

**El Paso Community College
Syllabus
Part II
Official Course Description**

SUBJECT AREA	<u>Philosophy</u>
COURSE RUBRIC AND NUMBER	<u>PHIL 2321</u>
COURSE TITLE	<u>Philosophy of Religion</u>
COURSE CREDIT HOURS	<u>3 3 : 0</u> Credits Lec Lab

I. Catalog Description

Provides a study of the major issues in the philosophy of religion such as the existence and nature of God, the relationships between faith and reason, the nature of religious language, religious experience, and the problem of evil. (3:0).

II. Course Objectives

This course introduces students to the central philosophical problems of religion. The works of both traditional and contemporary writers will be examined. The emphasis will be on the examination of the major Western and Eastern Religions rather than on a particular faith. Students will become aware of some of the main problems of modern religion and gain a basic understanding of some of the philosophical positions and attempted solutions to these problems. Discussion of important contemporary problems such as the relation between faith and reason, the Problem of Evil, and Proofs for the Existence of God will be covered. By the end of the course, the student will be able to:

- A. Recognize, evaluate, and express arguments pertaining to the philosophy of religion.
- B. Gain insight into historical and current interesting and controversial issues.
- C. Analyze problems of faith philosophically.
- D. Develop and express one's own viewpoint on religious issues.
- E. Read, understand, and critically evaluate various philosophical essays concerning religious theories and their application.
- F. Develop critical thinking skills that accompany the careful study of philosophy.
- G. Gain the ability to transfer thinking skills learned in philosophy to other areas of study.

III. THECB Learning Outcomes (ACGM)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- 1. Read, analyze, and critique texts in the philosophy of religion.
- 2. Demonstrate knowledge of major arguments, problems, and terminology in the philosophy of religion.
- 3. Articulate key concepts and issues in the philosophy of religion.
- 4. Write logically persuasive assessments of key concepts and issues.
- 5. Discuss the application of philosophy to various aspects of religion.
- 6. Evaluate the personal and social responsibilities of living in a diverse world.

IV. Evaluation

- A. Pre-assessment: not applicable
- B. Post-assessment
 - 1. The instructor will maintain a continuous record of each student's progress. Regular participation will be considered a key component of that progress. A reading exercise will be completed by the student or each reading assignment. Examinations and projects, including debates and student presentations, may also be utilized.
 - 2. Grading: Grading will be determined by the individual instructor. Percentages can be allocated for examinations, term papers, projects, presentations, debates, and classroom participation, which may include special reports as assigned by the instructor.
- C. Remediation: If a student has difficulty with the reading exercises, the instructor may recommend appropriate remedial measures (e.g. further study, a reading course, a tutor, etc.). The instructor may also allow extra examinations of assignments.
- D. Attendance: Dropping a Student: The instructor may drop a student from the course if the student fails to comply with the stated attendance policy in the course syllabus or is failing the class prior to the last official withdrawal date. An Instructor Initiated Withdrawal Authorization form will be submitted to the Student Services Coordinator upon dropping a student from the roster. Withdrawal procedures will follow EPCC procedure as stated in the College catalogue.
- E. Incomplete: Should a student be unable to complete the course objectives for reasons beyond his/her control, the instructor may assign an "I" for the class. A request for Assignment of Incomplete Grade must be submitted to The Student Services Coordinator at the time the final grads are submitted. The student must sign the incomplete form.

V. Disability Statement (American with/Disabilities Act [ADA])

EPCC offers a variety of services to persons with documented sensory, mental, physical, or temporary disabling conditions to promote success in classes. If you have a disability and believe you may need services, you are encouraged to contact the Center for Students with Disabilities to discuss your needs with a counselor. All discussions and documentation are kept confidential. Offices located: VV Rm C-112 (831-2426); TM Rm 1400 (831-5808); RG Rm B-201 (831-4198); NWC Rm M-54 (831-8815); and MDP Rm A-125 (831-7024).

VI. 6 Drop Rule

Students who began attending Texas public institutions of higher education for the first time during the Fall 2007 semester or later are subject to a 6-Drop limit for all undergraduate classes. Developmental, ESL, Dual Credit and Early College High School classes are exempt from this rule. All students should consult with their instructor before dropping a class. Academic assistance is available. Students are encouraged to see Counseling Services if dropping because exemptions may apply. Refer to the EPCC catalog and website for additional information.