
COURSE PREFIX/NO:	PHI 101
COURSE TITLE:	Introduction to Philosophy
LEC HRS/WEEK:	3.0
LAB HRS/WEEK:	0.0
CREDIT HOURS/SEMESTER	3.0

[Distance Learning Attendance/VA Statement](#)
[Textbook Information](#)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course includes a topical survey of the three main branches of philosophy- epistemology, metaphysics, and ethics- and the contemporary questions related to these fields.

COURSE COMPETENCIES

1. Define philosophy and its goals.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of philosophy as a distinct discipline.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of logic and its role in reasoning and forming philosophical arguments.
4. Recognize and articulate the distinct and specific areas of philosophy and how they relate to each other.
5. Understand the philosophies and arguments of the major philosophers discussed within the course.
6. Recognize the relationship between historical arguments and contemporary philosophical applications.
7. Demonstrate competency in critical thinking.
8. Demonstrate increased proficiency in critical reading comprehension and critical discussion.
9. Demonstrate an understanding of and apply some basic philosophical vocabulary.
10. Achieve increased skill in orally articulating and arguing a philosophical position.
11. Develop and defend one's own unique philosophical view.
12. Recognize and appreciate the various philosophical views and opinions of classmates.

MINIMAL STANDARDS

In order to receive the minimal passing grade in this course, the student must perform at the 60 percent level of accuracy on all examinations and required supplementary assignments.

A student's grade will be based on the following performance criteria:

1. The ability to complete and submit all written assignments by specified deadlines.
2. The ability to follow instructions and uphold standards established by the instructor.
3. The ability to demonstrate knowledge of proper spelling, grammar, and composition when completing formal assignments and evaluation instruments.
4. The ability to demonstrate an acceptable level of performance of course competencies as identified in program requirements.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance Policy

The student is required to attend this course on those days and hours specified by the current school schedule. The instructor may withdraw students who are absent 10% of the specified contact hours.

Withdraw From A Course

A student may withdraw from a course after the add/drop period until mid-term with a grade of W. The student should contact the instructor to withdraw. If the student withdraws from a course after mid-term, the grade received is determined and assigned by the instructor for that course.

Make-Up Policy

If a student is absent from class for any reason, he/she is responsible for all work that was covered. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the instructor and request make-up assignments. Completing work that was missed due to a pattern of unexpected absences or neglect will be based on the instructor's discretion.

Student Conduct

Students are requested to adhere to all conduct codes outlines in the York Technical College Handbook and Catalog. Students caught plagiarizing assignments will receive a grade of 0 on that particular assignment. Also, further disciplinary actions may be used.

Evaluation Procedure

In order to measure all competencies for this course, the instructor will use quantitative measurement tools that will include, but are not limited to a minimum three tests (i.e., essay, multiple choice short answer questions, matching, etc.). In addition, other measurement tools (i.e., formal paper, reaction paper, presentation, book review, group assignments, homework, participation, etc.) will be used. At the instructor's discretion, other grading strategies (i.e., attendance, pop quizzes, etc.) can be included in the calculation of the final grade. The following grading format exists for this class:

Assessment Tool Value

Test	60 - 80%
Paper/and or Presentation	20 - 30%
Participation	0 - 10%

Grading

See York Technical College Handbook and Catalog for explanation of College's grading system. For this course grading will be determine in the following manner:

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
59 or less	F

ENTRY LEVEL SKILLS: Non-applicable

PREREQUISITES: None

CO-REQUISITES: None

Disabilities Statement: Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the Special Resources Offices (SR) at 803-327-8007 in the 300 area of Student Services. The SRO coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

EFFECTIVE: FA2006

TOPIC/CONTENT OUTLINE

Module One

- What is Philosophy?
- What Do Philosophers Do?
- Arguments, Deductions, Reasoning and Logic
- What is Metaphysics?
- The First Metaphysicians – Plato and Aristotle
- Free Will/Determinism and Mind/Body Dichotomies

Module Two

- Epistemology and Theory of Knowledge- Descartes and Hume
- Skepticism, Rationalism, Empiricism
- Ethics and Moral Philosophy
- Duty and Utilitarianism
- Medical Ethics

Module Three

- Philosophy of Religion
- God and Evil
- Religious Experience
- Philosophy of Science
- Social Philosophy
- Aesthetics