

Course Syllabus

Spring Semester 2018

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| CONTACT INFORMATION: | Professor \_\_Dr. Andrew Alexander\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  West Campus Building \_\_6\_\_\_, Room \_\_326  Phone: 407-582-\_1300, Leave message\_\_\_\_  Email: \_\_aalexander@mail.valenciacollege.edu\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Office Hours: T R 12-2 PM | | | | | |
| COURSE TITLE: | PHILOSOPHY, PHI 2010, WO1, W36, WO3 | | | | | |
| COURSE DESCRIPTION: | Contemporary problems are used to introduce the major areas of philosophy: metaphysics, ethics, politics, theories of knowledge and the philosophy of religion. Students explore the ideas of notable philosophers, past and present, and examine how their ideas have shed light on these problems and their relevance to modern life. | | | | | |
| PREREQUISITE: | None | | | | | |
| TERM: | Spring 2018 | | | | | |
| CREDIT HOURS:  CRN:  REQUIRED TEXTS: | 3 credit hours  20566 (W01), 26254 (W36) , 20570 (W03)  Alexander, Andrew, Philosophizing  ISBN 978-7575-8140-3  Index cards are required. | | | | | |
| IMPORTANT DATES: | Drop Refund Deadline, Jan. 16  Spring Break,. Mar. 12-18; Withdrawal Deadline, Mar.30  Final Exam, Apr. 24, W36; Apr.26, W01 and W03 | | | | | |
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| COURSE FORMAT & METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:  Electronic Devices in class:  MAJOR LEARNING OUTCOMES.  INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:  VALENCIA COLLEGE CORE COMPETENCIES:  GRADING SCALE: | | | | | The course will be taught through a combination of lecture, hands-on classroom exercises and homework assignments. Required readings, assignments and other activities will be provided.  **Cellular phones cannot be on your desk at any time. Text messaging or answering your cell phone while in-class will be considered disruptive behavior and can be a cause for your dismissal from class. NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES AND NO TEXT MESSAGING. At no time will you be allowed to listen to your IPOD or MP3 player in class. You are not allowed to have any music device on your desk. Also, notebooks (computers) are not to be used during class. It is distracting to other students.**   1. Students will be able to question basic beliefs. 2. Students will be able to check the assumptions and implications of key ideas. 3. Students will be able to explore diverse theories or perspectives 4. Students will be able to define concepts with necessary and sufficient criteria. 5. Students will be able to articulate objections and construct arguments. 6. Students will be able to develop their own ideas on morality, society, reality, knowledge and God.   Project will be available on Faculty Front Door.   1. Thinking Critically 2. Valuing appreciatively 3. Communicating Effectively 4. Acting Responsibly   The following grading scale is used:  A=90-100; B=80-89; C=70-79; D=60-69; F=below 60  The course consists of four units:   1. The Nature of Philosophy & Ethics 2. Political Philosophy 3. Metaphysics & Epistemology 4. The Philosophy of Religion   A unit test comes at the end of each unit. A group project comes in the middle of the fourth unit. The grading system is as follows:   1. Two Regular Unit Tests = 18% each 2. A Take-Home Essay = 18% (Unit 2) 3. A Final Test = 18% (Unit 4) 4. A Group Project = 18% 5. Class Participation = 5% 6. Attendance = 5% | |
| FACULTY/STUDENT COMMUNICATION:  COURSE ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING:  ATTENDANCE POLICY & NO SHOW PROCEDURES: | | | The final exam is as follows: Apr. 24, 10-11, W36 ; Apr.26, 8:30-9:30, W01; Apr.26, 2:30- 3:30 PM, W03  Missing the final exam will result in a grade of F, until the student takes a make-up final with special permission.  Valencia College is committed to providing each student a high quality educational experience. Faculty members have set high standards of instruction for themselves and for you. If you have a problem in a class, your first step is to talk with your instructor. If you are still dissatisfied, you may talk with the academic dean of the department. We will work together to resolve any issues that arise.   * Complete reading assignments.   **Participate and contribute to all learning activities - Actively participate in all work, learning and discussions (including completing readings prior to discussions) related to learning activities.**   * **Be a positive student and teammate –- Conduct yourself in a professional and scholarly way that will enable peers and faculty to perceive you as a positive role model.**   If you must miss a class or activity or are late it will impact your grade. Classroom and activity attendance and punctuality is vital to academic success. Excused absences will be allowed in accordance with Valencia’s official policies.  You must attend class all semester, be on time and submit the assignments on the due dates to meet the attendance requirement.  Attendance counts for 5% of the grade. It will be based on the following scale:  ATTENDANCE:  # Absences grade  0 A  1 B  2 C  3 D etc.    **No Food or Drink in the Lecture or Lab Rooms** | | | | |
| WITHDRAWAL POLICY: | | | Per Valencia Policy 4-07 (Academic Progress, Course Attendance and Grades, and Withdrawals), a student who withdraws from class before the established deadline for a particular term will receive a grade of “W”.  A student may withdraw at any time during the term in Atlas. The New Withdrawal Policy has been implemented. Here’s what you need to know about the new Withdrawal Policy:  ·         Students may withdraw themselves for a W up until the withdrawal deadline- Mar.30,2018  ·         After the withdrawal deadline each semester, students can no longer withdraw themselves.  ·         WP and WF have been deleted from Withdrawal procedures.  ·         Before the withdrawal deadline, both a student and faculty may withdraw the student.  ·         After the withdrawal deadline, a student cannot withdraw him-/herself.  Excessive absences/ Lateness of fifteen minutes or early departure will count as a missed hour. A professor can withdraw you from a course for excessive absences without your permission. (2002-03 College Catalog p.62) Do not leave early without informing me. This is disruptive and rude.  Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting or is clearly disrespectful of the instructor or fellow students will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include but is not limited:  . Rude or disrespectful behavior;  . Unwarranted interruptions;  . Failure to adhere to instructor’s directions;  . Vulgar or obscene language, slurs, or other forms of intimidation;  . Physically or verbally abusive behavior.  Student’s behavior that is inappropriate will result in disenrollment from the course.  *Any student knowing he / she is not passing the course but fails to withdraw by Mar. 30and decides to stop coming to class should know the professor will not withdraw him /her from the course. A grade of F will be assigned.* | | | | |
| MAKE-UP POLICY:  **CLASS PARTICIPATION**  **BAYCARE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH’S STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:** | | Tests not done in class must be taken in the testing center, only under special circumstances, according to policies of the college. All tests in the testing center must be completed before the week of final exams.  Extra credit is not given. To improve your grade, focus on maximizing your score on the exams & project.  Participation in class involves a number of variables, including but not limited to:  • Your willingness to participate actively in all class activities.  • Your cooperation during group and pair work.  • Your respect and attitude toward the class and your peers.  • Your daily preparation for each class.  Participation does not mean interrupting the class, leaving the room and coming back, and/or just asking questions.  CLASS PARTICIPATION:  A (90-100) Student prepares for the lesson, volunteers answers,  responds correctly.  B (89-80) Student responds when called upon; answers are generally  correct.  C (79-70) Student has some problems with the subject, but makes an  effort to be prepared, understand, and respond.  D (69-60) Student does not respond correctly, is not prepared for  class, does not have materials ready, and is absent  frequently.  F (59-0) Student can’t answer questions, does other things not  concerning class, and is absent most of the time.  Valencia students can get immediate help with psychological issues – stress, anxiety, depression, adjustment difficulties, substance abuse, time management and relationship problems regarding school, home or work. Students have 24 hour counseling services at (800) 878-5470. Three free confidential face-to-face counseling sessions are also available to students. Also students may contact the Victim Service Center’s Sexual Assault Hotline at 407-497-6701 at <http://www.victimservicecenter.com> | | | |
| ACADEMIC HONESTY:  Student Conduct and Academic Honesty: | | Each student is required to follow Valencia policy regarding academic honesty. All work submitted by students is expected to be the result of the student’s individual thoughts, research, and self-expression unless the assignment specifically states “group project.” Any act of academic dishonesty will be handled in accordance with Valencia policy as set forth in the Student Handbook and Catalog.  VC Expected student conduct: 10-03 Student Code of Conduct   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Specific Authority: | 1006.60, FS. | | Law Implemented: | 1006.60, FS. |   Valencia College is dedicated to the advancement of knowledge and learning, and to the development of responsible personal and social conduct. By enrolling at Valencia, a student assumes the responsibility for knowing and abiding by the rules of appropriate behavior as articulated in the Student Code of Conduct. The primary responsibility for managing the classroom environment rests with the faculty. Faculty may direct students who engage in inappropriate behavior that results in disruption of a class to leave the class.  Such students may be subject to other disciplinary action which may include a warning, withdrawal from class, probation, suspension, or expulsion from the college.  Please read the Student Code of Conduct in the current Valencia Student Handbook.  Here is the link to Valencia’s Student Code of Conduct website: <http://www.valenciacollege.edu/policies/policydetail2.cfm?PolicyCatID=10&PolicyID=3>  Exams and homework are considered individual effort; any submissions that are too similar for coincidence will receive no credit.  Students may collaborate in group assignments. Collaboration should be used to edit or to clarify doubts. If anyone is involved in incidents of cheating a zero will be given. Each student is expected to be in complete compliance with the college policy on ***Academic Honesty*** as set forth in the admissions catalog and the student handbook. Any student(s) cheating on an exam will receive a zero on the exam. This cannot be replaced with the final score and the professor at his/her discretion can withdraw you from the class.  Students are responsible for preparing for class by reading pre-assigned readings and completing assignments.  Students who are absent are fully responsible for all material covered in class. Leaving a message on my phone or sending an e-mail will not be an excused absence. Make sure you can contact your classmates too.  Students should bring the textbook and any other material required for class.  During exams and quizzes, students may not leave the room. | | | |
| Office of Students with Disabilities:  TESTING CENTER-WEST | | The secretary’s office extension is \_1300\_\_. Messages should consist of your name, your class and class time, and a brief message. Questions such as “What did we cover in class?” will not result in a response.  Wandering in and out of the classroom without prior permission is unacceptable and you could lose participation points for doing so. Doing such things will affect your grade.  Also, improper conduct like interrupting too much, talking with peers, being disrespectful to professor and peers will affect your grade. Joking and having small conversations while the professor or peers are talking are considered disruptive behavior and it will not be tolerated.  Students who qualify for academic accommodations must provide a letter from the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) and discuss specific needs with the professor, preferably during the first week of class.  The Office for Students with Disabilities (West-SSB 102) determines accommodations based on appropriate documentation of disabilities.  The goal at the OSD is to open doors, remove barriers and assist you in any way the can. The key to success is matching your needs to the services provided. Please contact this office to discuss your individual needs.  The link to Valencia’s OSD website: http://www.valenciacollege.edu/osd  The TESTING CENTER-WEST is located in Building 11 Room 142 --407-582-1323  Please note!!!  No tests are given out the last hour before closing—for example, if  the Center closes at 9 p.m., the last test is given out at 8 p.m. Tests  will be collected 5 minutes prior to closing.  Fall and Spring Terms:  Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 9 p.m.  Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5 p.m.  Saturday 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.  Summer Full Term, Session A, and Session B  Regular Hours except for Fridays: Fridays: 8:00 am- 12:00 Noon | | | |
| Valencia General Education Student Learning Outcomes  IMPORTANT VALENCIA WEBSITE LINKS;  SUPPORT SERVICES:  DISCLAIMER: | | | | WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING  Your Valencia Photo I.D. is REQUIRED for all tests!  Valencia Photo IDs are taken in the Student Development offices on each campus (West Campus office is on the 1st floor of Building 3). The Valencia photo I.D. also has your VID number on it.  The name of the course you are taking and your instructor’s name.  All supplies you will need to take the test. If your test requires bluebooks or green scantron sheets, purchase them in the bookstore. The Testing Center does not provide notebook paper, pens or pencils. Dictionaries and calculators may be borrowed.  WHAT YOU DO NOT BRING  1. Beepers, cell phones, personal tape or CD players, palm pilots, laptop computers.  2. Food or beverages. You will not be allowed to take these to your seat.  3. Children are not permitted in the Testing Center – The Testing Center does not provide sitting services during your test.  **CULTURAL & HISTORICAL UNDERSTANDING**: Demonstrate understanding of the diverse traditions of the world, and an individual's place in it.  **ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITY**: Demonstrate awareness of personal responsibility in one's civic, social, and academic life.  **CRITICAL THINKING**: Effectively analyze, evaluate, synthesize, and apply information and ideas from diverse sources and disciplines.   * College Calendar: <http://valenciacollege.edu/calendar/> * College Catalog: <http://valenciacollege.edu/catalog/> * Valencia Policy and Procedures: <http://valenciacollege.edu/generalcounsel/policy/> * FERPA: <http://valenciacollege.edu/ferpa/> * ADA: <http://valenciacollege.edu/osd/handbook/sec4.htm>   Medical Records: <http://valenciacollege.edu/generalcounsel/policy/ValenciaCollegePolicy.cfm?policyID=186>  \*Tutoring services are available in 7-240. The phone extension is 1633  \*Valencia offers a variety of SkillShops. These are short seminars dealing with student success, goals and purposes. Check out Valencia’s Skillshop offerings at <http://valenciacollege.edu/studentservices/skillshops.cfm>  \*Get the phone numbers of your friends in your study group.  Changes may be made at the discretion of the instructor. | |

COURSE OUTLINE

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| Sessions | Dates | Topics | Text |
| 1 | 1/9 | Course Intro., What is philosophy? | 1-9 |
| 2 | 1/11 | Group Intro, Platonism | 9-18; 23-24 |
| 3 | 1/16 | Aristotelianism, Hedonism, Epicureanism | 25-28 |
| 4 | 1/18 | Stoicism, Augustinianism, Thomism | 28-30 |
| 5 | 1/23 | Hobbes’ Egoism, Hume’s Sentimentalism | 30-32 |
| 6 | 1/25 | Kant’s Rationalism | 32-34 |
| 7 | 1/30 | Utilitarianism, Existentialism | 34-38 |
| 8 | 2/1 | Darwin’s Naturalism; Care Ethics, Review | 38-39;41-43 |
| 9 | 2/6 | Test #1 (in class) |  |
| 10 | 2/8 | Unit Intro. , Plato, Aristotle | 45-49 |
| 11 | 2/13 | Augustine, Thomas Aquinas, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau | 49-53 |
| 12 | 2/15 | Mill, Marx | 54-57 |
| 13 | 2/20 | Mussolini, Rawls, Nozick, Review (Test 2 Given) | 58-62 |
| 14 | 2/22 | Unit 3 Intro., Pre-Socratics, Plato, Aristotle | 63-72 |
| 15 | 2/27 | Plotinus, Augustine, Aquinas; (Test #2 Due in class) | 72-75 |
| 16 | 3/1 | Descartes; Concept Maps | 76-78 |
| 17 | 3/6 | Hobbes, Spinoza, Locke | 78-83 |
| 18 | 3/8 | Berkley, Hume, Kant | 83-88 |
| 19 | 3/13 | Spring Break |  |
| 20 | 3/15 | Spring Break |  |
| 21 | 3/20 | Hegel, Russell, Dewey | 89-92 |
| 22 | 3/22 | Wittgenstein, Rorty, Quine, | 93-96 |
| 23 | 3/27 | Review |  |
| 24 | 3/29 | Test#3( in class) |  |
| 25 | 4/3 | Unit Intro., Anselm, Aquinas | 97-101 |
| 26 | 4/5 | Juliana, Descartes, Pascal, Leibniz | 101-104 |
| 27 | 4/10 | Hume, Kant, Paley | 104-107 |
| 28 | 4/12 | Project Presentations, Papers |  |
| 29 | 4/17 | Newman, Marx, Kierkegaard, Nietzsche, Freud, James | 107-110 |
| 30 | 4/19 | Flew, Plantinga, Daly, Review(Test 4 Given) | 110-112 |
| 31 | 4/24 | Final Exam: W36 @10am |  |
| 32 | 4/26 | Final Exam: W01 @8:30 am; W03 @ 2:30 pm |  |