

# IOWA WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## COURSE SYLLABUS

### PHI-101-OL01: Introduction to Philosophy

TERM: WINTERIM 2020

#### I. FACULTY INFORMATION:

Instructor: Jon Saul	Office: <i>Virtual</i>
Phone: 215-499-1703	Student Assistance Hours: <i>By Appointment</i>
E-mail: jsaul@iwcc.edu	

#### II. COURSE INFORMATION:

PHI-101-OL01	Introduction to Philosophy	Credits (3)	Lecture (3)	Lab (0)
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#### **COURSE MEETING TIMES:**

Course shells are available online 24/7.

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Introduction to Philosophy is an analytical approach to problems such as the nature of man, the existence of a creator, the question of freedom, and the challenge of change. Students deepen their understanding of these problems and their own responses by studying the thoughts of philosophers such as Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, St. Thomas Aquinas, Descartes, Locke, Hegel, Kant, Kierkegaard, Sartre, Nietzsche, James, Russell, and Kuhn. (3/0)

#### **PREREQUISITES:**

None.

#### **REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:** ARCHETYPES OF WISDOM

AN INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY , 9TH EDITION

Douglas J. Soccio

Some, but not all, courses at Iowa Western require a subscription to an online textbook service such as Pearson MyLab or Cengage Unlimited. When this type of subscription service is required in a course, a flat fee is charged to the student's account when the student registers for the course. Students have the

option to “opt-out” of this service within the first week of classes. By opting out, the student is responsible to obtain the required course materials on their own from a source outside the College Store. For information on how to opt-out, students should contact the Brandon Keller in the Business Office at 712-325-3226 or [bkeller@iwcc.edu](mailto:bkeller@iwcc.edu).

#### **SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS:**

Students can download the free version of Office 365 Suite from their ROC Portal Page for use in their courses. Students are responsible for protecting their own computer equipment through use of anti-virus and anti-malware tools for work within their IWCC courses; they may consider [these free options](#) (click on link). Students using computers in labs and other facilities on campus are further held to the standards of [IWCC Acceptable Use Policy](#) and the [Computer Ethics and Use Policy](#). Both are located on the ROC Student Portal Page under the *Technology* menu button FAQ area.

*For English formal writing assistance, use the free websites:*

[http://www.acrosticpoet.com/americanenglishwritingtutor/compact\\_college\\_main.htm](http://www.acrosticpoet.com/americanenglishwritingtutor/compact_college_main.htm)

[http://www.acrosticpoet.com/americanenglishwritingtutor/welcome\\_to\\_the\\_american\\_english.htm](http://www.acrosticpoet.com/americanenglishwritingtutor/welcome_to_the_american_english.htm)

#### **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES AND COURSE COMPETENCIES:**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Distinguish between philosophical and other kinds of intellectual concerns
- B. Evaluate the relationship between philosophy, religion, and science
- C. Review the study of the nature of reality and the search for truth throughout history
- D. Identify "self" as a philosophical entity
- E. Develop a framework for studying moral and justice issues

#### **COURSE PRACTICES:**

##### **CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT AND BEHAVIOR**

Students are expected to participate in the Weekly Forum discussions as follows:

**A. Post substantially** (100 to 150 words in length) in **each discussion question** each day for each of 10 discussions: worth 300 points (30 points per post).

**B. At least 2 additional meaningful posts** in each weekly forum discussion (please do not just say 'I agree' or 'Good post.' You must contribute some thought responding to my questions, other student comments, asking your own questions (I greatly encourage this), offering observations and/or providing your point of view: worth 600 points (60 points per week). We will be using the

"Triple Layer Discussion" format. The "Triple Layer Discussion" format is a method of creating rich, quality discussions online.

- In the first layer, you post a thread on the topic.
- The second layer is where you read everyone's postings and then pick one to respond to.
- Finally, in the third layer, you must respond to anyone who has responded to you, or if no one has responded to you, then you respond to one other person.

Here are the guidelines we will use for our triple layers:

1. Post your well-thought-out, 100-150 word, quality post about the topic. I want to see how you think about the topic. This is a good place to reference the text or other research you have done.

2. Read all the postings, and then respond to at least one other person. Here I would like to see the discussion deepen from additional insights created by each of you.

3. If someone responds to you, you must respond back. If no one responds to you, then simply respond to one more person. **Remember...**if someone responds to you, you **must** respond back (until you reach your quota, after which responses are optional).

4. Finally, be sure to read and follow the "netiquette" guidelines for acceptable behavior, language, etc. online. "Netiquette" is emphasized in the course practices. Inappropriate comments will be removed and you will receive a zero for your discussion post. If inappropriate comments continue you will be removed from the discussion board and receive a zero.

Each discussion board will be open every day.

Over the past several years, a few guidelines regarding the polite, constructive conduct of online communication have become widely accepted. These guidelines are commonly referred to as "netiquette." Netiquette helps to make electronic messages easier to understand by suggesting some conventions for language and usage.

- **Be Respectful:** Someone in the online discussion will say something you don't like. Regardless, always keep your responses constructive.
- Never resort to "flaming" (insults and/or personal attacks). Avoid broad judgments and generalizations.
- **Keep Your Responses On-Topic:** If someone mentions something that interests you but does not relate to the discussion, send an e-mail to just that person.

- If you received the message via e-mail, use the reply function, but check to see that you are replying to only the sender's e-mail address, not the address for the class email list.
- **Write Clearly Without Shortcuts:** Please do not take typing short cuts in any of your assignments including discussion posts, papers, tests, and quizzes. For example, “b/c” is NOT because.
- We will use appropriate academic language; therefore, no profanity will be allowed. This includes writing in punctuation.

Each student assumes an obligation to conduct his/her academic affairs in a manner compatible with the standards of academic honesty established by the college and its faculty. If this obligation is neglected or ignored by the student, disciplinary action will be taken.

- Just as you refrain from making personal attacks, refrain from taking challenges or disagreements to your positions personally when they are not meant to be personal. A difference in opinion is not disrespect for you or for your own right to an opinion; it is simply a difference of opinion.
- Only address the content of a person's message.
- Whenever possible, support your views with evidence from readings or your own experiences.

Attendance will be taken for each class session. All course work must be submitted through the ROC LMS. Emailed work will not be accepted without prior instructor approval.

Because this class follows an abbreviated class schedule, assignments are due daily from now until the end of the class. Students earn points each day and when students miss participation or assignments, they will lose points towards the final grade. Attendance will be recorded at each session.

YOU MUST LOG IN EVERY DAY OR YOU WILL BE MARKED ABSENT.

IF YOU SUBSEQUENTLY LOG IN, YOU WILL BE MARKED LATE.

#### STANDARDS FOR WRITTEN WORK

1. all assignments should be submitted on-line (and therefore typed). Please review the Do's and Don'ts of Formal English for language usage guidelines. All written work must adhere to formal English grammar and punctuation. Completion of work policies is enforced in fairness to all class members. **All assignments are due on the assigned day.**
  - All assignments are **due** on the indicated day by midnight. However, you can complete and turn in assignments earlier in the week it is due.

- Please double space your work unless otherwise specified. Also, please use 12 point, Times New Roman.

## LATE PAPERS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Late papers and assignments: Assignment dates are indicated in the **due dates/assignments** link. These due dates are very reasonable if you plan and budget time accordingly.

- Don't wait until the last minute to complete assignments. Computer problems do occur and will not be accepted as an excuse as to why assignments are not completed.
- If you are ill and cannot complete your work, you will be asked to provide proper documentation. A doctor's note would count as proper documentation. Notes from parents do not count.
- I do accept late work. The penalty of 10% reduced points per day late will apply to ALL late assignments.

You can submit assignments during the week the assignment is due prior to the due date and time.

## MISSED EXAMS

There are 2 final exams that are mandatory.

**THIS COURSE IS NOT A SELF-PACED COURSE.** All of the lessons, discussions, assignments, etc. are available now. You are welcome to study ahead if you would like but be advised that there are due dates every day and only those assignments and entries submitted during the week the unit is open (see dates below) will be graded.

Attendance will be taken for each class session. All course work must be submitted through the ROC LMS. Emailed work will not be accepted without prior instructor approval.

## **PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ONLINE COURSES:**

Online courses require a clear pattern of participation for all students. The attendance standard for IWCC is that each student logs in and participates in meaningful ways, i.e. assignment completion, forum discussion, quiz completion, etc., within the course outline a minimum of one time each week. A week is measured from Monday through Sunday. If this standard is not met for any week within the course term, you will be marked absent.

## **COMMUNICATION WITH INSTRUCTOR:**

The best ways to contact the instructor are

via phone or text: 215-499-1703  
by e-mail jsaul@iwcc.edu

Availability of instructor: I am online everyday but if you need to have a longer discussion, my Office Hours are 4PM – 5:30 PM on Mondays and Wednesdays.

I will grade all weekly writing assignments (due Sunday) by the following Wednesday.

Feedback for participation will be provided by the following Wednesday.

Students and faculty must use their IWCC email when contacting the instructor about matters related to the course.

**SOCIAL DISTANCING IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19:**

Students in an online class may choose to meet with their instructor during student assistance hours on campus or at a center location. Faculty, staff, and students are expected to take reasonable precautions while in an office setting to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all parties. Whenever possible, students should stay a minimum of six feet apart from other parties. Where seats and standing room is designated off limits, students should respect boundaries. All parties (faculty, staff, and students) are required to supply their own face covering that they are required to wear at all times during a face-to-face meeting. Individuals who arrive to the meeting without a face covering will be turned away. Students exhibiting symptoms of illness will be asked to leave the office and not return until they are symptom-free or can provide a note from a physician clearing them to return. Students will also be asked to leave if they fail to comply with social distancing practices. Students who refuse to leave will be escorted out of the building by Security.

**GRADING:**

There are a total of 2000 points.

These are the gradable tasks (assignments) in this course:

- **Participation:** Total: 900 points
- You will receive 90 points per week for a substantial response to the discussion question.  
(10 DISCUSSION FORUMS x 10 points = 900 points)
- You will receive 30 points per week for your first substantive post and 60 points for 2 responses to other students' posts.
  
- **Weekly Writing Assignments:** these journal-type entries are reflections and are required for 8 weeks. Each assignment must consist of a minimum of

100 words. Please be sure to use formal English vocabulary: (100 points x 8 journals = 800 points)

- **The final summary essay** is worth 200 points.
- **Final Exam:** This is a cumulative objective test (multiple choice/true false) that you take in the last week of the class and will review all the material covered in the class. Worth 100 points.
- **There are not any quizzes.**

Grading Summary:	Points	Percentage of Grade
• Final exam 1	100	5%
• Final exam 2	200	10%
• Weekly Discussions	900	45%
• Weekly Journals	800	40%
• Total Points	2000	100%

**FINAL GRADE SCALE:**

- A – 1800 + points**
- B – 1700 – 1799 points**
- C – 1600 – 1699 points**
- D – 1500 – 1599 points**
- F – less than 1500 points**

**FINAL GRADES:**

Final grades are viewable on ROC the Tuesday after the end of the semester: Self-Services Menu, Students, and Academic Profile.

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

**IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2020 WINTERIM TERM\***

September 23, 2020 .....	Registration Begins
November 2, 2020.....	Textbooks Available For Purchase In The College Store
November 23, 2020.....	eCashier Deadline
December 1, 2020.....	Last Day To Add A Class
December 2, 2020.....	Last Day To Place Online Order For Textbooks
December 2, 2020.....	Classes Begin
December 2, 2020.....	Last Day To Drop Classes For A 100% Refund
December 3, 2020.....	Last Day To Drop Classes For A 50% Refund
December 4, 2020.....	Last Day To Return Textbooks For A Full Refund
December 16, 2020.....	Last Day To Drop Classes
December 22, 2020.....	Classes End

December 21, 2020-January 1, 2021.....College Offices Closed  
January 25, 2021..... Payment Deadline

*\*Please refer to Iowa Western's **Refund of Tuition and Fees Policy**, which can be found on the second page of this form, for more information regarding refunds.*

**PROBLEM RESOLUTION:**

Students with concerns about the course or the instruction are advised to discuss those concerns with the instructor. If this does not resolve the issue, contact Jenny Kruger, Dean of Communication & Fine Arts, [jkruger@iwcc.edu](mailto:jkruger@iwcc.edu), 712-325-3326, STU 1150.

**NOTICE OF CLASS CANCELLATION:**

Emergency closing of entire campus such as for weather – Students will be notified through the Reiver Alert system. Students must register for this service; find Reiver Alert on your ROC homepage under College Services.

Emergency cancellation of a class session such as for faculty illness – Students will be notified through an announcement to [iwcc.edu](mailto:iwcc.edu) email address, on the ROC course page and/or a posted note on the classroom door.

**COURSE TOPICAL OUTLINE AND SCHEDULE:**

Students should refer to the full course topical outline and schedule which concludes this document.

III. INFORMATION/COLLEGE POLICY

**RESET PASSWORD:**

Students can reset passwords by accessing the password central page through ROC. The password central page can be found by clicking the menu tab in the upper left hand corner and opening the technology tab, then clicking on password central.

**CYBER-LIBRARY:**

Students can access books, magazines, journals, newspapers, films and audio books 24/7 through the Cyber-Library by clicking on the Cyber Library under Academics in ROC. Students may contact the library for assistance with research and citations. Check out the help features on the Cyber Library page in ROC. For questions about finding information at your campus or center, email [cyberlibrary@iwcc.edu](mailto:cyberlibrary@iwcc.edu) (click on link) or call 712-325-3247 for the Council Bluffs Campus or 712-542-5117 for the Clarinda Campus. The library hours are posted on ROC.

**ACADEMIC SUPPORT:**

FREE tutoring and academic assistance for a variety of core, general FREE tutoring and academic assistance for a variety of core, general requirement



classes are available through the Tutoring Center, located on the second floor of the Student Center on the Council Bluffs campus. One-on-one assistance is available on a drop-in basis. FREE online tutoring is available through Canvas or ROC. To access online tutoring click on the Online Tutoring tab next to My ROC Classes on your ROC home page or Online Tutoring in the left hand menu in Canvas. For more information about tutoring services or help in your classes, email [tutoring@iwcc.edu](mailto:tutoring@iwcc.edu) or call 712-388-6841.

### **DROPPING CLASSES:**

While we encourage you to do everything you can to complete your classes, it is always better to drop a class than to fail it. If it becomes necessary for you to drop a class you can drop a class online through ROC up to the last day to drop. We recommend that you always talk to your advisor and a financial aid department representative before you drop a class. For more information on dropping classes see the Advising Information Site in ROC under the Academics tab.

### **PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES:**

To provide an environment conducive to learning, Iowa Western Community College requires that cellular phones, pagers, and other personal electronic devices be turned off or set to vibrate when entering classrooms, computer labs, library, offices, auditoriums, or arena areas. Cellular phones with picture taking capabilities are not allowed in bathrooms, locker rooms, or other areas where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy. Faculty members do have the right to prohibit the use of any electronic device in their classroom.

### **HONOR CODE – ACADEMIC HONESTY:**

Upon enrolling at Iowa Western Community College, each student assumes an obligation to conduct her/his academic affairs in a manner compatible with the standards of academic honesty established by the College and its faculty. If this obligation is neglected or ignored by the student, disciplinary action will be taken. Please refer to the Student Code of Conduct for the Academic Dishonesty Policy.

### **FERPA:**

Student rights concerning access to education records are spelled out in Federal Public Law 98-380 as amended by Public Law 93-568 and in regulations published by the Department of Education. The law and regulations require educational institutions to limit the disclosure of information from the student's record to those who have the student's written consent or to officials specifically permitted within the law. Students who wish to grant access to their education (class schedule, transcript of final grades, and progress reports) or financial records (grants, loans, financial aid documents, statements and billing) may do so by submitting an Access to Student Information Consent Form to the Records and Registration Office. Access to information is only given at the Records and Registration Office or Financial Aid and Cashier Offices. For more information, including the full Access to Student Information policy, refer to the Iowa Western

Community College General Catalog or contact the Records and Registration Office.

**DIVERSITY STATEMENT:**

Iowa Western Community College values diversity and supports learning experiences that promote intellectual growth and human enrichment.

**AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT STATEMENT:**

If you are an individual with a disability who requires an accommodation to fully participate in academic programs or campus activities, please email [disabilityservices@iwcc.edu](mailto:disabilityservices@iwcc.edu) or call 712-325-3299. Accommodations are arranged through the Disability Services Office, on the second floor of the Student Center on the Council Bluffs campus. Please allow adequate time to implement your accommodations. Accommodation testing must be scheduled 24 hours in advance. Any student with mobility impairments should prepare for an emergency ahead of time by instructing faculty and/or classmates on how to assist in case of an evacuation.

**PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS:**

Iowa Western does not discriminate against any student on the basis of pregnancy or related conditions. Absences due to medical conditions relating to pregnancy will be excused for as long as deemed medically necessary by a student's doctor, and students will be given the opportunity to make up missed work. Students needing accommodations can seek assistance with accommodations from the Coordinator of Disability Services.

**EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION:**

It is the policy of Iowa Western Community College to provide equal educational opportunities and not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national or ethnic origin, ancestry, genetic information, physical or mental disability, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, pregnancy, marital status, veteran status, AIDS/HIV status, citizenship, or medical condition, as those terms are defined under applicable laws, in its educational programs, activities, or employment practices.

Questions or complaints? Contact Title IX and Equal Opportunity Coordinator, Reanna Heim, or ADA Coordinator, Samantha Larson, [equity@iwcc.edu](mailto:equity@iwcc.edu), 712-325-3200, or the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Citigroup Center, 500 W. Madison, Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661, (312)-730-1560, [OCR.Chicago@ed.gov](mailto:OCR.Chicago@ed.gov). More information at <https://www.iwcc.edu/about/statement.asp>.

#### IV. COURSE TOPICAL OUTLINE AND SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Readings	Assignment
<i>December 2</i>	Introduction to Class Introduction to Philosophy	Introduction Pages 1 -21	Introductory Forum (ungraded) Definitions Forum 1
<i>December 3</i>	Ancient Greeks: Socrates	Chapter 4 Pages 94-124	Socrates Forum 1 Journal 1 Definitions
<i>December 4</i>	Ancient Greeks: Plato	Chapter 5 Pages 94-125	Plato Forum 2
<i>December 6</i>	Ancient Greeks: Aristotle	Chapter 6 Pages 158- 184	Aristotle Forum 3
<i>December 7</i>	Renaissance 1	Chapters 9 Pages 247- 275	Renaissance Forum 4 Journal 2 Ancient Greeks
<i>December 8</i>	Renaissance 2		Renaissance Forum 4 Journal 3 Renaissance
<i>December 9</i>	Enlightenment 1	Chapter 10 Pages 276- 308	Enlightenment Forum 5
<i>December 10</i>	Enlightenment 2		Enlightenment Forum 5 Journal 4 Enlightenment
<i>December 11</i>	Immanuel Kant 1	Chapter 11 Pages 309- 336	Kant Forum 6
<i>December 12</i>	Immanuel Kant 2		Kant Forum 6 Journal 5 Kant
<i>December 13</i>	Karl Marx 1	Chapter 13 Pages 365- 388	Marx Forum 7
<i>December 14</i>	Karl Marx 2		Marx Forum 7 Journal 6 Marx
<i>December 15</i>	Charles Darwin 1	On-line selection	Darwin Forum 8
<i>December 16</i>	Charles Darwin 2		Darwin Forum 8 Journal 7 Darwin
<i>December 17</i>	Sigmund Freud 1	On-line selection	Freud Forum 9
<i>December 18</i>	Sigmund Freud 2		Freud Forum 9 Journal 8 Freud
<i>December 19</i>	Existentialism 1	Chapters 15, 16, 17	Existentialism Forum 10

Date	Topic	Readings	Assignment
		Pages 419-509	
<i>December 20</i>	Existentialism 2		Existentialism Forum 10
<i>December 21</i>	Final Exam 1		Philosophical Reflections Essay
<i>December 22</i>	Final Exam 2		Multiple Choice