

IOWA WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

PHI – 101 – OL01: Introduction to Philosophy

TERM: WINTERIM 2019

I. FACULTY INFORMATION:

Instructor: Lee Tasey	Office: Cyberspace
Phone: (531) 333-6244	Student Assistance Hours: Virtually all the time!
E-mail: ltasey@iwcc.edu	

II. COURSE INFORMATION:

PHI – 101 – OL01	Introduction to Philosophy	Credits (3)	Lecture (3)	Lab (0)
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COURSE MEETING TIMES:

Course shells are available online 24/7.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Introduction to Philosophy is an analytical approach to problems such as the nature of man, the existence of a creator, the question of freedom, and the challenge of change. Students deepen their understanding of these problems and their own responses by studying the thoughts of philosophers such as Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, St. Thomas Aquinas, Descartes, Locke, Hegel, Kant, Kierkegaard, Sartre, Nietzsche, James, Russell, and Kuhn. (3/0)

PREREQUISITES:

None

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:

Fieser, James & Pojman, Louis. *Introduction to Philosophy: Classical and Contemporary Readings*. Oxford University Press. ISBN: 0195311612

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS:

Students can download the free version of Office 365 Suite from their ROC Portal Page for use in their courses. Students are responsible for protecting their own computer equipment through use of anti-virus and anti-malware tools for work within their IWCC courses; they may consider [these free options](#) (click on link). Students using computers in labs and other facilities on campus are further held to the standards of [IWCC Acceptable Use Policy](#) and the [Computer Ethics and Use Policy](#). Both are located on the ROC Student Portal Page under the *Technology* menu button FAQ area.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND COURSE COMPETENCIES

- Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
- Distinguish between philosophical and other kinds of intellectual concerns
- Evaluate the relationship between philosophy, religion, and science
- Review the study of the nature of reality and the search for truth throughout
- Identify “self” as a philosophical entity
- Develop a framework of studying moral and justice issues.

COURSE PRACTICES:

You may be asking, “How can I be successful in this course?” To be successful, you must have/do the following:

- Reliable internet access
- Daily access to a reliable computer
- At least 3 dedicated hours to class every day
- Ability to troubleshoot technical issues remotely

This is a writing intensive class. Therefore, we’re going to write – a lot. The best way to improve our thinking and writing is to do a lot of both, and that’s exactly what we’re going to do in Introduction to Philosophy.

To become good thinkers and writers, we must complete several tasks during the week. They include the following:

Readings: Be sure to do the weekly readings, which will provide us with ideas about which we can discuss in the Cyber café and use to prepare ourselves for the exams.

Instructional Videos: Be sure to watch (and re-watch) the instructional videos. Sometimes what's found in the videos isn't found in the textbook. So watch the videos. Don't forget.

Midterm and Final Exams: We'll test our knowledge of philosophy by sitting for two exams throughout the Winterim. The exams will be multiple choice and short answer questions.

Attendance: It's important to show up for class every day. That's how we get good at something – by showing up and practicing. No pain, no gain. All assignments will be completed by the due dates and will be submitted through the ROC LMS. Do not email me your work. Submit it through our course shell in ROC.

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT AND BEHAVIOR

Your presence and voice in our Cyber Café matters, and each of us will contribute to “the great conversation” as philosophy has often been called. Your unique perspectives will make the class a more interesting one, so be sure to show up and not flake out so that we can all get our money's worth and be well-rounded human beings with a strong humanistic education

Finally, in this course, we'll engage in a free exchange of ideas, and if you disagree with somebody's perspective, then do the adult thing and “agree to disagree” instead of throwing a temper tantrum, insulting people, resorting to violence, and so on.

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ONLINE COURSES:

Online courses require a clear pattern of participation for all students. The attendance standard for IWCC is that each student logs in and participates in meaningful ways, i.e. assignment completion, forum discussion, quiz completion, etc., within the course outline a minimum of one time each week. A week is measured from Monday through Sunday. If this standard is not met for any week within the course term, then you will not receive the valuable points for the week (100 points).

COMMUNICATION WITH INSTRUCTOR:

The best way to reach me is via email, and you can expect me to respond to your message within 24 hours. Please use your IWCC email when contacting me, as other addresses sometimes end up in my spam folder. In addition, please

indicate which course and section you are in. I'm also happy to schedule a phone conference with you.

GRADING:

Cyber Cafe: 6 @ 100 points each (600 points). See our course shell for specific details.

Philosophy Literacy Exam #1: Multiple choice/small essay exam (200 points). See our course shell for specific details.

Philosophy Literacy Exam #2: Multiple choice/small essay exam (200 points). See our course shell for specific details.

Total: 1000 Points

FINAL GRADING SCALE:

A 900-1000
B 800-899
C 700-799
D 600-699
F below 600

FINAL GRADES:

Final grades are viewable on ROC the Tuesday after the end of the semester: Self-Services Menu, Students, and Academic Profile.

IMPORTANT DATES:

For important dates, check the "Academic Calendar" in ROC (e.g., last day to withdraw from course holidays, student development hours, last day to apply for graduation, etc.) Also, check the "News" section on the first page of our course shell.

Important dates for the Winterim are as follows:

October 9	Registration begins
November 4	Textbooks available in college store
December 16	Last day for online order of textbooks
December 17	Last day to add a class
December 18	Classes begin
December 18	Last day to drop with 100% refund
December 19	Last day to drop with 50% refund

December 19	Last day to return textbooks
December 24	eCashier deadlie
December 20 – January 1	College offices closed
January 2	Last day to drop
January 2	College offices open
January 7	Classes end
January 27	Payment deadline

PROBLEM RESOLUTION:

Students with concerns about the course or the instruction are advised to discuss those concerns with the instructor. If this does not resolve the issue, the student should contact Jenny Kruger, Dean of Communication & Fine Arts, STU 1150, 712-325-3326, jkruger@iwcc.edu

NOTICE OF CLASS CANCELLATION:

Emergency closing of entire campus such as for weather – Students will be notified through the Reiver Alert system. Students must register for this service; find Reiver Alert on your ROC homepage under College Services.

Emergency cancellation of a class session such as for faculty illness – Students will be notified through an announcement to iwcc.edu email address, on the ROC course page and/or a posted note on the classroom door.

III. INFORMATION/COLLEGE POLICY

RESET PASSWORD:

Students can reset passwords by accessing the password central page through ROC. The password central page can be found by clicking the menu tab in the upper left-hand corner and opening the technology tab, then clicking on password central.

CYBER-LIBRARY:

Students can access books, magazines, journals, newspapers, films and audio books 24/7 through the Cyber-Library by clicking on the Cyber Library under Academics in ROC. Students may contact the library for assistance with research and citations. Check out the help features on the Cyber Library page in ROC. For questions about finding information at your campus or center, email cyberlibrary@iwcc.edu (click on link) or call 712-325-3247 for the Council Bluffs Campus or 712-542-5117 for the Clarinda Campus. The library hours are posted on ROC.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT:

FREE tutoring and academic assistance for a variety of core, general requirement classes are available through the Tutoring Center, located on the second floor of the Student Center on the Council Bluffs campus. One-on-one assistance is available on a drop-in basis. FREE online tutoring is available through Brainfuse on ROC. To access Brainfuse, locate Online Tutoring next to My ROC Classes. For more information about tutoring services or help in your classes, email tutoring@iwcc.edu or call 712-388-6841. A full tutoring schedule by subject area is posted on ROC.

DROPPING CLASSES:

While we encourage you to do everything you can to complete your classes, it is always better to drop a class than to fail it. If it becomes necessary for you to drop a class you can drop a class online through ROC up to the last day to drop. We recommend that you always talk to your advisor and a financial aid department representative before you drop a class. For more information on dropping classes see the Advising Information Site in ROC under the Academics tab.

PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES:

To provide an environment conducive to learning, Iowa Western Community College requires that cellular phones, pagers, and other personal electronic devices be turned off or set to vibrate when entering classrooms, computer labs, library, offices, auditoriums, or arena areas. Cellular phones with picture taking capabilities are not allowed in bathrooms, locker rooms, or other areas where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy. Faculty members do have the right to prohibit the use of any electronic device in their classroom.

HONOR CODE – ACADEMIC HONESTY:

Upon enrolling at Iowa Western Community College, each student assumes an obligation to conduct her/his academic affairs in a manner compatible with the standards of academic honesty established by the College and its faculty. If this obligation is neglected or ignored by the student, disciplinary action will be taken. Please refer to the Student Code of Conduct for the Academic Dishonesty Policy.

FERPA:

Student rights concerning access to education records are spelled out in Federal Public Law 98-380 as amended by Public Law 93-568 and in regulations published by the Department of Education. The law and regulations require educational institutions to limit the disclosure of information from the student's record to those who have the student's written consent or to officials specifically permitted within the law. Students who wish to grant access to their education (class schedule, transcript of final grades, and progress reports) or financial records (grants, loans, financial aid documents, statements and billing) may do so by submitting an Access to Student Information Consent Form to the Records

and Registration Office. Access to information is only given at the Records and Registration Office or Financial Aid and Cashier Offices. For more information, including the full Access to Student Information policy, refer to the Iowa Western Community College General Catalog or contact the Records and Registration Office.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT:

Iowa Western Community College values diversity and supports learning experiences that promote intellectual growth and human enrichment.

AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT STATEMENT:

If you are an individual with a disability who requires an accommodation to fully participate in academic programs or campus activities, please email disabilityservices@iwcc.edu or call 712-325-3299. Accommodations are arranged through the Disability Services Office, on the second floor of the Student Center on the Council Bluffs campus. Please allow adequate time to implement your accommodations. Any student with mobility impairments should prepare for an emergency ahead of time by instructing faculty and/or classmates on how to assist in case of an evacuation.

PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS:

Iowa Western does not discriminate against any student on the basis of pregnancy or related conditions. Absences due to medical conditions relating to pregnancy will be excused for as long as deemed medically necessary by a student's doctor, and students will be given the opportunity to make up missed work. Students needing accommodations can seek assistance with accommodations from the Coordinator of Disability Services.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION:

It is the policy of Iowa Western Community College to provide equal educational opportunities and not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national or ethnic origin, ancestry, genetic information, physical or mental disability, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, pregnancy, marital status, veteran status, AIDS/HIV status, citizenship, or medical condition, as those terms are defined under applicable laws, in its educational programs, activities, or employment practices.

Questions or complaints? Contact Title IX and Equity Coordinator, Kim Henry, or ADA Coordinator, Samantha Larson, equity@iwcc.edu, 712-325-3200,, or the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Citigroup Center, 500 W. Madison, Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661, (312)-730-1560, OCR.Chicago@ed.gov. More information at <https://www.iwcc.edu/about/statement.asp>.

IV. COURSE TOPICAL OUTLINE AND SCHEDULE

Note: See our course shell for specific details

Session 1: December 18th – December 19th

Topic: Introduction to Philosophy

Reading: *Introduction to Philosophy*: “What is Philosophy?”: 1-29

Instructional Videos: See course shell

Assignment: Cyber Café #1

Attendance Taken on December 19th

Session 2: December 20th – December 23rd

Topic: Philosophy of Religion

Reading: *Introduction to Philosophy*:

“Philosophy of Religion”: 175-176

“Traditional Arguments for the Existence of God”: 176-188, 196-205, 209-212

“The Problem of Evil”: 219-222, 230-236

“Faith and Reason”: 247-250, 256-269

Instructional Videos: See course shell

Assignment: Cyber Cafe #2

Attendance Taken on December 22nd

Session 3: December 24th – December 28th

Topic: Theory of Knowledge

Reading: *Introduction to Philosophy*: “Theory of Knowledge”: 31-41, 49-88, 112-133

Instructional Videos: See course shell

Assignments: Cyber Café #3 + **Philosophy Literacy Exam #1**

Attendance Taken on December 24th and 27th

Session 4: December 29th – December 30th

Topic: Philosophy of Mind

Reading: *Introduction to Philosophy*:

“Philosophy of Mind”: 281-282

“The Mind-Body Problem”: 282-294

“Personal Identity and Survival: Will I Survive My Death?”: 372-386

Instructional Videos: See course shell

Assignment: Cyber Café #4

Attendance Taken on December 30th

Session 5: December 31st – January 2nd

Topic: Freedom of the Will, Responsibility, and Punishment

Reading: *Introduction to Philosophy*: “Freedom of the Will, Responsibility, and Punishment”: 387-413

Instructional Videos: See course shell

Assignment: Cyber Café #5

Attendance Taken on January 3rd

Session 6: December 3rd – December 7th

Topic: Moral Philosophy

Reading: *Introduction to Philosophy*:

“Moral Philosophy”: 499-506

“Moral Relativism”: 519-528

“Morality and Self-Interest”: 550-558

“Standards of Moral Evaluation”: 591-628

“Challenges to Traditional Moral Theories”: 629, 641-649

Instructional Videos: See course shell

Assignments: Cyber Café #6 + Philosophy Literacy Exam #2

Attendance Taken on January 6th