

Philosophy 2010: Introduction to Philosophical Reasoning-ONLINE

State College of Florida: Manatee-Sarasota

Department of Art, Design and Humanities- Venice Campus

PHI 2010 / CRN 11648

Fall 2023: Fully online

Prof. J. Woody McCree

Room 637, 600 Building

Alternate outdoor office for scheduled appointments: 1400 Environmental Pavilion Venice

Telephone : 941-408-1503

Office Hours MW 12:15-1:15; TR 12:30-1:30 office

3 of my classes are face-to-face (blended) and so I still maintain office hours on the Venice campus. Sometimes I am at the SCF Venice Food Forest working.

The best way to contact me is through email; generally I will see school email a little sooner than I will see canvas email, though I will respond to both.

email: mccreej@scf.edu

Please put your course and section in the header of emails; designate online le or MW /TR.

Email:

Students are required to communicate with their instructor using their official SCF email address.

Course description

This course meets Area IV requirements for the A.A./A.A.S./A.S. general education requirements and a part of the six-hour International/Intercultural requirement. This course is a historical overview of Western philosophy beginning with the Ancient World and ending with the Modern Period.

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.

Required TEXT: *Philosophy: A Historical Survey with Essential Readings*, 10th Edition. James Fieser and Samuel Enoch Stumpf, This book contains two books slapped together, an excellent secondary text, and an anthology of primary sources where the page numbers start over. The anthology portion is arranged in chronological order. (The main textbook *Philosophy: A Historical Survey* is PHS on syllabus; the anthology portion of the book is Anth on the syllabus.). The Grey 9th Edition or the Orange 8th Edition are acceptable for use; pages will just be a little off. 2 copies of the 8th Edition are on reserve at the Venice Library.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

This is an online class, and **blog participation is counted as class attendance, since we interact with one another through posts and replies.** Quizzes, tests, and time viewing power points and mini-lectures are regarded as homework. Any stretch of missing the equivalent of over two weeks of blogging can result in being dropped; "Absences" (missed blogs) do not have to be consecutive to warrant withdrawal.

No Show Policy:

Students who do not drop a course that they have never attended will be reported as a No-Show by the course instructor during the No-Show period. This drop may have financial aid implications for the student who is dropped.

WITHDRAWAL POLICY

In accordance with the State College of Florida policy, as stated in the college catalog, students may withdraw from any course, or all courses, without academic penalty, by the

withdrawal deadline listed in the State College of Florida academic calendar. This semester, the withdrawal date is **Monday, Nov 7**. In addition, students should note that faculty may also withdraw students for violating policies, procedures or conditions of the class, as outlined in individual class syllabi, and such action could affect financial aid eligibility.

Belligerent behavior on the blogs can lead to removal from the course. (It shouldn't happen in a philosophy class, but I once had a student "preacher" in an online religion class who was consistently belligerent to others, and this person was removed after attempts to resolve the problem failed.)

Campus 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.

Statement of Plagiarism:

If appropriate to your course, state this directly: *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.*

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT Students are expected to abide by all standards of conduct stated in the *Lancer Student Handbook*, especially those regarding plagiarism. The main paper will be submitted on canvas and checked via turnitin.com. Respect for the viewpoints of others is also crucial in a philosophy class. Any disruptive behavior will result in a **lowering of the class participation grade** and can result in removal from the course. Texting in class and computer use are disruptive, and not permitted.

GRADING

1. Quizzes: 2 %
2. Online "Journal" Blogs 45%
3. Unit Exams: 40% (lowest score dropped)
4. Main Paper 10% (plagiarism checked through turnitin.com)
5. Final online quiz on logic and major figures 3 %

Late Work:

Daily assignments such as blogs can be accepted up to a week late if the student communicates with the professor within a day of the formal due date. However, blogs are part of class discussion, and if you are late, your grade will be lower because you are not really interacting with other students, just responding after the real discussion has occurred. Consistent late work will result in more severe penalties in the grade even if the work is accepted.

Tests can be taken within three days of the due date, with professor permission. One day late is acceptable without permission, due to variable work schedules among members of the class.

Once assignments close, they are not reopened, unless you can document a serious medical situation such as hospitalization.

You may write an extra credit paper, which is the same format as the main course paper, simply a different topic. If you get an A, 2 points will be added to your final course grade. If a B, 1 point.

A **Philosophy paper** must contain a well-reasoned argument for or against a viewpoint; it is not enough to report on what a philosopher said. It is also not enough to summarize my power-point presentations. You must work with primary texts as found in the anthology and make your own arguments as you interact with the classical philosophers. All use of another person's ideas, whether in direct quotation or paraphrase, must be documented in footnotes and in the bibliography.

Discussion blogs are an online journal assignment, but are enhanced by interaction with others. You must reply once to peers within two days of the main assignment due date. If you miss any reply, there will be a 12 point deduction. That means if you make a perfect main post, with no reply, the grade is 88. Normatively, a good post will receive a grade of 95, so a good post with no response to others would be an 83. A blog main post should be a substantial paragraph with at least 7 complete sentences. Assignments will be graded based on accuracy, insight, and depth of engagement with the questions.

Schedule: Topics, readings, and overview of assignments in sequence are found below; exam dates can vary depending on the pace of class discussion.

The canvas feed and canvas course summary below give exact assignment dates. The written overview contains topics by week.

5-7 minute Mini-lectures and occasional quizzes based on those online lectures, will be posted as we go along, in simulation of a "real" class where you attend lectures in sequence through the semester.

Week 1: August 15

Course intro: From Mythos to Logos; Recommended: PHS, Chapter 1, p 3-15 and Anthology p. 5-6.

Blog on Myth and "Hymn to Ra"

Xenophanes powerpoint: Mythic and Rational Explanations of the world

Blog on Xenophanes

Week 2: August 22

Xenophanes and "Redneck Gospel" blog

Speaking of God power point and blog

Week 3: Sept 29

Read Sophists and Socrates, PHS, p.28-32; Socrates and Classical Athens powerpoint

Blog on Protagoras: Sophists, Anth, p. 10-11;

Read on Socrates, PHS, p. 32-43

Euthyphro primary text quiz

Euthyphro (Does God Create Morality?) Anth, Reading 2, p.11-24

Euthyphro blog

Week 4: Sept 5

Plato, *Apology* (A Life Worth Living), Anth, Reading 3, p. 25-43

Apology Blog

(Recommended *Crito*,: *Plato on Obedience to the State* (Anth .44-54)

Socrates, Death, and the Care of the Soul Blog

Unit 1 Test Online weekend

Week 5: Sept 12

PHS , p 45-56, Plato; Anth, p 57-60, "The Allegory of the Cave."

Discussion Blog on Allegory of the cave

Aristotle on the soul (Heir to Socrates) ; Anth., p. 66-7, Soul and Body

Aristotle's ethics, Anthology, p. 69-78

Blog on Aristotle's Virtue Ethics

Week 6: Sept 19

Diogenes the Cynic powerpoint and lecture

Blog on Diogenes Street Theater Method

PHS, Ch. 5, 106-111; After Aristotle- Stoics,

Stoics; Anth, p. 93-96 , Epictetus, "Resigning Oneself to Fate"

Epictetus Blog

Week 7: Sept 26

The Epicureans, PHS, After Aristotle, p. 101-6; Anth, Epicurus on Pleasure and Life's Aim, p. 83-86 (Hellenistic and Medieval section)

Blog on Epicurus

Lecture the simple, or natural life, in Cynics, Stoics, and Epicureans.

Blog on Hellenistic Smorgasbord

Unit 2 test weekend of Feb 26

Week 8: Oct 3

PHS, Aquinas; Anth,, p. 114-119 , "5 Ways of Proving God's Existence"

Aquinas' 5 ways blog

Intro to Renaissance, PHS, p. 191-210

Renaissance blog

Week 9: Oct 10

PHS, p. 222-33, "Rationalism: Descartes"

Descartes, Anthology, p. 147-156 Meditation 1& 2

Cartesian Method Blog

Descartes' Way back home blog

Week 10: Oct 17

Ockham's Razor

Descartes, Mediation 6, Anth 156-60

Anne Conway Anthology p. 192-96

Mind-Body Problem Blog

Unit 3 exam

Week 11: Oct 24

Empiricists. PHS, p. 249-252

Locke and Empiricism

Blog on Locke

PHS, p 264-74 (Hume);

Hume, Anth, p. 211-223: Hume on Causation, Inductive Evidence, the Self

Hume Causality Blog

Week 12: Oct 31

Hume on Religion: Powerpoint section on Proofs for God

Hume, "Criticism of the Design and Cosmological Arguments", Anth. p. 237-48

Blog on Hume critique of the cosmological argument

Hume on Miracles, Anth p.232-38

Hume and the Indian Prince Blog

Week 13: Nov 7

Longinus on the Sublime

Blog on Ockham's Razor and Art by Thomas Cole

Burke and Artists on the Sublime

Week 14: Nov 14

Burke and Artists on the Beautiful.

"The Picturesque" as a critique of Burke on Beauty

Blog on the Sublime, the Beautiful, and the Picturesque.

Week 15: Nov 21

Unit 4 Exam

Thanksgiving Holiday

Week 16; Nov 28

Main Paper due

Logic and basics Quiz

Nuts and Bolts Logic and Major Philosophers Quiz due early in finals week.

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>

Technology Requirements:

You must have access to a computer and internet for completion of blog discussions and online tests.

Technical Support Information:

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.

**Technical
Support
Information**

For technical issues with My SCF, contact SCF technical support by calling (number) or emailing helprequest@scf.edu.

For technical issues with the publisher site, contact their technical support by...

(Instructors: Please add information on how to contact tech support for publisher courses, if applicable.)

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.