

PELLISSIPPI STATE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MASTER SYLLABUS

INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY
PHIL 1030

Class Hours: 3.0

Credit Hours: 3.0

Lab Hours: 0.0

Revised: Fall 05

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 Course Materials:

Plato. *The Trial and Death of Socrates: Four Dialogues*. New York: Dover Publications, Inc. 1992
Cardwell, Charles. *The Western World: Core Readings for PHIL 1030*. Boston, MA: Pearson
Custom Publishing. 2002.

I. Week/Unit/Topic Basis:

Week	Topic
1	What is Philosophy?
2	Socrates
3	Plato
4	Reality
5	Reality
6	Knowledge
7	Knowledge
8	God
9	God
10	Nature of Man

- 11 Nature of Man
- 12 Freedom/Personal Identity
- 13 Social/Political Philosophy
- 14 What is the Value of Philosophy?
- 15 Final Exam

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, Humanities and/or Fine Arts Outcome, History Outcome*
2. Attend lectures about the material in the relevant chapters. *Communication Outcome, Humanities and/or Fine Arts Outcome, History Outcome*
3. Participate in classroom discussions of the relevant material. *Communication Outcome, Humanities and/or Fine Arts Outcome, History Outcome*
4. Write essays articulating their own ideas about the material studied and discussed. *Communication Outcome, Humanities and/or Fine Arts Outcome*
5. Search for ways in which these ideas are relevant in their lives. *Humanities and/or Fine Arts Outcome*
6. Become more tolerant of others and their ideas. *Humanities and/or Fine Arts Outcome*
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. *Humanities and/or Fine Arts Outcome*

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. *Humanities and/or Fine Arts Outcome*

*Strategies and outcomes listed after instructional processes reference TBR'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 condition 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
14. State reasons for studying moral philosophy. A, B, C
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 "F" for the course.

C. Accommodations for disabilities:

If you need accommodations because of a disability, if you have emergency medical information to share, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please inform the instructor immediately. Please see the instructor privately after class or in his/her office. Students must present a current accommodation plan from a staff member in Services for Students with Disabilities (SSWD) in order to receive accommodations in this course. Services for Students with Disabilities may be contacted by going to Goins 127 or 131 or by phone: 694-6751(Voice/TTY) or 539-7153.