

# Philosophy 102: Intro to Philosophy

IVC Spring 2014

Instructor: Edwards

Office: 314 C Phone: (760) 355-6285 E-mail: [aaron.edwards@imperial.edu](mailto:aaron.edwards@imperial.edu)

Office Hours: M & W 8:00-8:30 T & Th 12:00-1:30

Website: [www.imperial.edu/aaron.edwards](http://www.imperial.edu/aaron.edwards)

## Course Description and Introduction:

This course looks into philosophy and how it relates to rational living. Also we look into the methods and significance of philosophical inquiry. Emphasis is placed upon problems of value and human nature. 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 Text:

Manuel Velasquez. Philosophy: A Text with Readings (Wadsworth Publishing; 12 edition, 2012)

## Course Requirements:

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

<b>In-Class Exams:</b> 30%	<b>Final Exam:</b> 25%	<b>Paper:</b> 20%	<b>Participation:</b> 15%	<b>Quizzes:</b> 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 four exams throughout the semester, three smaller exams 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. Scantrons used are the form is 882-E.

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 short 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 attend class meetings on a regular basis. Also, you can participate by raising interesting questions and comments in class.

## Plagiarism:

We'll talk about plagiarism on the first day of class so that everyone will know what exactly it is. 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.

## Attendance:

You may be absent from two classes with no consequences. If you miss more than two classes, then you must bring valid documentation (doctor's note, jury duty notice, receipt from mechanic etc.) to

the next class meeting or you will be dropped from the course. While you are in class you will be expected to turn cell phones off and not use them in any capacity. If you are late to class you are free to come in and join the class but you will be marked absent.

**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.

**Student Health Services:**

Your pre-paid session health fee entitles you to Student Health Services. Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District and El Centro Regional Medical Center were selected as providers of the basic health service such as first aid and care for minor illnesses. The services also include health promotion and education programs. Walk-in and appointment services may be accessed by scheduling an appointment or walking in. Services are not available when IVC is not in session.

**To access the services offered, every student must:**

1. Bring a current IVC Identification Card
2. Bring a current copy of WebSTAR classes
3. Inform the healthcare staff you are a student at IVC.

**Mental Health Services** are provided for individual, couples, family, and group therapy to currently enrolled students. Hours of operation are Monday-Friday from approximately 9-5 pm. Provider availability may vary during those times. You may contact us at (760) 355-6196 or by visiting us in Room 2109, inside of the 2100 building. For mental health emergencies, contact the Imperial County Crisis Line at 1-800-817-5292.

**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 Feinberg).

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

Date	Topic	Assignment
<b>Section 1: Knowledge</b>		
Week 1	Course overview and What is Philosophy?	
Week 2	The Value of Philosophy, What is Real?	3.1-3.2
Week 2	Materialism	
Week 3	Pragmatism	3.3
Week 3	Facts, Truth and who cares	5.5
Week 4	Does Science Give us truth and knowledge	6.3
Week 4	<b>Test # 1</b>	Yo will need Scantron 882-E
Week 5	Philosophy and Religion	4.1
Week 6	Philosophy and God	4.3
Week 6	Probelm of Evil	4.3
Week 7	Meaning and Life	9.1-9.5
Week7	Nihilism	
Week 8	Follow Your Bliss vs The ethical life	

Student Learning Outcome	Assessment Tool (e.g., exam, rubric, portfolio)	Institutional Outcome* (e.g., ISLO1, ISLO2)
<b>Example:</b> describe and critique major arguments in the three main philosophical fields of study.	Final	ISLO1, ISLO2, ISLO4

Week 8	Test # 2	
week 9	What is Ethics?	7.1
Week 9	Divine Command Theory	7.2
Week 10	Utilitarianism	7.3
Week 10	Kantianism	7.4
Week 11	Group Work	
Week 11	Buddhist and Feminist Ethics	7.5
Week 12	<b>Exam 3</b>	
week 12	Social and Political Philosophy	8.1
Week 13	Marxism	8.3
Week 13	Contemporary Social Contract Theory	8.2
Week 14		
Week 14		
Week 15	What is Justice?	8.3
Week 15		
Week 16	<b>Review for the FINAL EXAM</b>	Term Paper is Due

**Final Wednesday May 12th at our usual class time**

**\*Institutional Student Learning Outcomes:** ISLO1 = communication skills; ISLO2 = critical thinking skills;

ISLO3 = personal responsibility; ISLO4 = information literacy; ISLO5 = global awareness