

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: PHIL 20                      Title: HIST WESTERN PHIL  
Full Title: History of Western Philosophy  
Last Reviewed: 1/28/2019

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 20.1

Catalog Description:  
History of Western philosophy from classical Greek philosophy to the Renaissance, concentrating on Socrates, Plato and Aristotle.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended Preparation:  
Completion of ENGL 100B or ENGL 100.

Limits on Enrollment:

Schedule of Classes Information:  
Description: History of Western Philosophy from classical Greece to the Renaissance. (Grade or P/NP)  
Prerequisites/Corequisites:  
Recommended: Completion of ENGL 100B or ENGL 100.  
Limits on Enrollment:  
Transfer Credit: CSU;UC. (CAN PHIL8)(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		Fall 1986	
<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>			<b>Effective:</b>	<b>Inactive:</b>
	3B	Humanities		Fall 1986	
<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 130 History of Ancient Philosophy  
SRJC Equivalent Course(s): PHIL20

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

Not Certificate/Major Applicable

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Outcomes and Objectives:**

The student will:

1. Describe the philosophical views of the more prominent philosophers of this period, including such thinkers as: the major pre-Socratic philosophers, Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, and the major Hellenistic and medieval philosophers.
2. Trace the development of Western philosophical thought from its origins in ancient Greece through the medieval period, describing how the views of the philosophers of this period developed out of or in response to the ideas of their predecessors to contemporaries.
3. Critically evaluate the arguments and viewpoints of the philosophers studied.
4. Compare and contrast the major thinkers, philosophical movements and ideas during this period.
5. Describe the historical and cultural contexts in which these philosophies were developed, in so far as this is necessary in order to explain the significance of the ideas under consideration. \*
6. Interpret representative samples of the most significant philosophical literature of this period (e.g. Plato's APOLOGY EUTHYPHRO, and CRITO, Plato's REPUBLIC), and demonstrate this understanding in writing.

### **Topics and Scope:**

A typical Philosophy 20 course covers the following topics in approximately the following sequence.

1. Introduction - historical and geographical introduction to the world of ancient Greece; overview of ancient Greek mythology.

2. The origins of Western philosophy in Miletus.
3. Heraclitus - flux and strife.
4. The Eliatic philosophers - Oneness and changeless (Parmenides and Zeno).
5. Empedocles and Anaxagoras - early pluralists.
6. The Pythagoreans - natural law and mathematics.
7. The atomists - a mechanical description of nature.
8. The sophists - the relationship between rhetoric and philosophy.
9. Socrates - the pursuit of human excellence (the life of Socrates; Socrates' approach to philosophy; the historical Socrates as \* as distinct from the Platonic Socrates; the APOLOGY; the death of Socrates).
10. Plato - the life of Plato; the influence of Socrates, Pythagoras and Parmenides; the theory of forms (including the allegory of the cave, the divided line, and the form of Good); modern critique of the theory of forms; Plato's physics; ethics; Plato's conception of justice; religion (including soul, reincarnation and the Craftsman); Plato's political philosophy; theory of art.
11. Aristotle - the life of Aristotle; Aristotle's response to Plato; logic; form and matter; the four causes; teleology in physics and astronomy; religion and the Unmoved Mover; Aristotle's biology; psychology (the nutritive, sensitive and rational psyches); Aristotle's ethics (eudaimonia, function, form, practical reason, the virtues, the mean and the contemplative life); political \*\*\* philosophy; theory of art.
12. Hellenistic philosophers - historical developments in Greece and Rome; the Epicureans; the stoics; the cynics; the skeptics.
13. Medieval philosophers - origins and spread of Christianity; the question of God's existence, the problems of universals, the question of faith vs. reason; St. Augustine; John Scotus Erigena; St. Anselm (with emphasis on the Ontological Argument); William of Ockham; St. Thomas Aquinas (with emphasis on the Five Ways).

### **Assignment:**

Assignments for Philosophy 20 vary but typically include the following:

1. Regular reading assignments from course text 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 research an issue raised in class and defend a particular position on that issue.
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, Essay exams, Term papers

Writing  
65 - 95%

**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, SHORT ESSAY OR QUIZZES

Exams  
5 - 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:

A HISTORY OF WESTERN PHILOSOPHY: THE CLASSICAL MIND, 2nd ed.,  
Harcourt Brace Javanovich, 1970.

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

THE GREAT CONVERSATION: A HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY,  
Norman Melchert, Mayfield, Publishing Company, 1995.

THE VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY: A HISTORY OF WESTERN PHILOSOPHY,  
William F. Lawhead, 1st ed., Wadsworth, 1996.