

PHIL 26 History of Philosophy Syllabus Spring 2019 CSUS Philosophy Department.
TR 10:30-11:45 am, DH 110

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Instructor office hours: Tuesdays from 3:00 to 4:00 pm or by appointment, Tel: (916)278-6424

Faculty Web Site and Profile: <http://www.csus.edu/faculty/k/clovis.karam/index.html>

Catalog Description: PHIL 26. History of Philosophy. 3 Units

General Education Area/Graduation Requirement: Humanities (Area C2)

Introduction to the history of philosophy, emphasizing such themes as the foundations of knowledge, the nature of reality, the basis of a good life and a just society, the existence of God, and the nature of self, and tracing the development of these themes from antiquity to the modern period. <http://catalog.csus.edu/colleges/arts-letters/philosophy/#coursestext>

GE Area C2 Learning Outcomes <https://www.csus.edu/acaf/ge/GE%20Assessment/Area-C2-Learning-Outcomes.pdf>

Students who complete a GE Area C2 course should be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the conventions and methods of the study of the humanities;
2. Investigate, describe, and analyze the roles of effects of human culture and understanding in the development of human societies;
3. Compare and analyze various conceptions of humankind;
4. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the historical development of cultures and civilizations, including their animating ideas and values;

Course description:

1. Is introductory and has no prerequisites.
2. Deals with one or more of the major Western and /or Non-Western civilizations which have had a significant direct influence on the modern world.
3. Covers a period of at least 2,500 years.
4. Is broad in scope, emphasizing the distinguishing characteristics of the civilization(s) studied.
5. Develops an understanding of and appreciation for the diversity of the human community.
6. Presents the contributions and perspectives of women, persons from various ethnic, socioeconomic, and religious groups, gays, and lesbians, and persons with disabilities.
7. Encourages the student to reflect, question and examine difficult subjects in a manageable dialogue form.

Students Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. Explain the historical and cultural significance of the major phenomena within the period(s) and region(s) studies.
2. Compare the basic values of the people/cultures studied.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the conventions and methods of the humanities.
4. Investigate, analyze and the roles and effects of human culture and understanding in the

development of human societies.

5. Compare and analyze different aspects of humankind.
6. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the historical development of cultures and civilizations, including their animating ideas and values.

Textbook and course materials:

- Louis P. Pojman & Lewis Vaughn; Classics of Philosophy 3rd Edition, Oxford University Press 2011.
ISBN: 978-0-19-973729-1 (acid-free paper).
- The text book exceptionally offers extensive and economical collection of the major works of the Western traditions. One copy of the Text Book will be made available at the Open Reserve at Sac State Library.

Recommended Texts & Supplementary Readings:

- The Passion for Wisdom, A Very Brief History of Philosophy by Robert Solomon and Kathleen Higgins. Oxford University Press 1997. Supplementary readings will be posted on Canvas.

Technical assistance:

If you need technical assistance at any time during the course or to report a problem with Canvas you can:

- Visit the [Academic Technology Center](#)

Tips to succeed in this course.

Philosophy 26 is a lecture, power point type course. Readings and in class vivid philosophical interactions constitute the core of this course. It is recommended to refer to the course readings assignments, active participation and response to prompts regularly. Details will be posted within each week's corresponding learning module on Canvas. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at clovis.karam@csus.edu, and always make sure to use your Sacramento CSUS email exclusively.

Course Objectives

Student Learning Objectives for Area C2 courses can be viewed at:

<https://www.csus.edu/acaf/ge/GE%20Assessment/Area-C2-Learning-Outcomes.pdf>

Objectives	Practical Goals	Assessment Tools
Discover & investigate major ancient, classical, medieval, and modern philosophical texts.	Reflect on the canon of philosophy and demonstrate competence in discerning philosophical topics' approach & concepts' analysis.	Group discussions and presentations emphasized, quizzes, reading reports & term papers.
Explore 49 archetypal figures in philosophy and more than 20 complete works.	Identify, integrate, and develop a wider and deeper understanding, and sound argumentation for tolerant thinking.	Acquisition of needed writing tools: Structure, clarity, logic, grammar & syntax.

Course Schedule:

Week	Topic	Readings / Assignments
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Methodology & Introduction Timely & Timeless Questions Mythology & Religion 	TB. Louis P. Pojman & Lewis Vaughn; Classics of Philosophy 3 rd Edition pp 3 to 6 "they looked into the heavens..."
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Sage men legacy The Buddha & Lao-tzu The Birth of Philosophy 	TB pp 6 to 21 "they looked into the heavens..."
3	<p>Part I: The Pre-Socratics 600 BC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thales & Anaximander: the search for a Common Principle, from Mythos to Logos Heraclitus: Appearance and Reality & the Mystical Logos Pythagoras: From Chaos to Cosmos Parmenides: Being and Change Protagoras: The Sophist & the Pragmatist 	Readings from TB pp 6 to 21 Plus, PPT Lecture.

Week	Topic	Readings / Assignments
4	Formation of the Group Work Teams & Selection of the Term Paper Topics	Quiz #1 (on material and PP lectures from weeks 1-3)
5	Part II: The Ancient Period 469 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socrates: The Wise Man & the Agora • The Apology: The Trial and the Last Days of Socrates 	TB pp 36 to 58 & pp 69 to 100 & selection from the Republic text Plus PPT Lecture Submission by mail of your chosen Term Paper Topic.
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plato: The Academy • The Allegory of the Cave & the Forms 	Quiz #2 (Groups PPT presentations on selected materials). TB, Phaedo, selection from pp 69-100 & selection from the Republic, pp 112-205
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aristotle: The Lyceum • The Naturalist 	TB selected readings from pp 202-341. plus PPT.
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hellenic Philosophy 341 BC. • The Epicurean Philosophy: • Epicurus: The Pursuit of Happiness & the Hedonistic Vision. • The Stoic Philosophy • Epictetus: From Slave to Sage • Marcus Aurelius: Philosopher King 	Readings from TB pp 342-348 TB PP 349-378 Plus, selected texts
9	300 CA. Neo-Platonism & its Impact on the Western Mind: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ammonius Saccas the Founder • Plotinus: The Philosopher Bridge between East and West • Porphyry: The Pagan, Pantheist & Vegetarian • Jamblicus: His pagan influence on Christian “One, Salvation & Divine Working” • Proclus: The One & Multiplicity • Early Christian & Medieval Neoplatonism 	Quiz #3 (Group Work PPT Presentation on selected materials). Readings from TB PP 379-392 Plus, extra readings and PPT Readings from SEP (Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy)

Week	Topic	Readings / Assignments
10	Part III: The Medieval Period 1000 to 1600 AD. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Augustine of Hippo: Bridging Paganism & Christianity • Islamic & Jewish Philosophy • Avicenna 980 AD • Algazzali 1058 AD • Averroes 1126 AD • Maimonides 1135 AD: A Jewish scholar • The Seeds of Change • The God Centered Universe 	Readings from TB pp 395-443 Readings from TB PP 444-448 & 448-454 Plus, extra texts PPT & from SEP Midterm in class (on material from weeks 1 through 11)
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thomas Aquinas: The Scholastic • The Need to Reconcile Faith and Reason 	Readings from TB pp454-477 Plus, extra readings selection
12	Part IV: The Modern Period 1600-1900 AD. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Origin of the Modern Mind • The Rationalist Rene Descartes. • The Epistemological Turn. • Thomas Hobbs- Jean Jacques Rousseau : The Social Contract 	Quiz #4 (Groups PPT presentations on selected materials from weeks 10 & 11) TB pp 487-516 TB pp 517-557 Plus, selected text on J.J Rousseau OR.
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baruch Spinoza: Pantheism, God & Nature • Emanuel Kant: The Formalist. 	Readings from TB pp 562-603 Plus PPT A selection from TB PP 718-814.
14	Part V: The Modern and Contemporary Period <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Individualist Soren Kierkegaard & The Prophet Frederic Nietzsche 	Quiz #5 (Draft and progress due on TP assignment). TB pp 940-952 TB pp 1041-1069
15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existentialist: Jean Paul Sartre's "Condemned to be Free" • Albert Camus' "Bad Fit" • Social Justice &The Feminists • The Prophet Martin Luther King • Simone De Beauvoir & "The Second Sex" • EPILOGUE: Perictione (450-350 BC) A Feminist Model for All Times 	Readings from TB pp 1218-1236 Plus, OR pus PPT TB pp 1255-1267 TB pp 1268-1286 Harvest Week period: Term Paper due & optional presentations.
16	EXAM WEEK	

Grading Policy:

Points	Description
10%	We will have a total of 5 quizzes in the semester. The first quiz is an individual short essay type question to gauge your level, the 4 other quizzes are Group Work power point presentations in class. Each quiz is graded over 2% .
30%	Midterm Exam: The midterm exam contains several questions that must be answered during class using handwritten short (one paragraph long) answers; the exam is about four pages long.
20%	Term Paper: You will be assigned a topic by the fourth week, and it is due 2 weeks before the final exam. Always attach your paper as an editable file that will open Microsoft Word (not a pdf or htm file).
30%	Final Exam: contains 4 essay questions. The questions will be on the readings, lectures, and discussions since the Midterm.
10%	Each student will earn 5 points for regular attendance and 5 points for your participation in class discussions and taking notes in the dedicated Note Book (to be inspected during the Mid Term and Final Exam days).

Attendance policy: class attendance is mandatory.

Anyone with 5 or more unexcused absences will receive a 0.

Everyone is expected to come to class prepared, having read the assigned materials, and ready to participate in the class discussions. Everyone who meets these requirements will receive the full portion of the course attendance and participation grade. Partial failure to meet these requirements will result in a proportional reduction of that grade.

If there are emergencies that force you to miss class, they may be excused in some rare cases. You must notify me that you will be missing class before it occurs. And I will require evidence in order to excuse the absence(s).

Late Work Policy

Be sure to pay close attention to deadlines—there will be no make-up assignments or quizzes, or late work accepted without a serious and compelling reason and instructor approval. A 2 % penalty will be applied on each late day or missed quiz.

Viewing Grades in Canvas

Points you receive for graded activities will be posted to the Canvas Grade Book. Click on the Grades link on the left navigation to view your points. I will update the online grades each time a grading session has been completed—typically 5 days following the completion of an activity. You will see a visual indication of new grades posted on your Canvas home page under the link to this course.

Term Paper

Follow the “Guidelines for Writing Philosophy Papers” at the Philosophy Department website: <http://www.csus.edu/phil/guidance/writing%20guidelines.html>

Philosophical Analysis: <http://www.csus.edu/phil/guidance/how-to-analyze.html>

Only authentic Term Papers will be considered in this course. Plagiarism and cheating will cost you a 0 and will be reported to the Students Affairs office for further appropriate actions.

Writing Guidelines:

<http://www.csus.edu/phil/guidance/writing%20guidelines.html>

<http://www.csus.edu/phil/guidance/how-to-analyze.html>

<http://www.csus.edu/phil/guidance/grading>

Exams: Take place in your classroom, unless otherwise specified. The difference between the midterm and the final will be the time constraints.

Grading Standards: <http://www.csus.edu/phil/guidance/grading-standards.html>

Letter Grade:

Letter Grade	Percentage	Performance
A	93-100%	Excellent Work
A-	90-92%	Nearly Excellent Work
B+	87-89%	Very Good Work
B	83-86%	Good Work
B-	80-82%	Mostly Good Work
C+	77-79%	Above Average Work
C	73-76%	Average Work
C-	70-72%	Mostly Average Work
D+	67-69%	Below Average Work
D	60-66%	Poor Work
F	0-59%	Failing Work

Note Book companion:

Each of my courses requires a dedicated Note Book. Your Note Book is the best witness for your regular written responses to prompts and questions that will be reported in the opening of each class. You

should be ready always to refer to your Note Book when responding to specific or general questions raised in the beginning or during classroom lectures.

Bonus Opportunities:

Extra 5 points bonus will be earned by those who demonstrate an appetite for extra curriculum readings and reports on traced borrowed books from CSUS main library & for those who come and visit me during my office hours for extra discussion, for the best presentation of the term papers on the Harvest Day, for those attending and submitting cumulative analysis reports on the Philosophy Department lectures organized by the Center for Practical and Professional Ethics & Nammour Symposium, and finally for your active participation in the debates of the "PHILOSOPHY CLUB".

When You May Drop the Course:

It is the student's responsibility to understand when they need to consider dis-enrolling from a course. Refer to the Sac State Course Schedule for dates and deadlines for registration. After this period, a serious and compelling reason is required to drop from the course.

Special Needs: If you have a documented disability and verification from the [Office of Services to Students with Disabilities](#) (SSWD), and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact your instructor as soon as possible. It is the student's responsibility to provide documentation of disability to SSWD and meet with a SSWD counselor to request special accommodation *before* classes start. SSWD is in Lassen Hall 1008 and can be contacted by phone at (916) 278-6955 (Voice) (916) 278-7239 (TDD only) or via email at sswd@csus.edu.

Communication: All necessary updates will be posted on the Canvas, please check it daily. I recommend all students to upload the Student's Canvas App, you will be receiving on your cell phones instant alerts regarding your courses. I will be available by e-mail and will normally respond to all questions within a few hours. Students should be using their University E-Mail and avoid personal email for many reasons. When communicating with the instructor, always be courteous and clear. [Here](#) is a link explaining the proper way of sending an inquiry to the instructor. Students who are insufficiently courteous or clear in an email to the instructor will receive this link as a reply.

Academic honesty and plagiarism

All work done in this course is subject to the CSUS academic honesty policy, which you may read at: [Academic Honesty Policy & Procedures](#).

As a student in this course (and at this university) you are expected to maintain high degrees of professionalism, commitment to active learning and participation in this class and integrity in your behavior in and out of the classroom. Misbehavior will negatively affect your final grade.

At Sac State, "**cheating** is the act of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work through dishonest, deceptive, or fraudulent means. Penalty will be 0.

"**Plagiarism** is a form of cheating. At Sac State, "plagiarism is the use of distinctive ideas or works

belonging to another person without providing adequate acknowledgment of that person's contribution. "Turnitin.com" will be used for plagiarism detection on essays. It will be sanctioned with 0.

Course policies are subject to change.

It is the student's responsibility to check Canvas for corrections or updates to the syllabus. Any changes will be posted on Canvas.

Important Dates: Please note the following important dates to remember for spring 2019
(see <http://catalog.csus.edu/academic-calendar/>)

Enrollment begins November 27, 2018.

Spring semester (academic workdays before instruction) begins Wednesday January 16, 2019

Spring Instruction begins Tuesday January 22, 2019 and ends Friday May 10, 2019.

Spring 2019 mandatory university closure holidays: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (January 21),

Spring Recess (March 18-22), Cesar Chavez Birthday (April 1).

Finals Week: May 13-17, 2019.

Grades Due: May 22, 2019.

Good Luck.