

11/26/12

Department/Unit BU11

X2010

Phone 609488-1111

Line	Description	Amount	Account	Account Description
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91
92
93
94
95
96
97
98
99
100

Line	Description	Amount	Account	Account Description
101
102
103
104
105
106
107
108
109
110
111
112
113
114
115
116
117
118
119
120
121
122
123
124
125
126
127
128
129
130
131
132
133
134
135
136
137
138
139
140
141
142
143
144
145
146
147
148
149
150
151
152
153
154
155
156
157
158
159
160
161
162
163
164
165
166
167
168
169
170
171
172
173
174
175
176
177
178
179
180
181
182
183
184
185
186
187
188
189
190
191
192
193
194
195
196
197
198
199
200

11/26/12

Colena D

Overview of changes from original syllabus of record – updating to new curriculum

1. The course designation has been slightly revised

2. The course objectives have been changed so that they are aligned with the Expected Undergraduate Student Learning Outcomes.

3. Bibliography has been updated

Current Catalog Description:

PHIL 120 Introduction to Philosophy

3c-01-3cr

Acquaints the beginning student with philosophical problems and methods in such areas as metaphysics, epistemology, logic, and value theory.

Proposed Catalog Description

Acquaints the beginning student with philosophical problems and methods. Possible topics include the existence of God, human freedom, the scope and limits of human knowledge, the nature of mind, the nature of morality, and the relationship between the individual and the state.

Rationale: The basic elements of the proposed catalog description are the same as those in the current description. The changes are primarily stylistic, but also reflect a slight change in emphasis in how present faculty are teaching the course.

**PHIL 120: Introduction to Philosophy
Syllabus of Record**

I. Catalog Description:

PHIL 120 Introduction to Philosophy

3 class hours

0 lab hours

Prerequisites: None

3 credits

(3c-01-3cr)

Acquaints the beginning student with philosophical problems and methods. Possible topics include the existence of God, human freedom, the scope and limits of human knowledge, the nature of mind, the nature of morality, and the relationship between the individual and the state.

II. Course Outcomes and Assessment (Expected Undergraduate Student Learning Outcomes – EUSLO):

Objective 1:

Demonstrate knowledge of some of the major areas of philosophy.

Expected Undergraduate Learning Outcome 1:

Informed Learners

Rationale:

The course is designed as a survey course that introduces students to some of the main areas of philosophy. Assignments will require students to demonstrate knowledge of the issues and problems that define the core areas of metaphysics, epistemology, and value theory.

Objective 2:

Demonstrate knowledge of the treatment of core philosophical issues in the Western intellectual tradition.

Expected Undergraduate Learning Outcome 1:

Informed Learners

Rationale:

Assignments will require students to demonstrate knowledge of key philosophical arguments concerning such topics as human freedom, the nature and limits of human knowledge, the existence of God, and the nature of morality. Assignments will also require students to demonstrate knowledge of important figures in the Western intellectual tradition.

Objective 3:

Analyze and evaluate important philosophical arguments from the Western intellectual tradition.

Expected Undergraduate Learning Outcome 2:

Empowered Learners

Rationale:

Assignments will require students to critically evaluate important philosophical arguments. Students will demonstrate understanding of key objections to these arguments, as well as potential replies to these objections.

Objective 4:

Describe the relationship between critical theory, applied ethical issues, or social and political

V. Freedom (6 hours)

- A. William James, The Dilemma of Determinism
- B. Nancy Holmstrom, Firming Up Soft Determinism
- C. Galen Strawson, The Impossibility of Ultimate Responsibility

Exam 3 (1 hour)

VI. Ethics (6 hours)

- A. James Rachels, The Challenge of Cultural Relativism
- B. Kant, Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals (selection)
- C. Mill, Utilitarianism (selection)

VII. Social and Political Philosophy (4 hours)

- A. Hobbes, Leviathan (selection)
- B. ~~Wollstonecraft, A Vindication of the Rights of Woman~~

C. Joseph Raz, Multiculturalism

Final Exam (2 hours)

IV. Evaluation Methods

The final grade will be determined as follows:

Assessment	Percentage of Overall Grade
------------	-----------------------------

Exam 1	20%
Exam 2	20%
Exam 3	20%
Exercises, Quizzes, Homework	10%
Paper	10%

Kolak, Daniel, and Raymond Martin. *The Experience of Philosophy*, 6th Edition.
(Oxford, 2006).

The following are examples of books that could be used as supplemental texts:

Craig, Edward. *Philosophy: A Very Short Introduction*. (Oxford, 2002).
University Press

Nagel, Thomas. *What Does it All Mean?* (Oxford, 2004).

Annas, Julia. "Virtue Ethics", in David Copp (Ed.), *The Oxford Handbook of Ethical Theory*,
pp. 515-536. (Oxford, 2006).

Annas, Julia. *Plato's Ethics*. (Cambridge, 1977).

Taylor, Richard. *Metaphysics*. 5th Edition. (Prentice-Hall, 2001).

Timmons, Mark and David Shoemaker. *Knowledge, Nature, and Norms: An Introduction to Philosophy*. (Wadsworth, 2008).

Unger, Peter. *Living High and Letting Die*. (Oxford, 1996).

Watson, Gary. *Free Will*. 2nd Edition. (Oxford, 2003).

Wolfe, Jonathan. *An Introduction to Political Philosophy*. (Oxford, 2000)

Sample Assignment for Liberal Studies Course:

Paper on the Mind-Body Problem

Topic: Outline, discuss, and evaluate either (1) Descartes' view that the mind is a non-physical substance fundamentally different in kind from the physical body and brain, or (2) Carruther's view that mental states are identical to brain states.

Relevant Readings:

Descartes, "Meditations on First Philosophy" (selections)

Carruthers "The Case for Physicalism"

Your primary goal in the paper is to write clearly and precisely. Demonstrate that you

understand the position you're discussing by explaining all the relevant concepts and *at least one argument* in favor of the position. For instance, if you're discussing Descartes, you should explain what he means when he says that, unlike the body, the mind is "non-extended" and how

- Are poorly written.
- Demonstrate minimal understanding of the issue under discussion.
- Demonstrate a lack of effort on the part of the student.

F papers generally:

- Make use of material found online that is simply cut and pasted into the document. (This will trigger an investigation into whether standards of academic honesty were violated.)
- Fail to properly cite quoted material. (Serious failures will trigger an investigation into whether standards of academic honesty were violated).
- Demonstrate a complete lack of effort on the part of the student.

Answers to Liberal Studies Questions

1. Multiple sections, taught by multiple instructors, will typically be offered each semester. By

goals of our lower-level, introductory type courses, we will be able to ensure that a similar range

Course Analysis Questionnaire

A. Details of the Course

- A1. The course will be open to all IUP students.
- A2. This course does not require changes in any existing Philosophy department courses.
- A3. This course is taught on a regular basis.
- A4. This is not a dual-level course.
- A5. This course may not be taken for variable credit.
- A6. Courses similar to PHIL 120 are offered at institutions throughout the country. Here are three examples:
 - University of Maryland, College Park: Introduction to Philosophy (PHIL 100)
 - San Jose State University: Introduction to Philosophy (PHIL 010)
 - Hamilton College: Introduction to Philosophy (PHIL 110S)
- A7. This course is not required by the American Philosophical Association.

B. Interdisciplinary Implications

- B1. This course will be taught by one instructor.
- B2. This course does not duplicate or affect courses offered by other departments.
- B3. This course will not be cross-listed.
- B4. This course will be open to all enrolled undergraduate students, with no prerequisites in place. ~~No seats will be set aside in particular for Continuing Education students, though they~~

C6. 55 students is the present enrollment rate for lower level classes

C7. The American Philosophical Association does not recommend maximum enrollments for this type of course.

C8. This is not a distance education course.

D. Miscellaneous.

None

GENERIC COURSE SYLLABUS

PHILOSOPHY 120 INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY

3 credits

Prerequisites: None

Designed to acquaint the beginning student with philosophical problems and methods in such areas as metaphysics, epistemology, logic, and value theory.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

A. PRIMARY:

1. Students will become acquainted with some or all of the major areas of philosophy.
2. Students will develop the skills of inquiry, abstract logical thinking, critical analysis, synthesis, decision making, and other aspects of the critical process through the close analysis and evaluation of fundamental issues.