

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: PHIL 11

Title: INTRO/ASIAN PHILOSOPHY

Full Title: Introduction to Asian Philosophy

Last Reviewed: 12/12/2022

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:
A philosophical analysis of major ideas in Indian, Chinese, and Japanese philosophy. The course examines these views along with basic tenets of Western philosophy, exploring perspectives on the nature of existence, human destiny, ethics, and socio-political obligation. The course includes an introduction to comparative philosophy from a global perspective.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended Preparation:
Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

Limits on Enrollment:

Schedule of Classes Information:
Description: Survey of the philosophies of India, China, & Japan as compared with major ideas in Western philosophy. Emphasis on philosophical thought rather than religious practice. Problems of comparative philosophy are discussed. (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 2003	
	H	Global Perspective and Environmental Literacy		
CSU GE:	Transfer Area		Effective:	Inactive:
	C2	Humanities	Fall 2003	
IGETC:	Transfer Area		Effective:	Inactive:
	3B	Humanities	Fall 2003	
CSU Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 2003	Inactive:
UC Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 2003	Inactive:

CID:

Certificate/Major Applicable:

Not Certificate/Major Applicable

COURSE CONTENT

Outcomes and Objectives:

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Specify the historical diversity among the major philosophical schools of India, China, and Japan, recognizing their individual integrity in ancient thought, and dispelling the Western fallacy which tends to categorize "Oriental" as a unified body of ideas
2. Clarify the later growth of interdependence among different philosophies of Asia throughout their development
3. Distinguish influences of Asian thought on Western ideas and vice versa
4. Relate the developments of certain philosophical lineages with historically relevant events
5. Question and analyze the influence of a western philosophical framework on the appraisal of Asian philosophies, particularly as these are constrained by English translation of Asian philosophical material
6. Critically analyze preconception and bias in the evaluation of ideas; critically assess the possibility of a purely objective standpoint in comparative investigation
7. Critically evaluate examples of the reciprocal influence between Asian philosophy and modern globalism

Topics and Scope:

Includes some or all of the following:

1. Fundamental perennial issues in Western philosophy and Eastern philosophy
2. Key problems, limitations of translation, and challenges of ethnocentrism attending a western study of Asian worldviews
3. Issues of contemporary globalism from the perspective of Asian philosophy
4. Tenets and textual analysis of the philosophy of ancient India (Vedas, Upanishads, Bhagavad Gita, Samkhya-Yoga, Advaita Vedanta)
5. Tenets and textual analysis of Buddhist philosophy (issues of early Buddhism as revealed in the sutta pitaka; issues in Madhyamika vs. Yogacara Buddhism; Buddhist psychology of mind)
6. Reciprocal influence of Hindu thought on Buddhism and Buddhist thought on Hinduism
7. Tenets and textual analysis of the philosophy of ancient China (Tao Te Ching, Chuang tse, I Ching, Chung-yung, Confucian Analects, Mencius, Hsun-tse, Mo tse, Han Fei tse), highlighting the influence of the concepts of Taoism on the Confucian tradition and the interplay of Taoist and Confucian philosophies throughout Chinese philosophical history
8. Developments in Neo-Confucian philosophy; the philosophy of Mao Tse-tung, Confucian and western influences in modern Chinese democracy movement
9. Tenets of Japanese philosophy (nationalism, primacy of aesthetics, mind-body mastery, influence of Buddhism, uniqueness of Zen philosophy)
10. Influence of Buddhism in the west, particularly America (encounter between American pragmatism and Zen, philosophy of Nishitani, global influence of the Dalai Lama, Christian-Buddhist dialogue, worldwide movement of socially engaged Buddhist activism)
11. Tenets and influence on Western thought of modern Indian thought (Gandhi, Radhakrishnan, Yogananda, Krishnamurti)

Assignment:

May include any or all of the following:

1. Readings from course text and supplementary materials (10-30 pages per week)
2. Group discussion of specific topics raised in lectures, videos, or readings.
3. Short essays examining and articulating the interplay between various aspects of Asian vs. Western philosophy
4. Research project and written essay on a comparative theme, focusing on specific aspects of both Asian and Western philosophies
5. Quizzes (multiple choice and/or short essay) on assigned readings, lectures, and/or video material
6. Midterm examination including essay, short answer, and multiple choice sections
7. Final examination including essay, short answer, and multiple choice sections

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, Reading reports, Term papers

Writing
45 - 65%

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, True/false, Completion, Essay Exams

Exams
25 - 45%

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

Attendance and class participation

Other Category
10 - 20%

Representative Textbooks and Materials:

ANTHOLOGY OF ASIAN SCRIPTURES, Robert E. Van Voorst, Wadsworth, 2001.

ASIAN PHILOSOPHIES, 4th Edition, John M. Koller, Prentice Hall, 2002.

AWAKENING: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY OF EASTERN THOUGHT, 2nd Edition, Patrick S. Bresnan, Prentice Hall, 2002.

SCRIPTURES OF THE EAST, James Fieser & John Powers, eds., McGraw Hill, 1998.

A SOURCEBOOK IN ASIAN PHILOSOPHY, John M. Koller, Patricia Koller, Prentice Hall, 1991.