

• **Philosophy 26 – History of Philosophy**

Section 01

Fall 2016

M/W/F 10:00 AM – 10:50 AM

Room: Mendocino Hall 3009

Satisfies General Education Area C2 (see course objectives/requirements below)

Instructor: J. P. Carboni

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*I do not feel obligated to believe that the same God who endowed us with sense, reason, and intellect had intended for us to forgo their use...*

- Galileo Galilee (1564 – 1642)

*Tiger got to hunt, bird got to fly;  
Man got to sit and wonder 'why, why, why?'  
Tiger got to sleep, bird got to land;  
Man got to tell himself he understand.*

- Kurt Vonnegut, *Cat's Cradle*

*“Any Philosophy that can be put in a nut shell belongs in one.”*

- Hillary Putnam

• **Course Description:**

*PHIL 26. History of Philosophy:* 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.

What does it mean to believe something? How do you know that what you believe is true and represents reality? Is there a real, authentic reality outside of what you perceive to be real or is reality nothing but a subjective understanding? Is there a God? What does it mean to say that you know that you are a living, thinking thing? Is there an absolute right and wrong or is right and wrong nothing but what we as individuals or cultures determine to be right and wrong? Are you free or are you a determined being? Why should we care at all? These are questions that many of us – all of us – ask or have asked at one time or another. Our answers form the background upon which we live our lives and in some measure determine the way that we interact with the world and with others. For centuries, philosophers have struggled (as we all do) to answer these questions. This class will investigate many of the answers that philosophers have proposed. We will evaluate not only what these philosophers have said, but at the same time our own answers as well with the goal of understanding not only the answers given but the importance of the questions themselves. Philosophy is the love of wisdom, and it is my hope that

by the end of this class we will have a better understanding of what that statement means and why the pursuit of philosophy is important to our lives.

• **Required Textbook:**

*Classics of Philosophy*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed. Pojman/Vaughn (Eds), OUP, NY 2011. ISBN: 9780199737291

• **Departmental Learning Objectives:**

1. Identify and distinguish the main historical traditions in western philosophy, from Pre-Socratics to the Enlightenment.
2. Identify and explain key philosophical concepts as they arise in the different historical periods, including knowledge, reality, reason, substance, identity, mind/soul, causation, experience, etc.
3. Read and comprehend key texts in the history of philosophy.
4. Write clearly and cogently on a variety of topics in the history of philosophy.
5. Apply basic philosophical concepts to discuss problems of historical significance, including the mind-body problem, the challenge of skepticism, the relation of sensation/experience to knowledge, the limitations of reason, the relation of reason to passions, the existence of god, the challenge of determinism, etc.

**Area C2 Learning Outcomes (C2 Humanities)**

The learning objectives associated with C2 should focus on the human condition. Specifically, students completing C2 requirements 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 and 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.

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

<http://www.csus.edu/indiv/b/bellonc/Area%20C%20Learning%20Outcomes%20%28Carried%20May%201%202014%29.pdf>

These course objectives and general education guidelines will be satisfied through a variety of practical assessments including quizzes, group work, essay writing and verbal communication (class/group participation).

- **Student Standards of Conduct:**

**Plagiarism and/or cheating** will not be tolerated in this class. All those who engage in these activities will receive a zero on the associated assignment. In addition, all incidents of cheating and/or plagiarism will be reported to the department chair and to the Judicial Officer in the *Office of Student Affairs*. It is your responsibility to both know and adhere to Sac State's Academic Honesty Policy. This policy can be found at the following address:

<http://www.csus.edu/umannual/student/stu-0100.htm>

**In-Class Participation:** Purposely "obstructing" the viewpoint of another student in the classroom during classroom discussions is prohibited. This class will involve many discussions concerning the material assigned for homework and the material presented during the classroom lectures. This being a philosophy course, many of these discussions *may* challenge certain beliefs that you hold. Open dialog and proper methods of argumentation are not only expected but required for this class.

**Attendance/Participation:** Students are expected to attend each class session. This class will involve many in-class discussions, in-class quizzes and in-class group work. Students are expected to have completed the readings and participate in all in-class work.

**Cell Phones and Computers:** Please set your phone to vibrate before class! Cell phones are not to be used in class – for any reason. If you must take a call (which I discourage unless an emergency) please step outside before you answer. No texting or Internet use will be allowed in class.

- **Disability Accommodations:**

If you have a disability and require accommodations, you will need to provide disability documentation to SSWD, Lassen Hall 1008, (916) 278-6955. Please discuss your accommodation needs with me after class or during my office hours early in the semester.

**Special Note:** All instructors employed by CSU, Sacramento are 'mandatory reporters' of suspected child abuse or neglect according to the *California Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act*. As such, I am bound to the requirements established by CSU Executive Order 1083 which can be found at the following link: <http://www.calstate.edu/eo/EO-1083.html>

- **Evaluation/Homework Assignments:**

**In-Class Work/Group Work:** There will be a number of in-class exercises throughout the semester that combined will be worth a total of 50 possible points. Each assignment will be worth 5 – 10 points (exact worth will be provided with the assignment). All in class work is to be completed during the class session in which the assignment is given. There will be no make-ups for a missed in class assignment.

**Quizzes:** As outlined on the weekly course breakdown below, there will be two types of quizzes in this class.

- (1) **Reading Quizzes:** Prior to each new section lecture/new topic, there will be a quiz to be completed in class prior to the lecture on that reading/subject (see weekly breakdown below for specific details). These quizzes must be completed in class. No make-ups will be given for missing a quiz. These quizzes will be multiple choice

and/or true and false. Each Reading Quiz will be completed using an 815-E scantron. Each quiz will be worth 10 points.

- (2) **Lecture Quizzes:** During each lecture there will be 3-5 questions that students will be required to write down and answer in their notes. These questions will be based on the lecture material. At the conclusion of the *final lecture each week*, there will be a quiz where I choose 5 questions out of all the questions provided during that week's lectures. You will then need to answer these questions using an 815-E scantron. To clarify, if there are three lectures during the week, you will have 9-15 questions and I will choose 5 of those to be your quiz. Each Lecture Quiz will be worth 11 points.

There will be no make-up quizzes if you miss a quiz (either type). I will, however, drop the lowest score received on each type of quiz at the end of the semester. To do well on these quizzes and thus to do well in the class as a whole, you should make sure to attend class, actively participate in the lecture and complete the assigned readings.

### **Essays:**

There will be three short essays in this class. For each assignment, you will be provided with assignment topics, structural details and a grading rubric two weeks prior to the due date for each essay. Essays must be handed in at the beginning of class on the day that they are due. Late essays will be docked 5 points for every class session that they are late. If your essay is late, you must arrange a method to hand in the essay with me after the class that the essays are due. Each essay will be worth 80 possible points.

- **Essay #1 Due: Friday, Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>**
- **Essay #2 Due: Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup>**
- **Essay #3 Due: Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>**

Students are expected to adhere to the guidelines posted in "How to Analyze a Philosophical Essay" that is located on the CSUS Department of Philosophy webpage.

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

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

### **Examinations:**

There will be two in-class examinations in this class. There will be a comprehensive review held the class session before each exam. There will be no make-ups on exams - except with "extraordinary" circumstances - so schedule outside activities accordingly. Note: Extraordinary circumstances do not include *personal* athletic activities, vacations, car not starting, not feeling like it, etc. A doctor's note (or something similar) will be required to schedule a make-up exam. Each exam will be worth a total of 80 possible points.

**Exam #1: Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>**  
**Exam #2: TBA (Week of December 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>)**

• **Grading Scale:**

All exams/essays will be graded based upon an 80-point scale according to the following breakdown:

<b>A</b> Outstanding (75 - 80 pts)	<b>A-</b> Very Good (72 - 74 pts)
<b>B+</b> Above Satisfactory (68.5 - 71 pts)	<b>B</b> Satisfactory (67 - 68 pts)
<b>B-</b> Below Satisfactory (64 - 67 pts)	<b>C+</b> Above Average (61 - 63 pts)
<b>C</b> Average (58 - 60 pts)	<b>C-</b> Below Average (56 - 57 pts)
<b>D+</b> Poor High (53 - 55.5 pts)	<b>D</b> Poor Low (48 - 52 pts)
<b>F</b> Unacceptable (47 and lower pts)	

• **Total Points Breakdown:**

**Reading Quizzes: 200 possible pts (190 with dropped quiz)**

**Lecture Quizzes (x15): 165 possible pts (150 with dropped quiz)**

**Essay #1: 80 possible pts**

**Essay #2: 80 possible pts**

**Essay #3: 80 possible pts**

**Exam #1: 80 possible pts**

**Exam #2: 80 possible pts**

**In Class Work: 25 possible points**

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Total Points Possible = 765

**Final Grade Breakdown:** **A** 785 – 711 pts; **A-** 710 – 685 pts; **B+** 684 – 662 pts; **B** 661 – 639 pts; **B-** 638 - 609 pts; **C+** 608 – 586 pts; **C** 585 - 563 pts; **C-** 562 – 532 pts; **D+** 531 – 502 pts; **D** 501 – 486; **D-** 485 – 455; **F** 454 or lower points

• **Reading/Assignment Schedule:**

Week 1:	(Aug. 29 <sup>th</sup> – Sept. 2 <sup>nd</sup> )	
	Class Introduction – What Is Philosophy and Why We Are Not Entitled to Our Opinions?	
	For Mon:	Class Overview - (no reading)
	For Wed/Fri:	Movement from myth to philosophy & the pre-Socratic philosophers
		• Readings: Thales, Anaximander & Anaximenes
	<b>Wed:</b>	• <b>Reading Quiz Number One</b>
	<b>Fri:</b>	• <b>Lecture Quiz #1</b>
Week 2:	(Sept. 5 <sup>th</sup> – Sept. 9 <sup>th</sup> ) – Holiday: Monday, Sept. 5 <sup>th</sup> – No Class	
	Pre-Socratics Continued	
	For Mon:	Labor Day Holiday - September 5th
	For Wed:	Heraclitus
		• Readings: Heraclitus (pg 10, 14-15)
		• <b>Reading Quiz #2</b>
	For Fri:	Parmenides & Answering Parmenides challenge
		• Readings: Parmenides (pg 15-17) & The Pluralists (10-11) & Leucippus Democritus (19-20)

- **Review Essay #1**
- **Reading Quiz #3**
- **Lecture Quiz #2**

Week 3:	(Sept. 12 <sup>th</sup> – Sept. 16 <sup>th</sup> ) Socrates & Plato	
	For Mon:	Lecture on Socrates, Socratic Dialogue and Plato <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Readings: Plato Intro (22-25) <i>Euthyphro</i> (25-36), <i>Apology</i> (36-58)</li> <li>• <b>Reading Quiz #4</b></li> </ul>
	For Wed/Fri:	Plato Continued - <i>Euthyphro</i> and <i>Apology</i> Continued <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Readings: <i>Euthyphro</i> (25-36), <i>Apology</i> (36-58)</li> <li>• <b>Lecture Quiz #3</b></li> </ul>
	<b>Fri:</b>	
Week 4:	(Sept. 19 <sup>th</sup> – Sept. 23 <sup>rd</sup> ) Plato Continued	
	For Mon:	Plato and the Forms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Readings: <i>The Meno</i> (101) &amp; start <i>Republic</i> (112-201)</li> <li>• <b>Reading Quiz #5</b></li> </ul>
	For Wed/Fri:	Plato and the Forms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading: finish <i>Republic</i> (112-201)</li> </ul>
	For Fri:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Essay Number #1 Due (Fri., Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>)</b></li> <li>• <b>Lecture Quiz #4</b></li> </ul>
Week 5:	(Sept. 26 <sup>th</sup> – Sept. 30 <sup>th</sup> ) Aristotle's Logic and World	
	For Mon:	Aristotle's Logic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Readings: Intro (202-205) &amp; <i>Categories</i> (205-209)</li> <li>• <b>Reading Quiz #6</b></li> </ul>
	For Wed:	Aristotle's Logic Continued <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Readings: <i>Posterior Analytics</i> (209-217)</li> <li>• <b>Reading Quiz #7</b></li> </ul>
	For Fri:	Aristotle's View on The Natural World
	<b>Fri:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Lecture Quiz #5</b></li> </ul>
Week 6:	(Oct. 3 <sup>rd</sup> – Oct. 7 <sup>th</sup> ) Aristotle Continued	
	For Mon:	Aristotle's Metaphysical World <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Readings: <i>Physics</i> (217 -229)</li> <li>• <b>Reading Quiz #8</b></li> </ul>
	For Wed:	Physics Continued, Aristotle's <i>Metaphysics</i> and Aristotle wrap up... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading: <i>Metaphysics</i> (237 -266)</li> </ul>
	For Fri:	<b>Review for Essay #2</b>

- In-Class Assignment
- **Lecture Quiz #6**

Week 7: (Oct. 10<sup>rd</sup> – Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>)  
World Post Aristotle

- For Mon: Epicureans
- Reading: Epicurus (342-349)
  - **Reading Quiz #9**
- For Wed: Stoics
- Reading: Epictetus (349-361)
  - **Reading Quiz #10**
- For Fri: Skeptics
- Reading: Sextus Empiricus (361-379)
  - **Reading Quiz #11**
  - **Lecture Quiz #7**
- Fri:**

Week 8: (Oct. 17<sup>rd</sup> – Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>)  
Study Time!

- For Mon: Exam Review Guide provided and reviewed
- For Wed: **Midterm Exam (Bring 882-E Scantron & #2 Pencil)**
- For Fri:
- In-Class Work and Midterm Exam Reviewed
  - **Lecture Quiz #8**
- Fri:**

Week 9: (Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> – Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>)  
Father of Modern Philosophy

- For Mon: Rene Descartes
- Readings - Intro (487-489), *Meditations I* (489-491);
  - **Essay #2 Due (Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup>)**
- For Wed: Descartes Cont.
- Readings - *Meditations II, III & IV* (491-502)
  - **Reading Quiz #12 on Meditations I, II & III)**
- For Fri: Descartes Cont.
- Readings - *Meditations V & VI* (502-509)
  - **Lecture Quiz #9**
- Fri:**

Week 10: (Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> – Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>)  
First Response Team: Hobbes and Locke

- For Mon: Thomas Hobbes
- Readings - *Leviathan* (517-557)
  - **Reading Quiz #13**
- For Wed: Finish Thomas Hobbes and Start John Locke
- Readings - *An Essay Concerning Human Understanding* (640-660)
  - **Reading Quiz #14 on John Locke**
- For Fri: Finish John Locke

- Readings - *An Essay Concerning Human Understanding* (661-675)

**Fri:**

- **Lecture Quiz #10**

Week 11:

(Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> – Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>)

Taking *Ideas* to the Limit

For Mon:

George Berkeley

- Reading - *Of the Principles of Human Knowledge* (678-693)

- **Reading Quiz #15**

For Wed:

In-Class Assignment

- **Lecture Quiz #11**

For Fri:

**November 11<sup>th</sup>, Veteran's Day Holiday – No Class Held**

Week 12:

(Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> – Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>)

Second Response Team: Member #1 - David Hume

For Mon:

David Hume

- Reading - *An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding* (718-781)

- **Reading Quiz #16**

For Wed:

David Hume Cont.

For Fri:

David Hume Finish

**Fri:**

- **Lecture Quiz #12**

Week 13:

(Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> – Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>)

Second Response Team: Member #2 - Immanuel Kant

For Mon:

Immanuel Kant's Epistemology

- Reading - *Critique of Pure Reason* - start (815 – 921 – try and complete 815 - 840)

- **Reading Quiz #17**

For Wed:

Kant Continued

- Reading – Continue the *Critique of Pure Reason* (841 – 880)

- **Essay #3 Review**

- **Lecture Quiz #13**

For Thur & Fri:

(November 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>): Thanksgiving Holiday – No Class Held on Friday

Week 14:

(Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> – Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>)

Finishing on a High Note: Immanuel Kant Continued & Everyone Else Must Be Wrong Because I am Right, Right?: Fredrich Nietzsche

For Mon:

Finish Kant

- Readings - *Critique of Pure Reason* - finish (881 - 921)

For Wed:

Fredrich Nietzsche

- Readings - (1041-1044)

- **Reading Quiz #18**

For Fri: Fredrich Nietzsche  
• Reading - (1051-1063)  
**Fri:** • **Lecture Quiz #14**

Week 15: (Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> – Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>)

William James, Pragmatism & Existentialism

For Mon: James and Pragmatism  
• Readings - *The Will To Believe & Pragmatism*  
(1084-1107)  
• **Reading Quiz #19**

For Wed: Existentialism  
• Reading: John Paul Sartre's *Existentialism Is a Humanism* (1231-1237)  
• **Reading Quiz #20**

For Fri: Final Examination Review  
• **Due: Essay #3 (Friday, December 9th)**  
• **Lecture Quiz #15**

Week 16: (Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> – Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>) – Finals Week: Final Examination TBA