

PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

M5-103

(323) 265-8774

PHILOSOPHY

Courses and seminars in philosophy offer serious reflection and analysis of the approaches and perspectives of the philosophers who shaped Western culture. Philosophy provides students with the concepts and skills necessary to understand the theories that have been developed and, more importantly, to evaluate rationally alternative approaches, including their own. Philosophical study provides an overview of influential attempts to synthesize diverse philosophical insights into fully developed world views, world views with far-reaching implications for how we live and interact.

Philosophy contributes depth and perspective to the study of law, government, psychology, history, and literature. From philosophy, students of natural science derive a heightened awareness of what is positive and what is problematical in their field of inquiry. Mastery of the techniques of philosophical analysis is relevant to the preservation of clarity of thought in every field of inquiry.

Seen as a discipline with a rich history and heritage, philosophy presents an imaginative array of perspectives on the basic questions of life. In your study of philosophy, you will join with thinkers throughout the ages, share their wonder, and reflect philosophically in thinking about yourself, your life, and the world in which you live.

Please check with a counselor regarding transfer requirements.

FACULTY

Sigman, Michael - Chair

Associate Professor

Posada, Ramon

Associate Professor

Snead, Timothy A.

Assistant Professor

ADJUNCT FACULTY

Austin, Sara

Errett, Russell H.

Franta, Peter K.

Gill, Kevin

Mather, Nicholas

McGarvey, Mathew

McMahan, Kerrin M.

Romero, Michael

Sedgwick, Emily A.

Villavicencio, Angelo

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

PHILOSOPHY

1 Introduction to Philosophy (3)

UC:CSU(CAN PHILOS 2) IGETC Area 3B

Lecture, 3 hours.

Philosophy 1 provides an introduction to the study of philosophy. Students are provided with an understanding of the major issues - epistemology, metaphysics, and axiology. Students experience philosophy as an activ-

ity characterized by asking questions and answering them through persistent, critical analysis. The study of Philosophy helps satisfy higher-level human needs, increases personal awareness, deepens tolerance, refines analytical powers, and equips us to deal with life's uncertainties.

5 Critical Thinking and Composition (3) UC:CSU

Prerequisite: English 101.

Lecture, 3 hours.

This course concentrates on the development of critical thinking skills necessary for evaluating and formulating argumentative essays, and offers practice in applying these skills. Critical writing is the focus of this course.

6 Logic in Practice (3) UC:CSU (CAN PHIL 6)

Lecture, 3 hours.

This course is designed to foster critical thinking skills, without exclusively appearing to the traditional techniques of formal logic. A number of general issues connected with the rational criticism of arguments are explored. These include a discussion of the special features associated with critical thinking in different fields of argumentation and a discussion of fallacies as non-formal failures in the process of reasoning.

8 Deductive Logic (3) UC:CSU

Lecture, 3 hours.

This course concerns two basic analytical skills: logical and critical analysis. Logical analysis teaches the nature of logical structure. Critical analysis teaches why arguments sometimes fail. Students acquire the skills necessary for success in most upper-division college course work.

12 History of Greek Philosophy (3) UC:CSU

(CAN PHILOS 8)

(PHIL 12 + PHIL 14 = CAN PHIL SEQ A) IGETC Area 3B

Lecture, 3 hours.

This course is a survey of Western thought from the Greek classical philosophers to the medieval Christian philosophers.

14 History of Modern European Philosophy

(3) UC:CSU (CAN PHILOS 10) (PHIL 12 + PHIL

14 = CAN PHIL SEQ A) IGETC Area 3B

(UC credit limit, Philosophy 14/14H maximum credit, one course)

Lecture, 3 hours.

This course is a survey of selected modern Western philosophers from the Renaissance to the 18th century.

19 Contemporary Problems in Bioethics

(3) UC:CSU IGETC Area 3B

Lecture, 3 hours.

This course examines moral problems in biomedical ethics, examining the work of philosophers, jurists, biologists, legal theorists, health-care professionals and researchers. Major ethical theories are examined and applied to contemporary issues such as human cloning, genetic engineering, and assisted suicide.

20 Ethics (3) UC:CSU (CAN PHIL 4) IGETC Area 3B

Lecture, 3 hours.

Using small group discussions and lectures, this course attempts to introduce ethics in a balanced mix of theory and practice that is unified and coherent, engaging and compelling. As a result of this course, students should be able to: (1) see the moral overtones in their own lives;