

**COURSE OUTLINE
PHILOSOPHY 101**

SECTION I

SUBJECT AREA AND COURSE NUMBER: Philosophy 101

COURSE TITLE: Philosophy

COURSE CATALOG DESCRIPTION: Examination of major philosophical problems or themes of the Western world as an introduction to the general field of philosophy and its various branches. Epistemology and political philosophy are investigated; philosophy of God and ethics are briefly introduced. Some works of Descartes and Plato are read and analyzed.

LECTURE HOURS PER WEEK: 3

CREDIT HOURS: 3

PREREQUISITES: none

SECTION II

- A. SCOPE:** Even though more advanced students are welcome, Philosophy 101 is primarily designed for beginners. Classes will include the following: Investigation of theory of knowledge, obstacles to knowledge, truth justice, relationship of individual and society, class, personal human relationships, and pragmatic vs. dogmatic approach to contemporary problems. Brief introduction to ethics and philosophy of God – main issues of theism, atheism and agnosticism. Reading of assigned chapters from the textbook and some works of Descartes and Plato and writing short assignments. Class discussions directed by student discussion leaders.
- B. REQUIRED WORK:** Students are expected to gain a basic understanding of points explained and emphasized in class. Explain the main points in their assigned reading. Explain, defend and illustrate their own opinion concerning main issues found in their assigned reading, class presentation and discussions.
- C. ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:** Since classroom work is an important part of the course, students who are absent, tardy, or inconsistent in completing homework assignments may hinder their own progress. Students are responsible for consulting with the instructor about completing any missed work. Students with more than 4 absences may be asked to withdraw. Students may be asked to confer with the teacher during arranged conference times. In addition, teachers are available for individual consultation during scheduled office hours.
- D. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:** Methods of instruction will vary according to the instructor, and may include any of the following: lecture/discussion, small group tasks, experimental/exploration, student presentations, use of computer/internet. For more detail, see class syllabus.

E. OBJECTIVES, OUTCOMES, AND ASSESSMENT: The following objectives and outcomes represent the department's core requirements for student achievement.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES	LEARNING OUTCOMES	ASSESSMENT METHODS
To demonstrate an understanding of	Student will	As measured by
1. Ask and attempt to answer fundamental human questions.	a) participate fully in class; b) attend regularly and on on time; c) complete individual and class room projects; d) take responsibility for knowing, completing and, where necessary, making up assignments on time;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • attendance records • class records • assignment records including timely drafts
2. Deal with issues related to human life.	a) demonstrate an understanding of the elements of philosophy; b) distinguish philosophy from theology, psychology and other disciplines; c) recognize basic philosophical concepts and terms; d) identify the philosophers studied in class and describe their main thoughts and doctrines; e) recognize and summarize and compare philosophical theories learned in class and f) gained from reading;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • written assignment completed on time • short quizzes • tests
3. Gain a Weltanschauung.	a) develop critical and analytic skills and cogent opinions; b) analyze and evaluate texts through reading; c) develop and organize their own views about matters studied in the course; d) explain, defend and illustrate above-mentioned views in clear and distinct manner; e) discuss the strength and weaknesses of philosophers and doctrines learned in the course; f) through their own examples, apply the questions and problems of bias, propaganda, authoritarianism, tests of truth, gender, justice, sources of knowledge and other matters studied in the course to concrete situations in contemporary life;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation and presence in class discussions • Assignments completed on time • Study questions • tests

F. TEXTS AND MATERIALS: As selected by individual instructor.

G. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: Students will use word processing for written assignments. Students will use on-line sources as appropriate for research and for other purposes.