

El Paso Community College

Syllabus

Part II

Official Course Description

SUBJECT AREA	<u>Philosophy</u>
COURSE RUBRIC AND NUMBER	<u>PHIL 1301</u>
COURSE TITLE	<u>Introduction to Philosophy (C) (HFA)</u>
COURSE CREDIT HOURS	<u>3 3 0</u> Credits Lec Lab

I. Catalog Description

A study of major issues in philosophy and/or the work of major philosophical figures in philosophy. Topics may include theories of reality, theories of knowledge, theories of value, and their practical applications. **Prerequisite: Placement at college-level English Language Arts Reading by TSIA2 or equivalent; OR completion with a "C" or better or concurrent enrollment in the following: INRW 0311 or INRW 0312 or ESOL 0340. (3:0)**

II. Course Objectives

The purpose of this class is to introduce students to the major philosophical issues and figures in history and to be able to understand and critically evaluate their most important theories. In learning to recognize issues and to critically evaluate theories, students are encouraged to examine and justify their own beliefs regarding these issues.

By the end of the course, the student will be able to:

- A. Demonstrate **critical thinking skills** by reading, understanding, and critically evaluating selections from several central philosophical treatises.
- B. Develop written **communication skills** to express his or her own philosophical ideas.
- C. Read historically significant primary sources.
- D. Use **critical thinking skills** to recognize, reconstruct, and evaluate arguments.
- E. Grasp important content, methodological and historical, of philosophy.
- F. Appreciate the various themes and approaches to philosophy.
- G. Develop **critical thinking skills** that accompany the careful study of philosophy.
- H. Transfer the ability to think critically regarding philosophical arguments to non-philosophical arguments.
- I. Demonstrate **personal responsibility skills** and **social responsibility skills** developing one's own worldview regarding philosophical issues.
- J. Appreciate the parent of all academic disciplines and sciences with the desire to study philosophy further.

Unit Titles

- A. Introductory material: What is Philosophy?
- B. Material may be arranged either topically or chronologically.

III. THECB Learning Outcomes (ACGM)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Read, analyze, and critique philosophical texts.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of key concepts, major arguments, problems, and terminology in philosophy.
3. Present logically persuasive arguments both orally and in writing.
4. Demonstrate critical thinking skills in evaluation and application of philosophical concepts to various aspects of life.
5. 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 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, and 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 procedures as stated in the College Catalog.

E. Incomplete:

Should a student be unable to complete the course objectives for reasons beyond his/her control, the instructor may assign and "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.

VII. Title IX and Sex Discrimination

Title 9 (20 U.S.C. 1681 & 34 C.F.R. Part 106) states the following "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) prohibits stalking, date violence, sexual violence, and domestic violence for all students, employees and visitors (male and female). If you have any concerns related to discrimination, harassment, or assault (of any type) you can contact the Assistant to the Vice President for Student and Enrollment Services at 915-831-2655. Employees can call the Manager of Employee Relations at 915-831-6458. Reports of sexual assault/violence may also be reported to EPCC Police at 915-831-2200.