



## Basic Course Information

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|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|---|
| Semester:         | <b>Spring 2025</b>      | Instructor Name:    | <b>Aaron Edwards</b>  |
| Course Title & #: | <b>Philosophy 100</b>   | Email:              | <b>aaron.edwards@imperial.edu</b>   |
| CRN #:            | <b>20737</b>            | Webpage (optional): |   |
| Classroom:        | <b>online</b>           | Office #:           | <b>201</b>  |
| Class Dates:      | <b>2/10/25 - 6/7/25</b> | Office Hours:       | <b>Mon. &amp; Thur.. 10:00 am- 11:00 am Online Tue. and Wed. 1:00 pm -2:00 pm in office</b> |
| Class Days:       | <b>Asynchronous</b>     | Office Phone #:     | (760) 355-6285  |
| Class Times:      | Online                  | Emergency Contact:  |   |
| Units:            | 3                       | Class Format:       | In Class  |
|                   |                         |                     |   |

## Course Description

Welcome to Philosophy 100. This semester we will explore many of life's most important questions. Questions that have changed the world we currently live in but also can change the way you see the world. Questions such as What can I know? Does God exist? Is there an afterlife? Do humans have free will? What is moral? I am excited to explore these philosophical questions with you. Some skills that I hope you will gain in the course is to think and write critically about philosophical questions and discuss philosophical ideas in a positive and productive way with your fellow students.

This course introduces philosophical ideas and methods concerning knowledge, reality and values. Expected topics will include the sources and limits of knowledge, and the nature of reality. Other topics will be examined from a philosophical perspective and include the nature of the self, truth, ethics, religion, science, language, beauty and art, political theory, and mind. An emphasis will be placed on readings from primary source texts. (CSU/UC)

## Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

[Paste in the course prerequisite(s) and/or corequisite(s) from the COR, located at <https://imperial.curricunet.com/Search>]

## Student Learning Outcomes

*Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to: 1. Describe the foremost ideas and arguments in the three major philosophical*

fields. 2. Critique various philosophical arguments. 3. Write their own arguments on Epistemological, Metaphysical and Ethical issues.

## Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a basic understanding of philosophical methods.
2. Demonstrate an ability to articulate ideas about philosophical issues.
3. Use philosophical methods, assumptions and principles to analyze philosophical ideas and positions.
4. Evaluate philosophical arguments, methods, assumptions, and principles for consistency, relevance, and truth.
5. Evaluate views concerning Knowledge, the nature of science and artificial intelligence.
6. Evaluate and critique the arguments for the existence of God, compare and contrast differing theories concerning free will, the existence of God, the fundamental nature of reality, and/or other ideas addressed in the course.
7. Analyze and evaluate arguments from primary sources and secondary concerning knowledge, ethics, free will, the existence of God, the fundamental nature of reality.
8. Formulate arguments concerning Knowledge, AI, morality, and the existence of God

## Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

### **Philosophy Here and Now: Powerful Ideas in Everyday Life**

Third Edition: 13: 978-019754312 By Lewis Vaughn

## Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

**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: 20%**

**Paper: 20%**

**Homework and Participation 20%**

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## Quizzes 10%

### Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

A 100% - 90%

B 89% - 80%

C 79% - 70%

D 69% - 60

F 59% - 0%

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 three exams throughout the semester, 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 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 and are in Blackboard.

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.

### Course Policies

#### Attendance

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See [General Catalog](#) for details.

- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

### Classroom Etiquette

*[Required Information: Describe your policies regarding classroom conduct. The below is suggested language and may be modified for your course.]*

- Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class, unless otherwise directed by the instructor.
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed by the instructor.
- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the [General Catalog](#).
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, only students enrolled in the class may attend; children are not allowed.

### Online Netiquette

- What is netiquette? Netiquette is internet manners, online etiquette, and digital etiquette all rolled into one word. Basically, netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online.
- Students are to comply with the following rules of netiquette: (1) identify yourself, (2) include a subject line, (3) avoid sarcasm, (4) respect others' opinions and privacy, (5) acknowledge and return messages promptly, (6) copy with caution, (7) do not spam or junk mail, (8) be concise, (9) use appropriate language, (10) use appropriate emoticons (emotional icons) to help convey meaning, and (11) use appropriate intensifiers to help convey meaning [do not use ALL CAPS or multiple exclamation marks (!!!!)].

### Academic Honesty

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the important of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

- Plagiarism is taking and presenting as one’s own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to “cite a source” correctly, you must ask for help.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the [General Catalog](#) for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

### IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.

### Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

*[Provide a tentative overview of the readings, assignments, tests, and/or other activities for the duration of the course. A table format as in the example below may be used for this purpose.]*

|            |   |   |
|------------|---|---|
| Week one   | Course Overview and What is Philosophy? | <b>Read 1.1-1.4 in the text book and</b> Pollock<br>“Brain in a Vat” in Blackboard (Not in book). |
| Week two   | Knowledge; Skepticism and Reason        | Descartes'<br>Meditations Read pg. 5.1 & 5.4  |
| Week two   | Experience; Induction                   | 6.2 Locke   |
| Week three | Radical Skepticism                      | 6.4 Hume  |
|            |   |   |
|            |   |   |

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|---------------|---|---|
| Week three    | Kant: Transcendental Idealism                     |   |
| Week four     | Artificial Super Intelligence                     |   |
| Week four     | Matrix  |   |
| Week five     | Matrix / Study Session                            |   |
| Week five     | Test #1   |   |
| Week six      | Metaphysics, Ontological argument                 | 7.4                                     |
| Week seven    | Cosmological Argument /The Design Argument        | 7.4 Cosmological &Teleological Argument |
| Week eight    | The Problem of Evil                               | 7.5                                     |
| Week eight    | Problem of Evil /Test #2                          | Dostoevsky (In Blackboard) & pg. 346    |
| Week nine     | Mind Body Problem Dualism                         | 3.3 & 3.8                               |
| Week nine     | Dualism / Physicalism                             | 4.2                                     |
| Week ten      | Break   | <b>4.3</b>                              |
| Week ten      | Determinism                                       | 4.3                                     |
| Week eleven   | Libertarianism<br>Compatibalism / Minority Report |   |
| Week twelve   | Compatibalism<br>Test # 3                         | 8.1                                     |
| Week twelve   | Test # 3What is Ethics? / Moral Relativism        | 8.3                                     |
| Week Thirteen | What is Ethics? / Moral Relativism                | 8.5 & 9.4                               |
| Week fourteen | Divine Command Theory Utilitarianism              | 9.4                                     |
| Week fourteen | Utilitarianism                                    | 9.3                                     |



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|--------------|------------|--|
| Week fifteen | Deontology |  |
| Week Sixteen | Final      |  |
|              |            |  |

**\*\*\*Tentative, subject to change without prior notice\*\*\***