PHI 2010

Introduction to Philosophy

Fall Semester 2022

Online

Course Syllabus

**Contact Information**: Professor Terme Kazmierski

**Email**: tkazmierski@valenciacollege.edu

**Office:**

**Office Hours**:

**Course Description**: This course is a search for answers. It is, in brief, an attempt to live an examined life. We’ll consider the following questions: what exists? What can I know? What do I know? What is it to live a good life?

**Prerequisite**: None

**Term**: Fall Semester- August 22, 2022-December 12, 2022

**Important Dates**: Drop/Refund Deadline – August 28, 2022

Graduation Application Deadline – September 9, 2022

Withdrawal Deadline – October 28, 2022

Labor Day – September 5, 2022 - **NO CLASS**

Thanksgiving Break – November 23-November 27- **NO CLASS**

**Other Instruction Materials**: This class will have a module in Canvas and **ALL** readings will be posted here.

**HB233**: Students may record video or audio of class lectures for their own personal educational use. A class lecture is defined as a planned presentation by a college faculty member or instructor, during a scheduled class, delivered for the purpose of transmitting knowledge or information that is reasonably related to the pedagogical objective of the course in which the student is enrolled. **Recording class activities other than class lectures, including but not limited to class discussions, student presentations, labs, academic exercises involving student participation, and private conversations, is prohibited. Recordings may not include the image or voice of other students in the class, may not be used as a substitute for class participation and class attendance, and may not be published or shared without the written consent of the faculty member. Failure to adhere to these requirements may constitute a violation of the College’s Student Code of Conduct.**

**Course Format**: The course will be taught through 100% online. All participation, quizzes, and correspondence will be made via the class Canvas site.

**Electronic Devices**: **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 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.**

**Attendance**: Classroom and activity attendance along with 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.

I understand that things happen sometimes. If possible please send me an email telling me you will not be in attendance. I also understand that you may have to leave early, please let me know at the beginning of class.

**Class Participation**: Participation in class involves a number of variables, including but not limited to:

* Your willingness to participate actively in all class discussions.
* Your respect and attitude toward the class and your peers.
* Your preparation for each discussion.

**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.

·         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.

**Make Up Policy**: MAKE-UP EXAMS WILL ONLY BE ALLOWED FOR SERIOUS, DOCUMENTED REASONS THAT ARE BEYOND THE STUDENT’S CONTROL.

**VACATIONS ARE NOT AN EXCUSED ABSENCE!**

**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.

Professors should include here their rules about Plagiarism or attached the document I sent about the topic.

VCC 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.

**All of the following are considered plagiarism:**

* turning in someone else's work as your own
* copying words or ideas from someone else without giving credit
* failing to put a quotation in quotation marks
* giving incorrect information about the source of a quotation
* changing words but copying the sentence structure of a source without giving credit
* copying so many words or ideas from a source that it makes up the majority of your work, whether you give credit or not (see our section on "fair use" rules).

|  |
| --- |
| \***CHEATING OF ANY KIND WILL RESULT IN AN “F” IN THE COURSE! NO EXCEPTIONS!!\*\*IF IT IS FOUND THAT YOU HAVE PLAGIARIZED YOU WILL RECEIVE AN “F” FOR THE COURSE! NO EXCEPTIONS!!** |

**Student Responsibilities**

* You are responsible for being familiar with the syllabus
* You are responsible for checking for updates to the syllabus or any sudden changes of plans. I will usually announce such things in class, but Blackboard is official.
* You are responsible for making sure your work is turned into me and received by me. If you have emailed me an assignment I will send a reply that it was received.
* Please be prepared for each section by completing the assigned readings. I can’t make you read, nor can I really check whether you have read. However, class participation and discussion will be noted. I reserve the right to give quizzes when I see student participation dropping.

**Classwork**

Classwork will consist of discussion boards, quizzes, and a midterm/final exam. I want to make this class as rewarding for everyone as possible and discussion boards are a good facilitator for the learning process..

**Syllabus Quiz**

This is a short quiz based on the information in the syllabus. You may use the syllabus to answer the questions**. This quiz must be completed in the first week of class or you run the risk of being dropped from the course**. You will have the first week to complete the quiz.

**Quizzes and Exams**

There will be three quizzes and two exams (a midterm and a final). Each quiz will be worth 100 points (300 points total) and each exam will be worth 250 points (500 points total).

* The quizzes will be taken on Canvas and will be proctored by Honorlock. You will be recorded while taking the quiz. Please make sure to plan accordingly.
* The midterm and final will be taken in class at the scheduled class time and final time.
* Quizzes and finals **are not** cumulative. Each will be based on the previous section.

**Discussion Boards**

Starting the first week of the course a discussion prompt will be posted in Canvas each Wednesday. You will have one week to respond to the prompt AND respond to at least one other student. This is a large part of your participation grade. There will be a total of 7 Discussion Posts worth 50 points each.

* Please make sure to be courteous and respectful of each other. In discussing philosophical topics, you might learn things about what people think that you disagree with or dislike. Please do not let this affect your behavior toward your classmates.
* When addressing a perspective you may disagree with (especially one expressed by a classmate) please refrain from any abusive characterizations. In other words; don’t make it sound stupid just because you don’t agree with it.

**ONCE A DISCUSSION BOARD IS CLOSED IT WILL NOT BE RE-OPENED. YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THAT DISCUSSION AND POINTS WILL NOT BE GRANTED!! NO EXCEPTIONS!!**

**Email**

Please allow at least 24 – 48 hours to receive a response to an email you have sent me other than Always check the syllabus first if you have questions about the class. I also reserve the right to not respond to emails that are not professional.

**Graded Assessments**

In this course you will have the opportunity to earn a maximum of 1010 points. Each graded assignment will be given a particular number of points. If you send me one picture of a sloth any time throughout the semester, you will receive 3 extra points on your lowest scored exam. You can calculate your own grade at any time by dividing the number of points you have earned by the total number of points that have been available at that point. It is your responsibility to keep track of your grades. This is part of taking control of your own education.

**Assignment Points**

Syllabus Quiz 10

Discussions 200 Points

3 Quizzes 300 Points

2 Exams 500 Points

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Letter Grade** | **Quality Points (per credit)** | **Point Value** | **Description** |
| A | 4.0 | 900-1010 | Excellent |
| B | 3.0 | 800-899 | Good |
| C | 2.0 | 700-799 | Average |
| D | 1.0 | 600-699 | Passing Below Average |
| F | 0 | 0-599 | Fail |

**For the quizzes and exams you will need a testing blue book**. You can use the same book for each quiz/exam until you run out of room at which time you will need to get another blue book.

Quizzes will be a combination of Multiple Choice and True/False questions.

Exams will be a combination of Multiple Choice, True/False questions, and Short Answer.

**Internet Research**: Because of the variety of sources, ease of publication, lack of central control and proliferation of commercial information on the free Internet, it is often hard to tell if the information is reliable.  Many sites contain research and information of high quality.  However, unlike traditional print publications or library-based electronic resources, there is usually no process of peer review, nor is there an editor verifying the accuracy of information presented on the Internet.

There are an increasing number of sites containing information that may be incomplete, anonymously written, out-of-date, biased, fraudulent, or whose content may not be factual. Students should, therefore, use caution in use of the Internet for their research needs when working on activities.

For academic topics that are addressed in scholarly literature, uses of electronic databases or visiting the library may better meet your needs.

**Students with Disabilities**

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

**Course Calendar**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Reading** | **Info** |
| **Week of**  **August 22**  **Syllabus Quiz Due by Fri. August 26** | Canvas: Syllabus | Introduction and go over course policies and syllabus.  Plagiarism Discussion.  What is Philosophy? |
| **Discussion 1 Posted Wed. Aug. 24** | Socrates | The life of Socrates, The Socratic Method, & The Apology  **Links on Canvas (17a-28a ONLY)** |
| **Week of**  **August 29** | Consciousness and Self Identity | Plato and Dualism/The Birth of Modern Philosophy  **Links on Canvas**  **(pgs.113-115 ONLY)**  Drop Deadline for 100% Refund |
| **Discussion 1 Closes Wed. Aug. 31** | Reality and Enlightenment | Plato: The Allegory of the Cave  **Link on Canvas** |
| **Week of September 5**  **Discussion 2 Posted Wed. Sept. 7** | **Canvas**  **Quiz # 1** | **Quiz # 1** |
| **Week of September 12**  **Discussion 2 Closes Wed. Sept. 14** | Consciousness/ Self Identity/Natural Law | John Locke, David Hume, and Immanuel Kant  **Link on Canvas** |
|  |  |  |
| **Week of September 19** | Are You Free? | Determinism and Indeterminism  **No Reading** |
| **Discussion 3 Posted Wed. Sept. 21** | Metaphysics | Descartes: Deceptive Senses  **Links on Canvas** |
| **Week of September 26**  **Discussion 3 Closes Wed. Sept. 28** | Epistemology: What is Real? What do we Know? | John Locke  **Links on Canvas** |
| **Week of**  **October 3**  **Discussion 4 Posted Wed. Oct. 5** | **Midterm Exam**  **On Canvas** | **Midterm Exam** |
| **Week of**  **October 10** | Feminist Philosophy and Gender Theory | Simone de Beauvoir & Judith Butler  **Links on Canvas** |
| **Discussion 4 Closes Wed. Oct. 12** | Racial Theory & Philosophy | Bell Hooks & Desiree Melton  **Links on Canvas** |
| **Week of**  **October 17**  **Discussion 5 Posted Wed. Oct. 19** | Ethics and Religion | Moral Relativism: Are There Moral Absolutes? Religion  **No Reading** |
| **Week of**  **October 24**  **Discussion 5 Closes Wed. Oct. 26** | **On Canvas**  **Quiz # 2** | **Quiz # 2** |
| **Week of**  **October 31** | Ethical Theory | Pascal’s Wager  **Links on Canvas** |
| **Discussion 6 Posted Wed. Nov. 2** | Ethical Theory | Aristotle & Virtue Ethics  **No Reading** |
| **Week of**  **November 7** | Ethical Theory | John Stuart Mill: Utilitarianism  **Link on Canvas** |
| **Discussion 6 Closes Wed. Nov. 9** | Ethics and Human Morality | Friedrich Nietzsche: The Will to Power and the Ubermensch  **Links on Canvas** |
| **Week of**  **November 14** | On Canvas  Quiz # 3 | **Quiz # 3** |
| **Week of November 21** | **Thanksgiving Break** | **NO CLASS** |
| **Week of**  **November 28**  **Discussion 7 Posted Wed. Nov. 30** | Existentialism | Jean-Paul Sartre  **Links on Canvas** |
| **Week of**  **December 5** | Social Justice | Plato: What is a Just Society?  **Link on Canvas** |
| **Discussion 7 Closes Wed. Dec. 7**  **Final Exam Open December 5-December 9** | Continued…Social Justice | Social Contract Theory: Jean-Jacques Rousseau  **Links on Canvas** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |