

Philosophy 100: Intro to Philosophy

IVC Fall 2013

Instructor: Edwards

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Office Hours: Mon & Wed 8:00-8:30 am; Tue & Thu 8:00-8:30 am & 11:45-12:45 pm

Course Description and Introduction:

What can I know? Does God exist? Do humans have free will? What is moral? This course is designed to introduce students to these kinds of questions and to how Philosophers go about answering these questions through analysis and argumentation. The goal of the course is to help students understand the main fields of philosophy and teach students how to think and write critically about philosophical questions such as these.

Required Texts:

The Philosopher's Way: A Text with Readings: Thinking Critically About Profound Ideas, Fourth ISBN-13: 978-0-205-77699-3

Course Requirements:

Final grades will be determined by class participation, quizzes, a short paper, and four exams, including a final exam, as outlined below:

In-Class Exams: 30%	Final Exam: 25%	Paper: 20%	Participation: 15%	Quizzes: 10%
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Writing assignments will be due at the beginning of class. They will be graded by letters ranging from an A to an F.

There will be two exams throughout the semester, one midterm and a comprehensive final. Before each exam I will tell you what kinds of topics will be on the test so you can prepare accordingly.

In addition to the Paper and exams, there will be 4 **pop** quizzes, each is worth 2.5% of your final grade. There will also be a term paper (4-6 pages) assigned near the end of the semester. The specifics of the paper will be covered in class.

Finally, a significant component of your final grade will be based on your participation in class. To do well in the class, you should do all of the reading assignments and group work in order to obtain your class participation points.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism means attempting to give the reader the idea that words or ideas in an essay are your own when in fact they are someone else's. This is a serious academic offense that can get you thrown out of college. Don't take chances! If you have questions about what should be documented or cited, please ask me.

Disability Statement:

Each student at Imperial Valley College has the same rights, and privileges as any other student; this includes students with disabilities. Students in this course who have documented disability should meet with a Disabled Student Services and Programs (DSP&S) Counselor as soon as possible as well as notify me in some way. The DSP&S office is located in the Health Sciences Building, room 2117. The telephone number is 355-6312.

Semester Schedule

The following is a tentative schedule of the course and may change if required. You will be expected to have read the assigned reading by the time you attend the relevant class. Readings are referred to by author and page numbers (all page references are to the text edited by).

Note: reading listed on a certain day are **To Have Been Read** on that day.

Date	Topic	Assignment
Section 1: Knowledge		
Week one	Course overview and what is Philosophy?	Read Pg. 194 - top 199 and Pollock “Brain in a Vat” online (Not in book).
Week two	Knowledge; Skepticism and Reason	Descartes's Meditations Read pg. 215-225
Week two	Experience; Induction	6.2 Locke Read pg. 245-257

Student Learning Outcome	Final	Institutional Outcome* (e.g., ISLO1, ISLO2)
Example: describe and critique major arguments in the three main philosophical fields of study.		ISLO1, ISLO2, ISLO4

Week three	Hume	
Week three	Matrix	
Week four	Test #1 Scantron Needed	Anselm 7.4 Pg. 334-338
Week four	Metaphysics and Anselm ontological argument	Aquinas 338-341
Week five	Cosmological	Paley 341-343
Week five	Teleological Argument	
Week six	Star Trek & problem of evil	Dostoevsky (online) & pg. 346
Week seven	Problem of Evil -Swinburne	Pascal 352-354
Week eight	Pascal's wager Group Work	Pascal 352-354
Week eight	Test #2 Scantron needed	3.3 pg. 97-105
Week nine	The Mind-Body Problem; Dualism	Pg. 126- 128
Week nine	Physicalism	Read pg. 129 - 144
Week ten	Free Will/Determinism	

Week ten	Libertarianism / Compatibalism	4.3 Pg. 153- 159
Week eleven	Minority Report	
Week twelve	<i>Test #3 Scantron needed</i>	
Week thirteen	Ethics/ Relativism	Pg. 378- 394
Week thirteen	Divine Command Theory	Pg. 435- 452
Week fourteen	Utilitarianism	9.4 Pg. 452-464
Week fourteen	Deontology	9.4 Pg. 452-464
Week fifteen	Group Work	
Week Fifteen	Thanksgiving	
Week Sixteen	Final Exam	

***Institutional Student Learning Outcomes:** ISLO1 = communication skills; ISLO2 = critical thinking skills; ISLO3 = personal responsibility; ISLO4 = information literacy; ISLO5 = global awareness