

## Introduction to Philosophy (PHIL 1301)



**Credit:** 3 semester credit hours (3 hours lecture)

**Prerequisite/Co-requisite:** None

### Course Description

A study of major issues in philosophy and/or the work of major philosophical figures in philosophy. Topics in philosophy may include theories of reality, theories of knowledge, theories of value, and their practical applications.

### Required Textbook and Materials

*Doing Philosophy, an Introduction Through Thought Experiment*, 6<sup>th</sup> edition. Theodore Schick, Jr., & Lewis Vaughn

### Objectives

#### Course Objectives

1. Read, analyze, and critique philosophical texts.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of key concepts, major arguments, problems, and terminology in philosophy.
3. Present logically persuasive arguments both orally and in writing.
4. Demonstrate critical thinking skills in evaluation and application of philosophical concepts to various aspects of life.
5. Evaluate the personal and social responsibilities of living in a diverse world.

#### Core Objectives

The following four Core Objectives must be addressed in each course approved to fulfill this category requirement:

1. Critical Thinking Skills: To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
2. Communication Skills: To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.
3. Personal Responsibility: To include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making
4. Social Responsibility: To include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

### Course Outline

To be determined

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Course Syllabus

**Grade Scale**

90 – 100	A
80 – 89	B
70 – 79	C
60 – 69	D
0 – 59	F

**Course Evaluation**

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

Discussions	20%
Mid-Term	20%
Final Exam	20%
Research Paper	15%
Presentation	25%

The instructor will respond to e-mail and voice mail communication within 24 hours Monday through Friday. Assignment grades will be published within 48 hours of the assignment due date.

**Course Requirements**

1. The student is expected to be present and prepared for class. Each day you will be expected to read that day's reading and be prepared for in class discussions and activities
2. The student will complete a mid-term and final exam.
3. The student, with an assigned classmate, will research, write, and submit a research paper on a topic of their choice as it relates to the course content. The research paper requirements will be given. Both students will receive the same grade for their collaborative work. The due date for research papers is shown on the course calendar.
4. Students in the class will divide into groups of 4-6. Each group will research a topic and make a presentation of at least 15 minutes

**Course Policies**

1. You must log onto Blackboard and access this course a minimum of three times per week.
2. Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated.
3. If you wish to drop a course, the student is responsible for initiating and dropping the course. If you stop logging-in to the course and do not complete the course drop process, then you will receive an "F" grade for the course
4. Internet Usage – Students are expected to use proper net etiquette while participating in course emails, assignment submissions, and online discussions.

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**Technical Requirements**

The latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, software, Java, etc. can be found online at:

<http://kb.blackboard.com/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=71860304>

A functional broadband internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of the online technology and resources.

**Disabilities Statement**

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. Among other things, these statutes require that all students with documented disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodations for their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409) 880-1737 or visit the online resource:

<http://www.lit.edu/depts/stuserv/special/defaults.aspx>

**Course Schedule**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reference</b>
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		

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<b>Week</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reference</b>
8		
9		
10		

**Contact information varies by instructor:**