



Philosophy 1301-220HY-Fall 2021
Introduction to Philosophy
Fall, 2021

Instructor Information: Dr. Steven Peña / spena8@com.edu

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 hours and location: 9:00 PM--10:00 PM Thur / League City Campus

Required Textbook: None is required and none will be used, but *From Socrates to Sartre* (Levine) is a good one to have for background reading

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.

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

Course requirements : There will be eight quizzes, three tests and one final exam

Determination of Course Grade: All twelve grades are weighted the same. The final course grade will be determined by totaling all points earned on tests and quizzes, in accordance with the following chart:

895 & above = A
795 – 894 = B
695 – 794 = C
595 – 694 = D
below 595 = F

Course outline : The course will begin with an introduction that will include a consideration of the four major themes of the class: Reality, Logic, God and Morality. We will then take these up in a recursive order that will unfold the larger philosophical project in a historical context.

Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend all classes And are responsible for anything that is missed. Attendance is NOT a part of the student’s grade.

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 only permitted to withdraw six times during their college career by State law. The last day to withdraw is November 19th.

Early Alert Program: The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention is 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.

Academic Dishonesty: Any student caught cheating in any way will likely be given a failing grade for the semester. A lighter penalty is possible, per the judgment of your professor.

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: D. Brian Anderson, Chair, Humanities Dept., at banderson@com.edu / 409.933.8186, or Rhonda Shiflet, Admin. Assist., at rshiflet@com.edu / 409.933.8214.

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
1. Evaluate contemporary ethical theories	Critical Thinking Skills	Tests 1 & 2
2. Analyze human conduct in society	Communication Skills	Tests 3 & 4
3. Evaluate theories of the good life	Personal Responsibility	Quizzes 1-3
4. Critically analyze Standards of Value	Social Responsibility	Quizzes 4-5
5. Analyze public morals	Ethical Responsibility	Final Exam

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://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf. *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.* https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf

Academic Success & Support Services: College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college career. 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 Holly Bankston at 409-933-8520 or hbankston@com.edu. The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the Student Success Center.

Counseling Statement: Any student that is needing counseling services is requested to please contact Holly Bankston in the student success center at 409-933-8520 or hbankston@com.edu. Counseling services are available on campus in the student center for free and students can also email counseling@com.edu to setup their appointment. Appointments are strongly encouraged; however some concerns may be addressed on a walk-in basis.

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.

COVID-19 Statement: All students, faculty, and staff are expected to familiarize themselves with materials and information contained on the College of the Mainland's Coronavirus Information site at www.com.edu/coronavirus. In compliance with Governor Abbott's May 18 Executive Order, face coverings/masks will no longer be required on COM campus. Protocols and college signage are being updated. We will no longer enforce any COM protocol that requires face coverings. We continue to encourage all members of the COM community to distance when possible, use hygiene measures, and get vaccinated to protect against COVID-19. Please visit com.edu/coronavirus for future updates.