

PHI 2010: Introduction to Philosophical Reasoning

Hyun Kim

Office: 10-106

Office Hours: Monday to Thursday: 8:00 AM to 9:15 AM

Friday: 8 to 9:15 AM (Teams)

By appointment

Welcome to PHI 2010: Introduction to Philosophical Reasoning Web Based course. I am Hyun Kim, your professor for the course and a professor in the academic fields of Religion and Philosophy. I have a terminal degree in Religion, and my area of specialization is Philosophy of Religion, with concentration in Ethics and Epistemology. I am also a Wittgensteinian, a Swansea School of Wittgensteinian to be more exact.

If you need to contact me, please do so via **Canvas Email**. If I do not respond to your e-mail after one working day, please contact me again. Either the message didn't record or the e-mail was misplaced by Canvas (this does happen, trust me). My office hours are posted in the Introduction Module. Please contact me before you stop by so that I can make sure to be present.

I look forward to spending this semester with you, exploring various aspects of philosophy.

Course Description from the College Catalog:

Introduction to Philosophical Reasoning (3) (A. A.). Three hours lecture per week. This course meets Area IV requirements for the A.A./A.S. general education requirements and part of the six-hour International/Intercultural requirement. This course is an introduction to the nature of philosophy, philosophical reasoning, major intellectual moments in the history of philosophy, and specific problems in philosophy.

3.000 Credit hours

Student Learning Outcomes:

The student, at the successful completion of this course, should be able to:

1. Demonstrate the mastery of the basic terminology used in philosophical discourse (e.g. metaphysics, epistemology, aesthetics, ethics) through written exams.
2. Identify and thoroughly describe major thought systems (e.g., Empiricism, Idealism, Utilitarianism) through written exams.
3. Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the thought of important philosophers (e.g. Descartes, Kant, Locke, Sartre) through written exams.

4. Analyze primary philosophical texts through written assignments.
5. Define and distinguish between truth and validity through written assignments and examinations.
6. Define and distinguish between induction and deduction through written assignments and examinations.
7. Identify and critically assess various inductive arguments of important philosophers through written assignments and examinations.
8. Identify and critically assess various deductive arguments of important philosophers through written assignments and examinations.

Additional Description:

This is a course designed to introduce the basics of philosophy through various selective readings and philosophical developments. After beginning with some basics of logic, we will be concerned with some issues involved in epistemology, philosophy of religion and political philosophy. This course aims at clarifying some major issues involved in each of these areas of philosophy as well as grasping some of the major philosophical stances on them. While every course has its required reading assignments, it is vitally important for you to read the assigned readings carefully.

While there is no prerequisite for the course, I strongly emphasize the fact that this is a second year collegiate level course in philosophy. As such, this course may demand readings and assignments that you may not be prepared to handle or have expected. Please note that if your reading comprehension level is below the collegiate level from the Reading Assessment Testing, please be prepared to be challenged and expect to do a lot of work. I will do all that I can to help you understand the material, but you must also work harder than, I assume, in most other courses.

As you read the rest of this introduction/syllabus, please pay close attention to the amount of work, the level of work, and the expected behavior. As most of you probably know already, the expected amount of work outside the classroom setting for a 3 unit collegiate course is 6 to 9 hours per week; given that this is an online course, I will expect you to add 3 hours of class time per week to that amount.

Every assignment and rule is designed to help you not only succeed in this course but also help you gain necessary study skills to succeed in college. But if you find these expectations to be too harsh or too demanding, please talk with me and/or withdraw from the course. I will also say that if you follow these expectations and work hard to fulfill them, you will not only succeed in this course but also will have learned a great amount.

Required Assignments/Readings

The schedule of assignment is noted on the Canvas Calendar. All assignments are due at the listed due time/date. **Unless there is some validly mediating circumstances, no late work will be accepted.** After the logic section, you may also work ahead as well and turn in the work early. Doing so will keep you from turning in your work late.

All assignments and readings for this course will be provided for you on Canvas.

- **Logic Assignments:** There are 3 logic assignments in this course, each worth 15 points. Logic is the basis of philosophy. Much like musical notes in music, logic is the 'language' in which we deal with philosophical issues. All logic test questions will be drawn from these assignments verbatim. (45 points total)
- **Guided Reading Questions:** These begin after we have finished the logic section of the course. For every reading assignment, there will be a corresponding Guided Reading Questions assignment. The Guided Reading Questions need to be answered as you read along. These are designed to assist you in your understanding of the reading. What I am looking for in the Guided Reading Questions is whether you have struggled to understand the material, not the correct answer per se. As such, do your best to answer the questions in your own words and answer them as fully as possible. As long as you do so, you will receive full credit. Each Guided Reading Questions is worth 15 points.
- **Quizzes:** Starting with the epistemology section, Quizzes will be available on Canvas, until we have finished a particular section. Each Quiz will be opened after the lecture on a reading and is worth 2 points. I highly suggest that you do them as every question on the tests (except for the logic test) will be drawn from them word for word. **These can be taken as many times as required for you to master the material**, with the highest grade posted until the due dates.
- **Introduction Quiz:** This is based on the information on this introduction/syllabus. This can be taken as many times as needed for you to master the important points (10 points)
- **Discussion Posts:** There are 6 discussion assignments in this course (10 points each), excluding the introduction (10 points) and ending with the Final Discussion (one point).
- **Contract Acknowledgement:** This is a quick acknowledgement that you have read the introduction/syllabus carefully, and you agree to abide by the terms of the syllabus/introduction.
- **Tests:** There are 4 tests in this course. Every question on each test, except for the logic test, will be drawn from the Quizzes verbatim.
 - Test #1: logic. Every question on this test will be drawn from the logic assignments. (90 points).
 - Test #2: epistemology (150 points total).
 - Test #3: philosophy of religion (150 points total).
 - Test #4: political philosophy (150 points total).

Grading

A: 90% and above B: 80% up to 90% C: 70% up to 80%

D: 60% up to 70% F: below 60%

Helpful Sites:

Reading philosophy is quite difficult. So, if you get stuck and do not understand a particular author's point, please come see me and/or refer to the following sites:

<http://plato.stanford.edu> (*Stanford encyclopedia of philosophy*)

<http://www.iep.utm.edu> (internet encyclopedia of philosophy)

Tentative Schedule of Assignments and Lessons

- Please looking and follow the Canvas Calendar
- All Assignments will be graded within one week of the due date at the latest

Required Netiquette

Netiquette describes how we are to behave on internet and during internet interaction. A very basic rule is, "If your interaction is something you would not do in real life, do not do it on the internet." In other words, the same etiquette and manners you would have in life and in a classroom setting would apply here as well. For instance, you wouldn't use profanity to other classmates in a traditional course during a classroom discussion; so, do not do so in our discussion sessions.

Attendance Policy

The only measure of attendance that can be employed on online courses is through the frequency of student participation. As such, attendance will be measured in terms of the weekly discussion participation and assignments. Not being active for one continuous week without prior arrangements will result in withdrawal.

You must also post on the Introductory Discussion Board by the due date to avoid being dropped as a "no-show." Simply logging on the course will not count toward your attendance.

Rules of Conduct/Class Expectations

Most of you not only know and expect but also abide by the rules of conduct that virtually any mature setting, such as a classroom, demands. However, some of you may not know these rules or simply choose to ignore them. As such, I will enforce the following in the course, and students are expected to abide by all *SCF Student Handbook* guidelines. These rules will help foster a positive learning environment, which would further enrich your education. Most of you already abide by these rules. As such, following them would not be of much problem.

- **Rudeness:** No rudeness, not only to me but also to other classmates, will be tolerated. You will respect the subject, the course, classmates and me in every form of interaction (verbal, written, gestural, etc.). Every member of the collegiate community (e.g. instructor, students, etc.) “shall treat all with dignity, respect and common courtesy and adhere to their proper roles”([Code of Ethical Behavior](#)). **A student who violates this rule more than twice will be dropped from the course.**
- **No non-class related activities:** These include **working for another class, using your phone at any level (it needs to be either turned off or put on silent and out of sight), sleeping, passing notes,** etc. I will ask you to remedy the situation the first time for the course; I will ask you to leave the class at the second breach. If I have to ask you to leave the class, you will face the same penalty as leaving early. At the third breach, you will be dropped from the course.
- **Your desk must be cleared of all bags, all books, etc., except for your writing materials and other materials needed for the class.** All other materials and bags must be placed under the desk, out of the way.
- **Laptops must be turned off and put away,** unless directed otherwise.
- **No Talking:** Please do not talk or even whisper with your classmates. If you need clarification concerning what we discuss, please ask me. If you have any question concerning what we are covering, please ask me. After all, answering these kinds of questions is part of my job.
- **Punctuality:** Tardiness, leaving before being dismissed, getting up during the class without permission, etc., will not be tolerated. Especially for this class, leaving before being dismissed will be enforced heavily. **If you leave before being dismissed without prior arrangements with me, you will be deducted 100 points from your total grade (that is a whole grade) per infraction.** If you simply had to leave due to some emergency, you will need to provide me with documentation of that emergency. Given that each class time is only 1hour and 23 minutes, you ought to have gone to the restrooms before or can go after each classroom. No exceptions without medical documentation/excuse.
- **No cheating:** No cheating or plagiarizing will be tolerated. **Cheating at ANY LEVEL will result in failing the course. This includes turning in a copied assignment/plagiarism.** Plagiarism is the use of ideas, facts, opinions, illustrative material, data, direct or indirect wording of another scholar and/or writer—professional or student—without giving proper credit. Expulsion, suspension, or any lesser penalty may be imposed for plagiarism.
- **Please raise your hand** before asking a question. And, wait until being called on. Your questions must be directly related to what we are doing in the class at the moment.
- **Announcements: I will repeat every announcement once.** It is your responsibility to promptly write down the announcement. If you have any questions concerning the announcement, please ask at the moment when the announcement is made.
- **Absence: No more than two weeks of unexcused absences in total** will be tolerated. For the courses that meet three times a week, that would mean 6 classes. For the courses that meet twice a week, that would mean 4 classes. For the courses that meet once a week, that will mean 2 classes. After two weeks of unexcused absence, you will be dropped from the course. **Tardiness will count as absence. Leaving early will count as absence.** You are considered absent/tardy **after 9:31 AM.** However, **absences arising from validly mediating circumstances that are/can be documented will be excused.** In such circumstances, please come see me for missed lecture summary as well as other missed work. The basic idea here is that any unforeseen tardy or absence will be excused. These would include illness, not-reschedulable events (excluding going on vacations, honeymoon, etc.), getting a ticket or accident on the way to class, a class that does not end in time, etc. Such reasons as not being able to find parking, failure to get to class on time due to the distance between classes, etc., are not excusable.
- **If you do not understand what we are doing in the course, do ask for clarification.** However, I will not spend class time explaining a concept that you missed due to an unexcused absence, due to your leaving early/tardiness, or not paying attention.
- **Email Correspondences:** If I send you a personal email (addressed to you and not to the whole class/”All Students”), you must respond, even if it is simply to say that you have read the email. For every non-response, 30 points will be deducted from your total points at the end of the semester. Students are required to communicate with their instructor using their official SCF email address. Or, **preferably, students may use Canvas email to contact their instructor.**

- Finally, I reserve the right to reform, subtract or add to the course material/assignment/expectations outlined in this syllabus.

Again, if you need further clarification or assistance, please come see me. If you want to learn, I will do the best I can to help you master the material.

As adults, these rules are what you already follow in any mature and formal setting such as classrooms, work, religious services, legal settings, etc. **These rules and expectations in particular are designed to create an environment of learning.** They are not some random rules created to make your lives harder. By following them, you will help create an environment of learning. If you disagree with them, you are, of course, welcome to withdraw from the course.

If you agree, please go to Canvas, and acknowledge your agreement on the Course Contract. Otherwise, you will be dropped from the course.

Withdrawal Policies:

Students should consult the College Catalog for a complete listing of withdrawal policies.

A withdrawal is a change in the student's course schedule where one or more courses are withdrawn before the end of the term. Withdrawn courses appear on the student's transcript as a "W" and are classified as attempts. No refunds are permitted for withdrawn courses.

Withdrawing from a course(s):

Course withdrawal is defined as withdrawal from one or more classes for a term but not complete withdrawal from the college. **Failure to completely process a drop form or drop a class online may result in the student being assigned a grade of "F".**

Financial Aid Impact:

Withdrawing from one or more courses during the semester, without complete withdrawal from the college, may have an impact on both the amount of aid received for the semester and a student's academic eligibility to continue receiving financial aid for future enrollment. Students should contact the Office of Financial Aid for further information regarding the impact of withdrawing from one or more courses.

Faculty Withdrawal:

Before the course withdrawal deadline and upon approval of the Department Chair, Assistant Dean, or other appropriate academic administrator, a faculty member may withdraw a student when the student has stopped attending or engaging in the class for an extended period of time as defined in the course syllabus, and has not formally withdrawn from the course, resulting in their inability to successfully pass the class.

If a student's absences, tardiness, or misconduct is causing disruption, the faculty member may file a code of conduct violation with the Dean of Students. The Dean of Students will work with the faculty member and the appropriate academic administrator before determining if a withdraw is appropriate.

In the event of an approved faculty withdrawal, a grade of W will be recorded. The grade is recorded on the student's permanent academic record. Fees are applied for all courses accordingly and are counted as attempted courses.

Copyright:

The unauthorized copying, sharing, or distribution of copyrighted material is prohibited. It is a violation of the Copyright Act, Academic Ethics, and the Code of Student Conduct. Students who violate copyright are subject to discipline.

COVID-19

Like all institutions of higher education, SCF has been impacted by COVID-19. In response, SCF considers the current recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Department of Health (DOH), Florida Department of Education (FLDOE), Florida College System (FCS), local and state officials. The latest SCF plan and protocols can be found linked from the College's Coronavirus website listed below. The website includes useful information for students regarding precautions, operations, monitoring, and instruction.

<https://www.scf.edu/Administration/PublicSafety/Coronavirus.asp>

Technical Support Information:

The course syllabus must include information on technical support for any course which requires the use of technology, including both software and hardware. The language below is suggested but may be modified by instructors to better fit their course.

Technical Support Information	<p><i>For technical issues with Canvas, contact Canvas technical support by clicking the question mark icon in the lower left-hand corner of the Canvas window and choosing "Report a Problem" or "Chat with Canvas Support." Also, Canvas support can be contacted via phone at 844-920-2764.</i></p> <p><i>For technical issues with My SCF, contact SCF technical support by calling (number) or emailing helprequest@scf.edu.</i></p> <p><i>For technical issues with the publisher site, contact their technical support by...</i></p> <p><i>(Instructors: Please add information on how to contact tech support for publisher courses, if applicable.)</i></p>
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Recording:

Students may, without prior notice, record video or audio of a class lecture for a class in which the student is enrolled for their own personal educational use. A class lecture is defined as a formal or methodical oral presentation as part of a college course intended to present information or teach enrolled students about a particular subject. Recording class activities other than class lectures, including but not limited to lab sessions, student presentations (whether individually or part of a group), class discussion (except when incidental to and incorporated within a class lecture), clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving student participation, test or examination administrations, field trips, and private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty member is

prohibited. Recordings may not be used as a substitute for class participation and class attendance and may not be published or shared without the written consent of the faculty member. Failure to adhere to these requirements may constitute a violation of the student code of conduct.

Disability Resource Center:

State College of Florida, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, will provide classroom and academic accommodations to students with documented disabilities. Students must submit application and documentation to the Disability Resource Center (DRC). Once registered, the Memorandum of Accommodations containing all approved accommodations, important information, and links to forms and processes will be emailed to instructors. Students and instructors are encouraged to work collaboratively throughout the semester to facilitate appropriate use of accommodations. DRC Contact Information: Email: drc@scf.edu

Phone: 941-752-5295

[Disability Resource Center website](#)

Statement of Nondiscrimination:

State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota does not discriminate on the basis of sex (including pregnancy), race, religion, age, national origin/ethnicity, color, marital status, disability, genetic information and sexual orientation in any of its educational programs, services or activities, including admission and employment. Direct inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies to: Equity Officer, 941-752-5323, PO Box 1849, Bradenton, FL 34206.

[Human Resources Equal Opportunity website](#)

Religious Observances:

Students who expect to be absent due to religious observances must provide their instructor with advance notification, in writing, of the purpose and anticipated length of any absence by the end of the second week of classes. At that time, the instructor and student will agree upon a reasonable time and method to make up any work or tests missed.

Department Chair or other academic supervisor information:

If a student encounters a problem in the course, they should work with the professor to resolve it. If the student needs help and the professor is unable to help or is unavailable, contact Jamie Tracy, Assistant Dean of Humanities, Art and Literature by email, tracyj@scf.edu

Final Remarks of Encouragement

Finally, this course is designed such that you will gain as much as you put in effort. Of course, that is true for all courses. But this course rewards your effort more than virtually any other course you probably have taken. Please excuse me if that sounded arrogant. But you will earn your grade, given the tools in this course. How well you do, hence how much you learn, all

depends on you. I hope you will employ all the tools in this course and gain at least few things from this course. I look forward to learning with you this semester.