

Philosophy 110

Introduction To Philosophy

Cuyamaca College
Section: 5640
Instructor: Bruce McGraw
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Day: M/W
Time: 9:30-10:45pm
Room: F-506
Semester: Spring 2011

I. Course Description: An introduction to the major Philosophers and their ideas. This is a 16-week course

II. Course Objectives: Student will be able to:

1. Outline a brief history of Philosophy
2. Describe the relationship between Philosophy and Science
3. Describe 5 major issues in Philosophy
4. Identify the major contributions of at least 5 Philosophers
5. Describe the Philosophical relationship between mind and matter

III. Text: Archetypes of Wisdom, 6th edition., by D.J. Soccio, Wadsworth Publishing Company, 2007

IV. Methods of Instruction:

1. Lecture
2. Class Discussion
3. Small group discussion
4. Video tapes
5. In class or out of class writing and critical thinking

V. Grades: Your grade will be made up of four exams, Half Sheets and the essay. Extra points can be made by class participation and involvement. This also includes active involvement in small groups with classmates. Students can actually lose points by failing to actively participate in the small groups. Class participation in all its phases will be especially important if your final grade is hovering between two grades. Students absent for a test must take the test the next class period unless excused by the instructor, otherwise they will receive a zero for the test

VI. Grading System:

A: 4 tests (100pts each)	400pts
B. In Class and out of Class Writing(5pts each)	50pts (approximately)
C: Essay:	50pts
D. Attendance, Tardies, Behavior (See Explanation below)	<u>100pts</u>
Total:	600pts (approximately)
A: 540-600 B: 480-539 C: 420-479 D: 360-419 F: 0-359	

VII. Assignments:

1. Reading: Students must read the assigned pages in the text book before each class period, and be prepared to answer questions and discuss the reading material. It is essential that students read the material prior to class in order to fully understand and appreciate the topics and issues studied.

2. Study Guides: I will give you a comprehensive list of study questions for each chapter which will help you prepare for the exams. Students should complete these questions *before* the due date.

3. Essay: There will be one paper due before the last week of class. It should be between 3-5 pages long and double spaced. Possible topics will be discussed in class. This will enable the student to explore an area of interest that he or she has developed in more depth.

4. Half Sheets: Half Sheets are very brief in-class writing assignments. Sometimes I'll ask for your opinion on some issue, other times I might ask an objective question about some idea or philosopher we are discussing. I also might ask a question to check your understanding of the homework assignment. Half Sheets are unscheduled and spontaneous. **There will be no make-ups on Half Sheets. If you miss it, you miss it.**

5. Exams: The four exams will be comprised of multiple choice, true-false and essay questions. They will be open note, closed book exams. You will need a Scantron 882-e for all four exams. Make-up exams are highly questionable and difficult to arrange. Make every effort to arrange your schedule around the exam dates so that you don't miss any. In the event of a legitimate emergency, make-ups can be arranged, but only if you contact me by e-mail immediately.

6. Attendance, Tardies, Behavior etc: Everybody begins the semester with 100 points in this area. If you are perfect or near perfect in the above categories you can keep all 100 points and they will be averaged into your final grade. However, by violating the rules in the above areas you can lose points off your total. Here is how it will work.

3 points off for using your cell phone or any other electronic device during class w/o prior permission

3 points off for each absence after the first one. You get one free absence.

1 point off for each tardy if you are no more than 10 minutes late.

2 points off for each tardy between 10 and 20 minutes late

3 points off for each tardy more than 20 minutes late.

3 points off for sleeping, closing your eyes or putting your head down on your desk

3 points off for doing work unrelated to this class during class

3 points off for side conversations during the class.

All of these rules will apply from the first day. There will be no warnings given.

VIII. Attendance: Regular/Full attendance is absolutely necessary to understand the problems

and issues studied in this course. Absences will be limited to 4 meetings. 2 tardies (no more than 15 minutes after the beginning of class) will be counted as 1 absence. Leaving early will be counted the same as a lateness. **Since this is a college course, there are no excused absences or lateness for any reason.** You will be automatically dropped without warning if you exceed the attendance limit. Plan well! There are no exceptions! If you are late, it is your responsibility to inform me after class, otherwise it stands as an absence. **Don't forget to tell me that day.**

IX. Agreements:

1. You are to agree to examine the information in this course with an open mind. The nature of education is to learn about things you don't yet know, or about things with which you may disagree. There is no learning in being able to only see your world one way. We will spend a lot of time in this course examining different ways to look at the world and at ourselves. **At no time are you expected to agree with what is presented in this course.** You are expected to participate verbally in this course.

2. You agree to manage yourself in this course. Rude behavior such as: side conversations, sleeping, eating in the classroom, cosmetic activities, writing letters, updating your diary, and working on projects unrelated to this course are not acceptable and are grounds for being dropped from the course. You are expected to inform me before class if you know you are planning to leave early. A sense of humor will be helpful in this class, but anyone engaging in interruptive attention getting as the class comedian or clown will be dropped.

3. It is acceptable for you to disagree with anything in this course that is said by me or by another student, but it must be done in a respectful manner. The idea of a philosophy class is to allow students a comfortable atmosphere in which to express their own ideas and opinions about topics discussed.

X. Course Content: It is essential that reading and writing assignments be completed before each class. Workbook assignments will be checked and possibly collected each day to issue credit for completed assignments.

Class Schedule: The Instructor reserves the right to amend the class schedule if needed.

Read the entire chapter and answer the study questions *before* the due date

January	25/27:	Syllabus, Introduction, Chapter 1 and Chapter 2: Lao-tzu, Confucius, and Buddha Hwk: Read Chapter 2: <i>Lao-tzu, Confucius and Buddha</i> (Focus on Buddhism)and do Study Guide.
February	1/3	Chapter 2. Buddhism Hwk: Outside reading on Buddhism
	4:	Last day to add classes

Last day to withdraw from class without a “W” appearing on your transcripts and qualify for a refund on semester length classes

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8/10: Finish Chapter 2: Buddhism
Outside reading: Bhagavad Gita

15/17: Discuss Bhagavad Gita
Outside reading: Upanishads

22/24 Finish Upanishads
Test: Chapters 1-2:(Buddhism), Bhagavad Gita and Upanishads
Hwk: Continue Chapter 2: Lao-tzu

25: Last Day to Apply for CR/NC:

March 1/3: Continue Chapter 2: Lao-tzu
Outside reading on Taoism Hwk: Continue Chapter 2: Confucianism .

8/10: Finish Chapter 2: Confucianism
Outside Reading: Confucianism: Begin Chapter 3: *Pre-Socratic Philosophers*
Hwk: Read Chapter 3:*Pre-Socratic Philosophers* and do Study Guide

15/17: Chapter 3: *Presocratic Philosophers*
Test on Chapter 2 (Taoism and Confucianism) and Chapter 3
Hwk: *Chapter 5: Socrates* and do Study Guide

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22/24: Chapter 5: *Socrates*
Begin *Chapter 6: Plato*
Hwk: *Chapter 6: Plato* and do Study Guide

29/31: Continue *Chapter 6: Plato*
Hwk: *Chapter 7: Aristotle* and do Study Guide

April 5/7: Finish *Chapter 6: Plato*
Begin *Chapter 7: Aristotle*

12/14: Finish Chapter 7: Aristotle
Test 3 on Chapters 5-7
Hwk: Chapter 9: St. Thomas Aquinas and do Study Guide

15: Last Day to Drop Semester Length Classes in person and receive a “W” grade

19/21: Spring Break

26/28: Chapter 9: *St Thomas Aquinas*
Hwk: Chapter 10: Rene Descartes and do Study Guide

May 3/5: Chapter 10: Rene Descartes
Hwk: Chapter 14: Karl Marx

10/12: Chapter 14: Karl Marx
Hwk: Chapter 17: *Friedrich Nietzsche* and do Study Guide

17/19: Chapter 17: Friedrich Nietzsche

24: **Final Exam: 9:30am-11:30pm Chapters 9, 10, 14, 17**

This course adheres to policies outlined in the Cuyamaca College catalogue. For further information see Academic Policies in the catalogue