

PHIL 12 Course Outline as of Fall 2003

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: PHIL 12

Title: ENVIRONMENTAL PHIL

Full Title: Environmental Philosophy

Last Reviewed: 4/10/2023

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:

Catalog Description:
An exploration of various philosophical views about what makes the natural environment worth valuing and an examination of how those philosophies apply to selected environmental issues or problems.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended Preparation:
Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

Limits on Enrollment:

Schedule of Classes Information:
Description: An exploration of various philosophical views about what makes the natural environment worth valuing and an examination of how these philosophies apply to selected environmental issues or problems. (Grade or P/NP)
Prerequisites/Corequisites:
Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent
Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.

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

ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:

AS Degree:	Area		Effective:	Inactive:
	E	Humanities	Fall 1994	
	H	Global Perspective and Environmental Literacy		
CSU GE:	Transfer Area		Effective:	Inactive:
	C2	Humanities	Fall 1997	
IGETC:	Transfer Area		Effective:	Inactive:
	3B	Humanities	Fall 1997	
CSU Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1994	Inactive:
UC Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1994	Inactive:

CID:

Certificate/Major Applicable:

Major Applicable Course

COURSE CONTENT

Outcomes and Objectives:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain the relationship between environmental philosophy and environmental science.
2. Describe and critique the traditional ethical theories that are relevant to environmental ethics (e.g. utilitarianism, deontology and natural law theory).
3. Elucidate and evaluate the extent to which these theories place value upon various aspects of the natural environment (e.g. humans, animals, plants, species, ecosystems).
4. Describe and critique non-traditional theories in environmental ethics (e.g. biocentric ethics and the land ethic).
5. Describe and evaluate philosophies which emphasize a more metaphysical approach to environmental philosophy (e.g. deep ecology).
6. Explain and evaluate environmental philosophies that are rooted in the spiritual beliefs of cultures throughout the world, including Western, Eastern and Native cultures.
7. Describe and critique environmental philosophies that examine the interplay between the environment and social or economic issues (e.g. environmental justice, social ecology, and ecofeminism).
8. Describe and evaluate various theories in environmental aesthetics.
9. Compare and contrast how various environmental philosophies apply to selected global and/or local environmental issues or problems.

Topics and Scope:

Representative topics include:

1. Environmental philosophy in relation to environmental science
2. Traditional ethical theories in environmental philosophy
3. Non-traditional ethical theories in environmental philosophy
4. Metaphysics in environmental philosophy
5. Spiritual/religious approaches to environmental philosophy
6. Economic, political and social issues in environmental philosophy
7. Environmental aesthetics
8. Philosophical theories in relation to selected environmental problems

Assignment:

Assignments for Philosophy 12 vary but typically include the following:

1. Regular reading assignments (totaling approximately 400 pages) from course texts and supplementary materials.
2. Regular or occasional quizzes which cover the assigned readings. Quizzes may be either multiple choice or short answer.
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. Exams may also include a multiple-choice section.
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. Exams may also include a multiple-choice section.
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.

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.

Term papers

Writing
10 - 35%

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, Short Answer

Exams
65 - 90%

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

None

Other Category
0 - 0%

Representative Textbooks and Materials:

ENVIRONMENTAL PHILOSOPHY: FROM ANIMAL RIGHTS TO RADICAL ECOLOGY, 2nd ed.,

edited by Michael Zimmerman, Prentice Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ, 1998.

ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS: AN INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL PHILOSOPHY,

3rd ed., Joseph DesJardins, Wadsworth, Belmont, CA, 2001.

ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS: DIVERGENCE AND CONVERGENCE, 2nd ed., edited by Susan Armstrong and Richard Botzler, McGraw Hill, NY, 1998.