

Anoka-Ramsey Community College

PHIL 1101: Introduction to Philosophy

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: *.*

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 02 - Critical Thinking, Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

(MnTC Goals 2 and 6)

Introduction to the nature and aims of philosophy, to some of its central problems, and to the methods employed in philosophical discussion. Typical problems examined include the nature of reality, knowledge, values, and the self.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 06/01/1998 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Introduction to the nature of philosophical reasoning - "arguments" and their significance to timeless questions
2. Introduction to Metaphysics (contrasting sample philosophies in metaphysical dualism with those in naturalism)
3. Introduction to Epistemology (contrasting sample philosophies in rationalism with those in empiricism)
4. Introduction to Axiology (distinguishing sample arguments from aesthetics, ethics, and/or political philosophy)
5. At least one modern Western philosophy (post Descartes)
6. At least one non-Western philosophy and/or feminist theory
7. At least one connection between Philosophy and another field of study

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Identify the distinguishing marks between different fields of philosophy (e.g. epistemology, metaphysics and axiology) and recognize the implicit connections between them
2. Use central terms in the formal study of philosophy (i.e., innate ideas, a priori, etc.) in order to properly summarize and evaluate philosophical perspectives
3. Explain arguments put forth by philosophers on specific topics (per Content area)
4. Compare and contrast the similarities and differences between philosophical arguments on related topics, noting wherein the arguments (attempt to) respond to one another
5. Recognize implicit assumptions within specific philosophies and the impact of these assumptions upon their philosophical arguments
6. Critique at least one philosophical theory, identifying the logical and practical challenges implied by the position
7. Evaluate a philosophical solution to a question, demonstrating a thoughtful and studied position regarding the overall strengths and challenges of the theory

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 02 - Critical Thinking

1. Imagine and seek out a variety of possible goals, assumptions, interpretations, or perspectives which can give alternative meanings or solutions to given situations or problems.
2. Analyze the logical connections among the facts, goals, and implicit assumptions relevant to a problem or claim; generate and evaluate implications that follow from them.
3. Recognize and articulate the value assumptions which underlie and affect decisions, interpretations, analyses, and evaluations made by ourselves and others.

Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

1. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
2. Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.
3. Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted