

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: PHIL 21

Title: HIST WEST PHIL: MODERN

Full Title: History of Western Philosophy: Modern

Last Reviewed: 12/10/2018

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	17.5	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade or P/NP

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly: PHIL 20.2

Catalog Description:

History of Western philosophy from the Renaissance to the twentieth century.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended Preparation:

Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

Limits on Enrollment:

Schedule of Classes Information:

Description: History of Western Philosophy from the Renaissance to the Twentieth Century.  
(Grade or P/NP)

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;UC. (CAN PHIL10)(PHIL 20+PHIL 21=PHIL SEQ A)

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>			<b>Effective:</b>	<b>Inactive:</b>
	E	Humanities		Fall 1980	
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>			<b>Effective:</b>	<b>Inactive:</b>
	C2	Humanities		Spring 1987	
<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>			<b>Effective:</b>	<b>Inactive:</b>
	3B	Humanities		Spring 1987	
<b>CSU Transfer:</b>	Transferable		<b>Effective:</b>	Fall 1980	<b>Inactive:</b>
<b>UC Transfer:</b>	Transferable		<b>Effective:</b>	Fall 1980	<b>Inactive:</b>

### **CID:**

CID Descriptor: PHIL 140      History of Modern Philosophy  
SRJC Equivalent Course(s):      PHIL21

### **Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Major Applicable Course

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Outcomes and Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the philosophical views of the more prominent philosophers of this period, including such thinkers as: Descartes, Hobbes, Spinoza, Leibniz, Locke, Berkeley, Hume, Kant, Hegel, Schopenhauer, Marx, the Utilitarians, the Existentialists, the Logical Positivists, and the Pragmatists.
2. Describe the evolution of Western philosophical thought from the Renaissance to the twentieth century, describing how the views of the philosophers of this period developed out of or in response to the ideas of their predecessors or contemporaries.
3. Critically evaluate the arguments and viewpoints of the philosophers studied.
4. Compare and contrast the major philosophical movements and ideas during this period.
5. Describe the historical and cultural contexts in which these philosophies were developed.
6. Interpret representative samples of the most significant philosophical literature of this period (e.g. Descartes' MEDITATIONS, Berkeley's THREE DIALOGUES BETWEEN HYLAS AND PHILONOUS), and demonstrate this understanding in writing.

### **Topics and Scope:**

A typical Philosophy 21 course covers the following topics in approximately the following sequence:

1. Introduction - The transition from the Medieval to the modern period (the Renaissance, religion and science).
2. Descartes - the method of doubt, cogito, rationalism, mind, God, and

- matter.
3. Hobbes - mechanistic materialism, egoism, state of nature, social contract.
  4. Spinoza - monism, pantheism, rationalism, psychology, ethics.
  5. Leibniz - logic, principle of sufficient reason, pre-established harmony, God, monads.
  6. Locke - origins of empiricism, origins of modern political liberalism.
  7. Berkeley - immaterialism, empiricism, philosophy of religion.
  8. Hume - empiricism, critique of causality, induction and personal identity, religion, ethics.
  9. Kant - synthetic a priori judgments, space, time, categories of the understanding, the categorical imperative, freedom, God.
  10. Hegel - absolute idealism, God, dialectic, philosophy of history and politics.
  11. Schopenhauer - critique of Hegel, the will, pessimism, philosophy of art.
  12. Marx - alienation, class, historical materialism, dialectical materialism, revolution.
  13. Utilitarians - the principle of utility, Bentham, Mill, liberty.
  14. Existentialists and their predecessors - Nietzsche, Kierkegaard, Heidegger, Sartre.
  15. Pragmatists - Pierce, Dewey, James.
  16. Twentieth Century analytic philosophy - logical positivism, Russell, Wittgenstein.

### **Assignment:**

Assignments for Philosophy 21 vary but typically include the following:

1. Regular reading assignments from course texts and supplementary materials.
2. Regular or occasional quizzes which cover the assigned readings. Quizzes may be either multiple choice or short essay.
3. At least two midterm examinations. Each exam is approximately one hour long. Students must write in-class essays in response to questions on material covered in class and in texts.
4. A final examination - approximately 2-3 hours long. Students must write in-class essays in response to questions on material covered in class and in texts.
5. Students may also be required to write a term paper in which they discuss a philosophical issue raised in class.
6. Students will be encouraged to participate in class discussions.

### **Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:**

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Written homework, Term papers
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Writing 65 - 75%
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**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

None

Problem solving  
0 - 0%

**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None

Skill Demonstrations  
0 - 0%

**Exams:** All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Multiple choice, Essay Exams

Exams  
15 - 25%

**Other:** Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

CLASS PARTICIPATION

Other Category  
10 - 20%

**Representative Textbooks and Materials:**

PHILOSOPHY: HISTORY AND PROBLEMS, Samuel Stumpf, 3rd ed., McGraw-Hill, 1983.

THE GREAT CONVERSATION: A HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY, Norman Melchert, 2nd ed., Mayfield Publishing Company, 2000.

THE VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY: A HISTORY OF WESTERN PHILOSOPHY, William F. Lawhead, Wadsworth, 1996.