E
25. Discuss/explain Fascism and the Organic Theory of the State. E
26. Explain/discuss various philosophical theories of art and identify the philosophers associated with them. D, E
27. Explain the thinking of Kierkegaard, Marx, and Freud in regard to religion and/or God. D
28. State/explain/evaluate several famous arguments for and against the existence of God. E
29. Discuss the life and basic epistemological/metaphysical ideas of Descartes. D
30. Discuss Empiricism and Rationalism as responses to Cartesian doubt. D, E
31. Discuss the life and basic epistemological/metaphysical ideas of Locke, Hume, Leibniz, and Kant. D
32. Explain/discuss idealism as a solution to the Mind/Body Problem. D, E
33. Explain/discuss materialism as a solution to the Mind/Body Problem. D, E
34. Explain/discuss dualism as a solution to the Mind/Body Problem. D, E
35. Explain/discuss the Free Will Problem. D, E
36. Explain/discuss existentialism as a philosophy. D, E
37. Discuss existentialism as it manifests itself in twentieth Century literature. D, E
38. Discuss the life and basic philosophical ideas of another fifteen or so famous philosophers. D
39. Think critically about philosophical issues, theories, etc. F
40. State his or her own ideas about the philosophical questions, theories, etc., taken up during the course. F, G

*Letters after performance expectations reference the course objectives listed above.

V. Evaluation:

A. Testing Procedures:

The grade will be based entirely upon quizzes, essay exams, and short creative papers. The number of quizzes, exams, etc., can vary from section to section.

B. Laboratory Expectations:

N/A

C. Field Work:

N/A

D. Other Evaluation Methods:

N/A

E. Grading Scale:

100-90 = A
89-85 = B+
84-80 = B
79-75 = C+
74-70 = C
69-60 = D
59-00 = F

VI. Policies:

A. Attendance Policy:

Pellissippi State Technical Community College expects students to attend all scheduled instructional activities. As a minimum, students in all courses must be present for at least 75 percent of their scheduled class and laboratory meetings in order to receive credit for the course.

B. Academic Dishonesty:

Dishonesty of any kind may result in an AF@ for the course.