

PHI 2321- An Introduction to Philosophy

Basic Information:

Instructor Name	TBA
E- Mail	
Home Institution	
Office	TBA
Office Hours	TBA, and by appointment

Course Description:

A representative survey of the major divisions and characteristic problems of philosophy.

Course Objectives:

- Learn core terminology associated with the study of Philosophy.
- Learn key figures and ideals associated with the human philosophical venture.
- Identify ethical issues associated with particular social systems and methods of social organization.
- Analyze and use data, professional literature and theoretical approaches in the consideration of issues and situations identified in the course.
- Engage in the critical use of evidence to derive conclusions.

Methods of Instruction:

The course will be taught through discussion, lecture, collaborative learning and may include the utilization of outside resources, such as films, guest lectures and media presentations.

Required Course Materials:

Textbook	Edition	Author	Publisher	ISBN-10
Think: A Compelling Introduction to Philosophy	2nd Edition	Simon Blackburn	Oxford Univ. Press, 2013	
http://www.amazon.com/Think-A-Compelling-Introduction-Philosophy-ebook/dp/B001UQ6FUM				
Various Handout Materials to be provided				

Course Hours:

The course has 17 class sessions , a 5-hour field trip and four 80-minute after-class discussion. Each class session is 160 minutes in length. The course normally meets from Monday to Friday. This course has a total of 66 contact hours including a final exam. Final exams are scheduled on July 27, 2019.

Prerequisite:

No

Course Schedule:

Week	Session	Day	Topic (s)	Chapter(s)
Week 1	July 4	Th	School Orientation	

	July 5	F	Introduction to the Course: What is Philosophy?	Read <i>Think</i> , Introduction
	July 5 18:40-20:00	F	After-class Discussion	
	July 6	Sat	Seeing East and West	Handout reading from David Loy
Week 2	July 8	M	What does it mean to "know"? What does it mean to "believe"?	Read <i>Think</i> , Ch. 1
	July 9	T	What does it mean to "know"?, pt. II	Readings from Rene Decartes and Edward Conze on Buddhism (Duality, p. 45)
	July 10	W	The World of our Mind	Read <i>Think</i> , Ch. 2; Reflection Exercise 1 Readings from Upanishads
	July 11	Th	Are we free to act in the World?	Read <i>Think</i> , Ch. 3
	July 11 18:40-20:00	Th	After-class Discussion	
	July 12	F	Are we free to act in the World?, pt. II	Readings from Thomas Aquinas and the Analects
Week 3	July 15	M	Who am "I"?	Read <i>Think</i> , Ch. 4; Reflection Exercise 2 Readings on Buddhist doctrine of No Self
	July 16	T	What is "God"?	Read <i>Think</i> , Ch. 5 Readings from Genesis and Tao Te Ching
	July 17	W	Interpreting our Environment through Ethics and Logic	Read <i>Think</i> , Ch. 6
	July 18	Th	Interpreting our Environment through Ethics and Logic, pt. II	Readings on Ethical Models
	July 18 18:40-20:00	Th	After-class Discussion	
	July 19	F	Field Trip (5 hours) National Museum of China National Museum of China is the top palace of history and art in China displaying China's excellent traditional culture which has lasted for 5,000 years.	Writing project in relation to Gallery experience will be assigned

Week 4	July 22	M	What is real? What is the world?	Read <i>Think</i> , Ch. 7 Readings from Augustine, Analects, Buddhism; Reflection Exercise 3
	July 23	T	How are we to act?	Read <i>Think</i> , Ch. 8
	July 24	W	What is the conclusion Writing project in relation to Gallery experience is due	Read <i>Think</i> , Ch. 8
	July 25	Th	Review all the chapters	Exam Preparation
	July 25 18:40-20:00	Th	After-class Discussion	
	July 26	F	Reading Day	
	July 27	Sat	Final Exam	

This schedule is still somewhat tentative and is subject to change. All the changes and revisions will be announced ahead of time. They will be written and handed out if necessary. More specific reading assignments and study questions will be given in class.

Grading Policies:

<u>Part</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Essays	30%
Quizzes and Routine Exercises on Assigned Readings	30%
Exams	30%
Attendance/ Participation	10%
Course Total	100%

Grade Distribution:

<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Grade Points</u>
100-90	A	4.0
80-89	B	3.0
70-79	C	2.0
60-69	D	1.0
59 or below	F	0.0

Quizzes/Responsive Essays on Reading Assignments

There will be several brief quizzes on certain assigned readings. These will not necessarily be announced in advance. You will be allowed to drop your lowest quiz score. Quizzes will normally be given at the beginning of class. There will be no make-ups on quizzes, unless you have an excused absence. Thus, you are encouraged to be present for as many quizzes as possible.

For other assigned readings, you will respond by submitting a brief 1-2 page typed essay in which you will consider certain themes developed in the work. In these essays, you will be graded on your comprehension of the text and the soundness of your own responsive arguments. If you are going to have to be absent on a day when an essay

is due, attempt to get the essay to me by e-mail or other means. One letter grade will be deducted for each day that an essay is late.

Seminar Course Style

Throughout the semester, we will focus attention on a variety of topics, issues and outside authorities. Students will play a role in introducing the discussions related to some of these topics.

Critical Thinking

One of the most important activities in this class will be the work you will do in critically evaluating concepts, data and positions. As you know, not all information we receive is created equally. Thus, we will seek to develop an approach that is open, but inquisitive. Our desire is to encourage open and informed dialogue within our classroom community.

Attendance

Attendance and participation is important to the process of learning within this course. By participating in this course, you will gain more from it and your work will be stronger. In respect to other students and their endeavors to learn, cell phones and electronic devices not related to the class should be turned off during class.

Late Work

Please get your work in on time. It will benefit you in this course to meet your deadlines. However, I will accept late work to a point. Unless you have received special accommodation from me, all late work will be subject to a penalty. Work submitted from 1 to 3 days after the due date will be subject to a one-letter grade penalty. Work submitted more than 3 days late will incur a two-letter grade penalty. All work must be submitted by the last day of the class to receive any credit.

Academic Integrity

School expects honesty from students in presenting all of their academic work. Students are responsible for knowing and observing accepted principles of scholarly research and writing in all academic work.

Academic dishonesty or cheating includes acts of plagiarism, forgery, fabrication or misrepresentation, such as the following:

- claiming the work or thoughts of others as your own
- copying the writing of others into your written work without appropriate attribution
- writing papers for other students or allowing them to submit your work as their own
- buying papers and turning them in as your own
- having someone else write or create all or part of the content of your assignments
- submitting the same paper for more than one study or class without explicit permission from the faculty members

General Principles

This program is committed to principles of trust, accountability, clear expectations and consequences. It is also committed to redemptive efforts, which are meaningful only in light of these principles. Students will be granted due process and the opportunity for an appeal.

Academic dishonesty offenses generally are subject to incremental disciplinary actions. Some first offenses, however, receive severe penalties, including dismissal from the program.

General Disciplinary

The following is a non-comprehensive list of possible actions apart from dismissal from the program: warning from a professor, program director; a lower or failing grade on an assignment, test or course; suspension or dismissal from the course; suspension or dismissal from the program.

Disciplinary Actions for Specific Offenses

Some academic dishonesty offenses call for specific disciplinary actions. The following have been identified:

Falsification of documents: Students who falsify or present falsified documents may be dismissed. Prospective students who are discovered to have presented falsified admission documents prior to admission shall be denied admission to the program. Should it be discovered after admission that a student had presented falsified documents for admission, such admission may be annulled and the record of academic achievement removed from the academic record, with appropriate notations. Such annulments or denials may be reviewed after one year.

Dishonesty in course requirements: Course work (a quiz, assignment, report, mid-term examination, research paper, etc.) in which a student has been dishonest generally will receive zero points towards the grade in fulfillment of a course requirement, and/or the student may receive a failing grade for the course. The professor of the course determines the appropriate consequence.

Final assignment: When a student cheats in a major or final assignment such as a comprehensive examination or presents plagiarized material in a major or final assignment, that student shall receive an F in that particular subject. Student cheats on more than two exams shall be dismissed from this program.