PHIL-1301-001I1-F2025

Introduction to Philosophy (040)

Fall 2025 100% Asynchronous Online

Instructor Information: Dr. Mark Arandia; marandia@com.edu

Student hours and location: 100% Online
Office hours by appt. via email: marandia@com.edu

Required Textbook/Materials: All reading assignments are supplied by me in Blackboard: Students do not need to purchase a book for this class.

Course Description: A study of major issues in philosophy and/or the work of major philosophical figures in philosophy. Topics in philosophy may include theories of reality, theories of knowledge, theories of value, and their practical applications.

Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy: Late discussion posts are not accepted. All other assignments may be submitted late up until the last day of the semester as indicated in the syllabus for a 20% penalty. No extra credit is offered in this class.

Attendance Policy: students are expected to login on a regular basis (3 times per week is recommended) and submit assignments by the unit deadlines.

> **Communicating with your instructor:** ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means.

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
Read, analyze, and critique philosophical texts.	Critical thinking skills	Discussions

Demonstrate knowledge of key concepts, major arguments, problems, and terminology in philosophy	Critical thinking skills	Exams
Demonstrate critical thinking skills in evaluation and application of philosophical concepts to various aspects of life.	Critical thinking skills	Applied Philosophy Papers/Discussions
Evaluate the personal and social responsibilities of living in diverse world.	Personal responsibility	Applied Philosophy Papers/Discussions
Present logically persuasive arguments in writing.	Communication skills	Applied Philosophy Papers

Academic Dishonesty: Any acts of academic dishonesty including but not limited to cheating, collusion, and plagiarism will result in a grade of zero for the assignment and a report will be sent to the Dean.

Student Concerns: If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Dr. Brian Anderson, Chair of Humanties at 409-933-8186 or banderson@com.edu.

Course requirements: There are three units in this class, structured as follows:

Unit 1

Student Introduction Post = 25 points
Discussion Board = 50 points
Applied Philosophy Paper = 100 points
Test = 175 points

Unit 2

Discussion Board = 50 points
Applied Philosophy Paper = 100 points
Test = 175 points

Unit 3

Discussion Board = <u>50 points</u>
Applied Philosophy Paper = <u>100 points</u>
Test = <u>175 points</u>
Total = 1000 possible points

Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:

Your grade will be based on the number of points you have earned divided by the total points available.

<u>Grade Scale</u>

A = 900 +

B = 800 - 899

C = 700 - 799

D = 600 - 699

F = 599 and below

==**Course Calendar/Due Dates**==

Topic	Readings & Assignments	Due Dates
Unit 1	Read Chapters 1-3 Unit 1 Test Unit 1 Discussion Board (5 posts + Student Introduction Post) Unit 1 Applied Philosophy Paper	**Opens on 8/18 Closes on 8/31 at 11:59 p.m.**
Unit 2	Read Chapters 4-6 Unit 2 Test Unit 2 Discussion Board (5 posts)	**Opens on 9/1 and Closes on**

Topic	Readings & Assignments	Due Dates
	Unit 2 Applied Philosophy Paper	**9/14 at 11:59 p.m.**
Unit 3	Read chapters 7-9 Unit 3 Discussion Board (5 posts) Unit 3 Test Unit 3 Applied Philosophy Paper	**Opens on 9/15 and Closes on 10/9 at 11:59 p.m.**
	<mark>**Last day to submit coursework is 10/9 at 11:59 p.m.**</mark>	

Final Examinations

There is no comprehensive final exam in this course.

Institutional Policies and Guidelines

Grade Appeal Process: Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook https://www.com.edu/student-services/student-handbook.html. *An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor's professional judgment of the quality of the student's work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.*

Academic Success & Support Services: College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

ADA Statement: Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact:
Kimberly Lachney, Student Accessibility Services Coordinator
Phone: 409-933-8919

Email: AccessibilityServices@com.edu
Location: COM Doyle Family Administration Building, Student Success Center

Textbook Purchasing Statement: A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Withdrawal Policy: Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a "W" grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw from the 1st 8-week session is October 1. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 14. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is November 25.

FN Grading: The FN grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The FN grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the FN grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an FN grade.

Early Alert Program: The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

Resources to Help with Stress:
If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please click here https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life issues that get in the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students office at deanofstudents@com.edu or communityresources@com.edu.

Nondiscrimination Statement:
The College District prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity and gender expression), or any other basis prohibited by law. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is a violation of College District policy.