

# Philosophy 100: Introduction to Philosophy

IVC Spring 2014

Instructor: Edwards

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Office Hours: Mon & Wed 8:00 –8:30 am; Tue & Thu 12:00–1:30 pm

## Course Description and Introduction:

What can I know? Does God exist? Is there an afterlife? 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 Edition ISBN-13: 978-0205254699**

## 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: 30%</b>	<b>Final Exam: 25%</b>	<b>Paper: 20%</b>	<b>Participation: 15%</b>	<b>Quizzes: 10%</b>
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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.

**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.

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

**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
<b>Section 1: Knowledge</b>		
Week one	Course overview and what is Philosophy?	<b>Read Pg. 6- to 18 and</b> Pollock “Brain in a Vat” online (Not in book).
Week two	Knowledge; Skepticism and Reason	Descartes's Meditations Read section 5.4
Week two	Experience; Induction	6.1-6.2 Locke
Week three	Hume	Read 6.4
Week three	Matrix	

Week four	Test #1 Scantron Needed	Anselm 7.4
Week four	Metaphysics and Anselm ontological argument	Aquinas 7.4
Week five	Cosmological	Paley 7.4
Week five	Teleological Argument	
Week six	Star Trek & problem of evil	Dostoevsky (online) & 7.5
Week seven	<b>Problem of Evil –Swinburne</b>	Pascal 352–354
Week eight	Pascal’s Wager Group Work	Pascal 7.6
Week eight	Test #2 Scantron needed	<b>3.3</b>
Week nine	The Mind–Body Problem; Dualism	3.4
Week nine	Dualism	<b>3.10</b>
Week ten	Physicalism	
Week ten	Free Will/Determinism	<b>4.3</b>
Week eleven	Libertarianism	
Week Eleven	Compatibalsim	
Week Twelve	Compatibalism	<b>4.3</b>
Week Twelve	Minority Report	
Week Thirteen	Test #3 Scantron needed	
Week fourteen	Off Spring Beak	Pg. 378– 394
Week fifteen	Divine Command Theory	Pg. 435– 452
Week Fifteen	Utilitarianism	9.4 Pg. 452–464

Week Sixteen	Deontology/Group work	Pg. 435- 452
Week seventeen	Final Exam	(don't forget a scantron)

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