PHIL 6 Course Outline as of Fall 2019

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: PHIL 6 Title: INTRO TO PHILOSOPHY
Full Title: Introduction to Philosophy
Last Reviewed: 9/15/2025

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	6	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 inquiry into truth and value through studies of the philosophers. Stresses philosophical issues, themes, and problems, as well as methods of philosophical inquiry. Examines how philosophy has tried to answer the perennial questions about reality, truth, and value. Explores philosophy's role in personal and social life.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended Preparation:
Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

Limits on Enrollment:

Schedule of Classes Information:
Description: An inquiry into truth and value through studies of the philosophers. Stresses philosophical issues, themes, and problems, as well as methods of philosophical inquiry. Examines how philosophy has tried to answer the perennial questions about reality, truth, and value. Explores philosophy's role in personal and social life. (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 2025	
	L3	Arts and Humanities		
	E	Humanities	Fall 1981	Fall 2025
CSU GE:	**Transfer Area**		Effective:	Inactive:
	C2	Humanities	Fall 1981	
IGETC:	**Transfer Area**		Effective:	Inactive:
	3B	Humanities	Fall 1981	

CSU Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1981	Inactive:
UC Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1981	Inactive:

CID:
CID Descriptor: PHIL 100 Introduction to Philosophy
SRJC Equivalent Course(s): PHIL6

Certificate/Major Applicable:
Major Applicable Course

COURSE CONTENT

Student Learning Outcomes:
At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:
1. Recognize characteristic philosophical issues.
2. Identify and critically evaluate representative philosophical positions.

Objectives:
Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Differentiate between philosophy and other disciplines, e.g., physics, literature.
2. Differentiate fields of philosophy, e.g., aesthetics,epistemology, metaphysics, political philosophy, philosophy of religion, philosophy of mind,
3. Examine key topics and questions within the above fields: God and religion, the nature of truth, philosophy of mind, free will and determinism, and morality.
4. Summarize, analyze, and evaluate key arguments addressing the above topics.
5. Provide philosophical interpretation of primary texts.
6. Analyze and evaluate contemporary applications of the above arguments.

Topics and Scope:

I. Philosophical Methods
   A. Logic
   B. Rationalism
   C. Empiricism

II. The Nature of Philosophical Issues
   A. Overview of key philosophical fields and topics
   B. Relationship between philosophical issues and worldviews
III. God and Religion
   A. Existence and nature of God
   B. Relationship between religion and science
   C. Relationship between religion and morality
IV. The Nature of Reality
   A. Relationship between being and becoming
   B. Relationship between mind and matter
V. The Nature of Truth
   A. Relationship between opinion and truth
   B. Relationship between truth and knowledge
   C. Coherence
   D. Correspondence
   E. Pragmatic theories
VI. Personal Identity
   A. Relationship between self and body
   B. Relationship between self and thought
   C. Relationship between self and consciousness
   D. Relationship between self and society
   E. Arguments justifying the claim there is no self
VII. Free Will
   A. Nature of free will
   B. Determinism
   C. Relationship between will and the good life
   D. Relationship between free will and existential issues
VIII. Morality
   A. Nature of the good life
   B. Relationship between religion and morality
   C. Subjectivism
   D. Relativism
   E. Hedonism
   F. Egoism
   G. Altruism
   H. Duty-based morality
   I. Consequentialism
   J. Virtue ethics
IX. Justice
   A. Liberty
   B. Equality
      1. Civil rights
      2. Natural rights
      3. Human rights
      4. Retributive justice
      5. Distributive justice

Assignment:

1. Regular reading assignments from course texts and supplementary material. Number of pages vary, depending upon difficulty of topic, concepts, and arguments. Typical reading assignment is 15-25 pgs

2. Regular reader response activities or assignments
3. Quizzes which cover the assigned readings
4. At least two midterms that require essays responding to material covered in class and texts
5. A final examination that requires essays responding to material covered in class and texts
6. Term paper about research on an issue raised in class and defense of a particular position on that issue. Length will vary, depending upon difficulty of topic, concepts, and arguments. Typical papers 1250 to 2500 words

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 paper	Writing 30 - 60%

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.

Exams will include multiple choice and essay	Exams 40 - 60%

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

Attendance and participation; reader response activities	Other Category 0 - 20%

Representative Textbooks and Materials:
The Big Questions. 10th ed. Solomon, Robert and Higgins, Kathleen. Cengage Learning. 2018

Archetypes of Wisdom. 9th ed. Soccio, Douglas. Cengage Learning. 2015

Introduction to Philosophy. 7th ed. Perry, John and Bratman, Michael and Fischer, John. Oxford University Press. 2015

The Philosopher's Way. 5th ed. Caffee, John. Pearson. 2015

Meditations on First Philosophy. Descrates, Rene. Oxford University Press. 2008 (classic)

What Does it All Mean? Nagel,Thomas. Oxford University Press. 2004 (classic)

Last Days of Socrates. Plato. Penquin Classics. 2003 (classic)