

256 Philosophy

Definition

The study of philosophy is designed to acquaint students with the distinctive nature of philosophical activity and to help them increase their skills in critical thinking about matters of fundamental philosophical concern; e.g., the nature of correct reasoning, the scope and limits of human knowledge, the generic and pervasive characteristics of reality, and the sources of value and obligation. It encompasses many other academic disciplines and stresses systematic and abstract thought.

Staff

To access faculty and staff, dial (661) 722-6300, then the 4-digit extension.

Program Advisement:

Dr. Tom O'Neil, Dean ext. 6482

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Faculty:

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Adjunct Faculty:

To access adjunct faculty voice mail, dial (661) 722-6300, then the 4-digit number.

V.M.

Glen Egbert 2013

Dr. William Hale

Barbara Hogan 2389

Dr. Estiphan Panoussi 2121

Ronald Sherman 2157

Program Description

The Philosophy program is limited to a select number of courses, but these will provide students pursuing any major with a solid foundation in philosophy. A comprehensive survey course is supplemented by substantive courses in logic, ethics and comparative religion.

Distinctive Features

While being exposed to a wide spectrum of major philosophical viewpoints, students have the opportunity to discuss philosophical issues and problems, clarifying their own values and developing their reasoning capabilities.

Career Options

Philosophy as an elective is an appropriate element in career preparation for:

Education

Government

Law

Management

Medicine

Ministry

Publishing

Scientific Research

Social Work

Teaching

All human service careers

(Most of these careers require education beyond the two-year college level.)

Certificate Program

Certificate not applicable.

Associate Degree

An associate degree with a major in Philosophy is not available. Philosophy courses can be included in the 18 units necessary for an associate degree with a major in Liberal Arts and Sciences. (See Graduation/Associate Degree Requirements.)

Transfer

Students planning to continue studies at a four-year college or university after AVC should visit the Transfer Resource Center and consult with a counselor as soon as possible. Additional information on official transfer articulation agreements from AVC to many CSU/UC campuses can be found at the following Web site: www.assist.org

Prerequisite Completion

If a course is listed as a prerequisite for another course, that prerequisite course must be completed with a satisfactory grade in order to enroll in the next course. According to Title 5, Section 55200(d), a satisfactory grade is a grade of "A," "B," "C" or "P". Classes in which the Pass/No Pass option is available are indicated with an asterisk (*) before the course title. See "Pass/No Pass Option" in the catalog for full explanation.

Philosophy Courses

PHIL 101 *FUNDAMENTAL REASONING SKILLS

3 units

3 hours weekly

Advisory: Eligibility for College Level Reading, ENGL 101 and MATH 070.

The central goals of this course are to help students develop and improve interpretive and evaluative skills that will help them to become more competent and independent thinkers in their personal, academic, social, and professional lives, and in their life-long learning. Various aspects of language, logic, and reasoning will be studied in order to evaluate correctly concepts, claims, arguments, and explanations from a variety of contexts and disciplines. (CSU, UC, AVC)

PHIL 105 ETHICS: MORAL ISSUES IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

3 units

3 hours weekly

Advisory: Eligibility for College Level Reading and ENGL 099.

An introduction into the nature of ethics and to the question as to what ethical system, if any determines right and wrong. This course will not only examine certain traditional approaches to ethical questions, but will investigate the possible application of these approaches to current ethical conflicts. An analysis of moral issues, such as violence, sex, war, abortion, capital punishment, privacy, oppression, pornography, and euthanasia will be emphasized. (CSU, UC, AVC)

PHIL 106 INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY

3 units

3 hours weekly

Advisory: Eligibility for College Level Reading and ENGL 099.

An introductory examination of themes and issues central to both classical and contemporary philosophy. Topics will be selected from such areas as ethics,

politics, metaphysics, epistemology, religion and logic. (CSU, UC, AVC)

PHIL 108 PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

3 units

3 hours weekly

Advisory: *Eligibility for College Level Reading and ENGL 099.*

This course emphasizes the philosophical analysis of religious issues and themes. Such themes as the nature and variety of religious expression will be explored, analyzed, and evaluated. The philosophical task revolves around the effort to determine whether there is a special kind of knowledge to be called "Religious"; if so, how is it gained; if it is gained, what its implications will be for human conduct. (CSU, UC, AVC)

PHIL 110 INTRODUCTION TO LOGIC

3 units

3 hours weekly

Advisory: *Eligibility for College Level Reading, ENGL 099 and MATH 070.*

An introduction to both formal and informal logic. Logic includes a study of linguistic analysis, immediate and mediate inference, symbolic notation, deductive proofs and fallacies. Attention is given to both traditional and modern symbolic systems. Critical thinking is applied to both symbolic and written arguments. Argumentative writing will be explored through both formal and informal logical analysis. (CSU, UC, AVC)

PHIL 201 CRITICAL THINKING

3 units

3 hours weekly

Prerequisite: *Completion of ENGL 101.*

An introduction to the logical analysis and critical evaluation of arguments and the basic strategies of rhetoric. Different forms of writing are distinguished and examined. A strong emphasis is on formal instruction in argumentative writing that utilizes the critical thinking skills developed in the course. (CSU, UC, AVC)