



## Syllabus

### PHL 101 Introduction to Philosophy

#### General Information

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**Date**

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**Author**

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**Department**

Humanities

**Course Prefix**

PHL

**Course Number**

101

**Course Title**

Introduction to Philosophy

#### Course Information

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**Credit Hours**

3

**Lecture Contact Hours**

3

**Lab Contact Hours**

0

**Other Contact Hours**

0

**Catalog Description**

Philosophy is the art and science of reasoning and the critical exploration of ideas. As a result, philosophy is primarily concerned with various questions which are inspired by reflection about and inquiry into the fundamental nature of things, including individuals' reflection on and about their place in the universe, themselves, and their relations to the members of their community. In this course, students will explore and examine some of the questions, concerns, problems, and intellectual schools or traditions which constitute the nature of philosophy. A number of these matters are explored through many of the various branches of the discipline, such as logic, metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, aesthetics, social and political philosophy, among others.

**Prerequisites**

None

**Co-requisites**

None

**Grading Scheme**

Letter

#### First Year Experience/Capstone Designation

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This course DOES NOT satisfy the outcomes applicable for status as a FYE or Capstone.

#### SUNY General Education

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This course is designated as satisfying a requirement in the following SUNY Gen Ed category

## FLCC Values

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### Institutional Learning Outcomes Addressed by the Course

Vitality

Inquiry

Perseverance

Interconnectedness

## Course Learning Outcomes

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### Course Learning Outcomes

1. Students will be able to understand, analyze, and interpret philosophical texts critically.
2. Students will be able make critical distinctions between various philosophical schools or traditions.
3. Students will be able to distinguish the principles of good reasoning as opposed to poor reasoning.
4. Students will apply principles of good reasoning to write sound arguments using organized and coherent discourse.
5. Students will apply principles of good reasoning to orally articulate positions in an organized and persuasive manner.

## Program Affiliation

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This course is not required as a core course in a program

## Outline of Topics Covered

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What is justice? Does justice require equality?

Is equality important? In what way?

Who should have power or lead?

How can the state be justified? What is the value of liberty?

What counts as knowledge?

How can we know things? Is "truth" discoverable? Is it important?

Is/how is goodness or morality important?

What does a good life look like?

Is there a god?

Is it reasonable to believe without evidence?

Does life have meaning?

What counts as consciousness/a soul? What is personal identity?

What is the relationship between mind and body? How can you know your own mind or the mind of another person?

Is there free will?

Why do we create aesthetically? What is the nature of beauty? What makes something a work of art?

What is race? What is gender?

What are the standards of critical reasoning?