

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

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|---------------------------------|---|----------|----------|----------|---------|-----|-----|
| SUBJECT AREA | <u>Philosophy</u> | | | | | | |
| COUSRE RUBRIC AND NUMBER | <u>PHIL 2307</u> | | | | | | |
| COURSE TITLE | <u>Introduction to Social and Political Philosophy</u> | | | | | | |
| COUSE CREDIT HOURS | <table border="0" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>3</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>3</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>0</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Credits</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Lec</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Lab</td> </tr> </table> | <u>3</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>0</u> | Credits | Lec | Lab |
| <u>3</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>0</u> | | | | | |
| Credits | Lec | Lab | | | | | |

I. Catalog Description

Studies the major issues in social and political theory and/or the work of major philosophical figures in this area. (3:0).

II. Course Objectives

The course introduces students to the major philosophers and philosophical themes of social and political theory. A historical overview will be provided, beginning with in the classical era with Plato and Aristotle; continuing through the medieval period with Augustine and Aquinas, the Renaissance period with Machiavelli, and the modern era with Hobbes, Locke, and Rousseau; and concluding with Marx and twentieth century thinkers such as Rawls and Nozick. Students will study fundamental concepts such as justice, rights, and political obligation, among others. Emphasis may vary from semester to semester.

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Read, analyze, and critique philosophical texts.
- B. Discuss major arguments, problems, and terminology in philosophy.
- C. Trace and present orally or in writing the origin and historical development of selected philosophical traditions.
- D. Articulate key conceptual distinctions in philosophy.
- E. Present logically persuasive arguments in writing.
- F. Apply course material to various aspects of life.

III. THECB Learning Outcomes (ACGM)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- 1. Read, analyze, and critique texts in social and political philosophy.
- 2. Define and appropriately use important terms common to social and political philosophy.
- 3. Demonstrate knowledge of major forms of government and social systems.
- 4. Assess and evaluate social and political theories orally and/or in writing.
- 5. Apply course materials to social and political concerns including living responsibly in a world where people have diverse political priorities.
- 6. Apply course material to various aspects of life.
- 7. Discuss ways of living responsibly in a world where people have diverse political beliefs.

III. 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 for 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 grades are submitted. The student must sign the incomplete form.

V. Disability Statement (Americans 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.