



# College of Eastern Idaho, Fall 2019

<b>Course Information:</b>	PHIL-101-02
<b>Course Title:</b>	Introduction to Philosophy
<b>Credits:</b>	3 Credits
<b>Course Dates:</b>	Fall 2019, 8/20/2019–12/5/2019
<b>Course Meeting Times:</b>	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:30–11:50 AM
<b>Course Location:</b>	Idaho Falls Main Campus, Building 5, Room 525
<b>Instructor:</b>	Zachary Fruhling Mobile: 831-331-6940 <a href="mailto:zacharyfruhling@gmail.com">zacharyfruhling@gmail.com</a> (Preferred) <a href="mailto:zachary.fruhling@cei.edu">zachary.fruhling@cei.edu</a> <a href="https://www.zacharyfruhling.com">https://www.zacharyfruhling.com</a>

## Course Description

This course is an introduction to Western Philosophy. There are many ways to teach and learn philosophy. This course takes a largely historical approach to philosophy, including topics in presocratic philosophy, ancient Greek and Roman philosophy, medieval philosophy, modernity and modern philosophy, and topics in contemporary 20th- and 21st-century philosophy. Although philosophy can be thought of as a series of isolated topics and philosophical problems, you will gain a richer understanding of the nature of philosophy by exploring the ongoing philosophical conversations and open questions that philosophers have been interested in from ancient times right up to the present day.

The best way to learn philosophy is to actually **do** philosophy, to **be** a philosopher! It is not enough merely to remember or memorize the positions and arguments that different philosophers have put forth in the history of philosophy. Philosophy is a living discipline with open questions about the nature of reality (metaphysics), the nature of knowledge

(epistemology), the nature of right and wrong (ethics), the nature of government (political philosophy), the nature of consciousness (philosophy of mind), and the nature of ourselves and our uniquely human nature, questions that go beyond the questions asked by any other discipline or science.

Even though the history of philosophy shows that philosophers themselves do not easily reach consensus on the answers to various philosophical questions—leading some people to question the value of philosophy itself as a discipline!—philosophy asks some of the most basic and specifically human questions of all, questions that humans have been asking since the dawn of humanity itself, and questions that no other living creature on Earth seems to have the capacity to ask. More than anything else, I want you to walk away from this course not only with a broad exposure to the various philosophical questions and topics that we will be exploring together in the course, but also with a love for philosophy itself, a *philo-philosophia*!

Exposure to philosophy will assist you in countless ways throughout the rest of your academic and professional career:

- Awareness of the philosophical, intellectual, and cultural movements that make up the history of western thought
- Critical reading and writing skills
- Abstract reasoning and critical thinking
- Practical problem-solving skills
- Communicating yourself and the reasons for your ideas and your views clearly—whether verbally or in written form
- Recognizing the connections between philosophical problems and the questions asked by any other discipline or area of interest you may have—academically, professionally, or personally

## Learning Outcomes

### Course Outcomes:

1. At the end of the semester you will have an increased understanding of important theories and concepts in philosophy.
2. At the end of the semester you will have had experience with applying different philosophical approaches to your own understanding of the world.
3. At the end of the semester you will have enhanced your ability to critically assess your own thoughts and motivations, and the thoughts and motivations of others.
4. At the end of the semester you will have an enhanced appreciation of the similarities and differences in how individuals and different cultures have understood their world both historically and today.

**Ways of Knowing Outcomes:**

1. Recognize and describe humanistic, historical, or artistic works within problems and patterns of the human experience.
2. Perceive and understand formal, conceptual, and technical elements specific to philosophy.
3. Analyze, evaluate, and interpret texts, objects, events, or ideas in their cultural, intellectual or historical contexts.
4. Develop critical perspectives or arguments about the subject matter, grounded in evidence-based analysis.

**General Education Outcomes:**

1. Demonstrate effective oral and written communication.
2. Demonstrate the ability to use critical thinking.
3. Be able to find, understand and critically use information.
4. Be able to use technology effectively and appropriately.

## **Instructional Methods**

The vast majority of our time together in-class will be devoted to exploring the various philosophical topics and problems—along with the positions and arguments of the philosophers that make up the content of the course. The course is designed to give you the broadest possible exposure to philosophical topics possible, to help you make connections between philosophy, your own interests, and your future areas of study.

Equally important to the course are ongoing improvements to your verbal and written communication skills. As such, attendance and participation in class discussions are required, making up a nontrivial percentage (10 percent) of your grade for the course. The largest portion of your grade in this course will result from four philosophical essays (20 percent each) that you will compose throughout the course, due on Thursday of Week 4, Week 8, Week 12, and Week 16, respectively. We will devote some time to the nature and requirements of good philosophical writing (even if the vast majority of philosophers in the history of philosophy themselves don't meet those standards!). I expect to see improvement and development in the quality of your philosophical writing and thinking over the course of composing these four papers. The final percentage of your grade for the course will result from your completion of various interactive online assignments, quizzes, and exams within the MindTap online learning platform. (See the registration and access instructions below.)

For any given class session, I have the following expectations:

1. Read the assigned readings for that class session **before** coming to class. Although we will often be walking through the key arguments and important passages from the readings in class, it is up to you to come to class prepared having already read the assigned readings. (It will quickly be evident to me and to your classmates during class discussions if you have not done the assigned readings!) I don't expect you to have a full or complete understanding of the material based on your initial reading, but I do expect you to have done the readings and to come to class prepared to discuss them—especially with your own questions and counterarguments that we can consider during our in-class discussions.
2. Complete the various Aplia/MindTap assignments for a particular topic **before** coming to class. The purpose of the Aplia/MindTap assignments is to help illuminate various aspects of the material for you and to help you in coming to class prepared and with a basic understanding of the material, again in the interest of improving the quality of our in-class discussions.
3. Be respectful and willing to entertain views other than your own, along with the reasons for those views (and your own!). Constructive disagreement and dialogue are at the very heart of philosophy and philosophical discussion. Taking the reasons for views other than your own seriously does not mean you must give up your existing views—but being willing to modify your views based on reasons, evidence, and considering possible objections to your own views is an essential part of academic and intellectual honesty.
4. Come to class on-time so we can start the class promptly at 10:30 AM. I will be taking attendance by means of a sign-in sheet that I will pass around at the beginning of each class session. Print your name legibly on the sign-in sheet so I know you were here on any given day.
5. Your four philosophical essays are due **on paper** at the beginning of class on the due dates listed in the schedule below. Electronic submissions of these four essays are not acceptable except by prior arrangement with me.
6. Note that some readings will be provided to you as a handout. I will distribute handout-based readings to you during the class session immediately prior to the session in which we are scheduled to discuss them. So, again, it is very important to come to class regularly and consistently.

## Required Textbooks

### Main Textbook

Title: *Archetypes of Wisdom: An Introduction to Philosophy*, 9th Edition (with MindTap Printed Access Card)

Author: Douglas J. Soccio

Publisher: Cengage Learning

ISBN: 9781305714991

## **Additional Required Materials**

Title: *Writing Philosophy: A Student's Guide to Reading and Writing Philosophy Essays*

Author: Lewis Vaughn

Publisher: Oxford University Press

ISBN: 978-0190853013

Title: *Five Dialogues: Euthyphro, Apology, Crito, Meno, Phaedo*

Author: Plato, John M. Cooper (editor), G. M. A. Grube (editor)

Publisher: Hackett Publishing Company

ISBN: 9780872206335

Title: *The Meditations*

Author: Marcus Aurelius, G. M. A. Grube (Translator)

Publisher: Hackett Publishing Company

ISBN: 9780915145799

Title: *Discourse on Method and Meditations on First Philosophy, 4th Edition*

Author: René Descartes, Donald A. Cress (Translator)

Publisher: Hackett Publishing Company

ISBN: 9780872204201

Title: *An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding*

Author: David Hume, Eric Steinberg (editor)

Publisher: Hackett Publishing Company

ISBN: 9780872202290

Title: *Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics*

Author: Immanuel Kant, James W. Ellington (translator)

Publisher: Hackett Publishing Company

ISBN: 9780872205932

Title: *Existentialism is a Humanism*

Author: Jean-Paul Sartre, Carol Macomber (translator)

Publisher: Yale University Press

ISBN: 9780300115468

Title: *Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals*

Author: Immanuel Kant, James W. Ellington (translator)

Publisher: Hackett Publishing Company

ISBN: 9780872201668

Title: *Simulations*  
Author: Jean Baudrillard  
Publisher: Semiotext(e)  
ISBN: 9780936756028

Title: *Walden; Or, Life in the Woods*  
Author: Henry David Thoreau  
Publisher: Dover Publications  
ISBN: 9780486284958

## Technology

This course requires MindTap from Cengage. Mindtap is available for purchase on its own, or through [Cengage Unlimited](#), a subscription that gives you access to all your Cengage access codes and online textbooks for \$119.99 per term, \$179.99 per year or \$239.99 for two years. No matter how many Cengage products you use, they are included in Cengage Unlimited at no additional cost.

Prefer print? You also get a textbook rental with your activation through Cengage Unlimited for \$7.99 + free shipping and the option to purchase a loose-leaf version of your textbook, which you can keep. Cengage Unlimited is available in the bookstore or at [cengage.com/unlimited](https://www.cengage.com/unlimited).

## Getting Registered

To access your course materials and explore Cengage Unlimited, visit <https://www.cengage.com/dashboard/#/course-confirmation/MTPP6WRNLG6C/initial-course-confirmation> and create or log in with your Cengage account.

For step-by-step help on getting started, check out our helpful training video and instructions at [cengage.com/start-strong](https://www.cengage.com/start-strong). Just select that you're using MindTap and that you're not using an LMS.

Once you've registered, view this [tutorial video](#) to see how to access and obtain your print options that come with your MindTap course.

1. Go to [GetEnrolled.com](https://www.cengage.com/get-enrolled)
2. Enter this Course Key: **MTPP6WRNLG6C**
3. Follow the on-screen instructions to complete your MindTap registration.

## Grading and Assignments

As discussed above, your final grade in this course will be a result of the following components:

- Paper #1: 20%
- Paper #2: 20%
- Paper #3: 20%
- Paper #4: 20%
- Attendance: 10%
- Aplia/MindTap Assignments, Quizzes, and Exams: 10%
- **Note:** I will provide one or more opportunities for extra credit, to be announced, although you should not rely on extra credit for your grade in the course!

## Grading Scale

A	95–100	Outstanding performance
A-	90–94	Superior
B+	87–89	Excellent
B	85–86	Very good
B-	80–84	Good
C+	77–79	Better than satisfactory
C	75–76	Satisfactory
C-	70–74	Below Satisfactory
D+	67–69	May not pass requirements
D	66–65	May not pass requirements
D-	64–60	May not pass requirements
F	0–59	Not passing
I		Incomplete
W		Withdrawal (See CEI Policy)

## CEI Policies

### Important Enrollment Deadlines

- **First Week of Each Term:** Mandatory attendance: students need to be in attendance to meet financial aid requirements.
- **Friday of second week:** Any student who does not attend any of his or her classes during the first 2 weeks will be withdrawn from all courses and receive a “W” grade.
- **5pm Friday 10/28/2019:** Last day to drop with a W for withdrawal. No failing grade on transcript.

## **Final Exam Policy**

Please note that rescheduling exams—if available—is only allowed in specific circumstances and requires advanced planning.

## **Permanent College Transcript**

The grade you receive in this class will be recorded on your permanent college transcript and will follow you throughout your college career. This grade can only be overridden by paying full tuition and retaking this same course.

## **Students Rights and Responsibilities**

All CEI students should review policies that relate to student rights and responsibilities.

## **Americans with Disabilities Statement**

Students with documented disabilities who may need accommodations, who have any emergency medical information the instructor should know of, or who need special arrangements in the event of evacuation, should make an appointment with Disabilities Services as early as possible. The instructor should be notified of accommodations no later than the first week of the term. Students may also wish to contact the CEI Disability Services at 535-5314; <http://www.cei.edu/dsr>

## **CEI Non-Discrimination Policy**

The goal of the College of Eastern Idaho Community College is to provide an atmosphere that encourages our faculty, staff and students to realize their full potential. In support of this goal, it is the policy of the CEI that there will be no discrimination or harassment on the basis of age, disability, sex, marital status, national origin, ethnicity, color, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, citizenship status, veteran status or any other classes protected under Federal and State statutes in any education program, activities or employment. Persons having questions about equal opportunity and non-discrimination should refer to the website or catalog.

## **Title IX Statement**

Title IX protects people from discrimination based on sex in education programs and activities. This includes conduct such as: gender discrimination (includes males, females, transgender, gender identity, etc.), sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, intimate partner/relationship violence, bullying and cyberbullying, retaliation, the failure to provide equal opportunity in



athletics and discrimination based on pregnancy. Persons having questions about Title IX should contact Title IX Coordinator.

## **Student Code of Conduct**

The student is expected to follow the CEI Student code of conduct found in the catalog.

## **General Education Statement**

This course may fulfill the requirement for the General Education at the College of Eastern Idaho. It is designed not only to teach information and skills required by the discipline, but also to develop vital workplace skills and to teach strategies and skills that can be used for life-long learning. General Education courses teach basic skills as well as broaden a student's knowledge of a wide range of subjects. Education is much more than an acquisition of facts; it is being able to use information in meaningful ways in order to enrich one's life.

## **Basic Needs Security Statement**

Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to contact the Center for New Directions for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable him to recommend or provide any resources that he may have available.

# Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments

## Week 1

### Tuesday 8/20—First Day of Class

- Topic: What Is Philosophy?
- Review syllabus
- Purchase textbooks

### Thursday 8/22

- Topic: Presocratic Philosophy
- Readings:
  - Soccio: Introduction
  - Soccio: Overview of Classical Themes
  - Soccio, Chapter 2: The Presocratic Sophos
  - Soccio, Chapter 3: The Sophist: Protagoras
- Assignments Due: MindTap

## Week 2

### Tuesday 8/27

- Topic: Socrates, Part 1
- Readings:
  - Soccio, Chapter 4: The Wise Man: Socrates
  - Plato, *Five Dialogues*: Euthyphro
  - Plato, *Five Dialogues*: Apology
- Assignments Due: MindTap

### Thursday 8/29

- Topic: Socrates, Part 2
- Readings:
  - Review Soccio, Chapter 4: The Wise Man Socrates
  - Plato, *Five Dialogues*: Crito
  - Plato, *Five Dialogues*: Phaedo
- Assignments Due: None

## Week 3

### Tuesday 9/3

- Topic: Plato
- Readings:
  - Soccio, Chapter 5: The Philosopher-King: Plato
  - Plato, *Republic* (Handout)
- Assignments Due: MindTap

**Thursday 9/5: No Class! (Prior Commitment)**

**Week 4**

**Tuesday 9/10**

- Topic: Aristotle
- Readings
  - Soccio, Chapter 6: The Naturalist: Aristotle
  - Aristotle, *Posterior Analytics* (Handout)
- Assignments Due: MindTap

**Thursday 9/12**

- Topic: The Stoics
- Readings:
  - Soccio, Chapter 7: The Stoics: Epictetus and Marcus Aurelius
  - Marcus Aurelius, *Meditations*
  - Seneca, *Letters from a Stoic* (Handout)
- Assignments Due: MindTap, Paper #1

**Week 5**

**Tuesday 9/17**

- Topic: Medieval Philosophy
- Readings:
  - Soccio, Chapter 8: The Scholar: Thomas Aquinas
  - Solomon, *The Big Questions*, Chapter 3: God (Handout)
- Assignments Due: MindTap

**Thursday 9/19**

- Topic: Modern Philosophy, Part 1: Origins of Modern Philosophy; Continental Rationalism
- Readings:
  - Soccio: Overview of Modern Themes
  - Soccio, Chapter 9: The Rationalist: René Descartes
  - Descartes, *Meditations on First Philosophy*
  - Clayton, *The Problem of God in Modern Thought*, Chapter 2:
- Assignments Due: MindTap

**Week 6**

**Tuesday 9/24**

- Topic: Modern Philosophy, Part 2: British Empiricism
- Readings:
  - Soccio, Chapter 10: The Skeptic: David Hume
  - Hume, *An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding*, I–VII
- Assignments Due: MindTap

**Thursday 9/26**

- Topic: Kant
- Readings:
  - Soccio, Chapter 11: The Universalist: Kant
  - Kant, *Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics*
- Assignments Due: MindTap

**Week 7****Tuesday 10/1**

- Topic: Nietzsche
- Readings:
  - Soccio, Chapter 16: The Anti-Philosopher: Friedrich Nietzsche
  - Nietzsche, *On Truth and Lies in a Nonmoral Sense* (Handout)
  - Nietzsche, *The Gay Science* (Handout)
- Assignments Due: MindTap

**Thursday 10/3**

- Foucault
- Readings:
  - No Soccio Reading!
  - Foucault, *Power/Knowledge* (Handout)
  - Foucault, *The Archaeology of Knowledge* (Handout)
- Assignments Due: None

**Week 8****Tuesday 10/8**

- Topic: Wittgenstein
- Readings:
  - Soccio, Chapter 17: The Twentieth Century: Ludwig Wittgenstein and Martin Heidegger
  - Wittgenstein, *Philosophical Investigations* (Handout)
  - Wittgenstein, *On Certainty* (Handout)
- Assignments Due: MindTap

**Thursday 10/10**

- Topic: Heidegger
- Readings:
  - Soccio, Chapter 17: The Twentieth Century: Ludwig Wittgenstein and Martin Heidegger
  - Heidegger, *Being and Time* (Handout)
- Assignments Due: MindTap, Paper #2

**Week 9****Tuesday 10/15**

- Topic: Existentialism, Part 1: Kierkegaard and Camus
- Readings:
  - Soccio, Chapter 14: The Existentialist: Søren Kierkegaard
  - Camus, *The Myth of Sisyphus* (Handout)
- Assignments Due: MindTap

**Thursday 10/17**

- Topic: Existentialism, Part 2: Sartre
- Readings:
  - Soccio, Chapter 18: Philosophy as a Way of Life
  - Sartre, *Existentialism is a Humanism*
- Assignments Due: MindTap

**Week 10**

**Tuesday 10/22**

- Topic: Moral Philosophy, Part 1: Virtue Ethics
- Reading:
  - Review Soccio, Chapter 6: Aristotle
  - Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics* (Handout)
  - Assignments Due: None

**Thursday 10/24**

- Topic: Moral Philosophy, Part 2: Deontological / Rule-Based Ethics
  - Review Soccio, Chapter 11: The Universalist: Immanuel Kant
  - Kant, *Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals*
  - Assignments Due: None

**Week 11**

**Tuesday 10/29**

- Topic: Moral Philosophy, Part 3: Consequentialism / Utilitarianism
- Readings:
  - Soccio, Chapter 12: The Utilitarian: John Stuart Mill
  - Singer, *Animal Liberation* (Handout)
- Assignments Due: MindTap

**Thursday 10/31**

- Topic: Postmodernism
- Readings:
  - No Soccio Reading!
  - Lyotard, *The Postmodern Condition* (Handout)
  - Baudrillard, *Simulations*
- Assignments Due: None

**Week 12**

**Tuesday 11/5**

- Topic: Theories of Truth
- Readings:
  - No Soccio Reading!
  - Solomon, *The Big Questions*, Chapter 5, The Search for Truth (Handout)
- Assignments Due: None

**Thursday 11/7**

- Topic: Political Philosophy: The State of Nature
- Readings:
  - No Soccio Reading!
  - Locke, *Second Treatise of Government* (Handout)
  - Hobbes, *Leviathan* (Handout)
- Assignments Due: Paper #3

**Week 13****Tuesday 11/12**

- Topic: Political Philosophy: Marx
- Readings:
  - Soccio, Chapter 13: The Materialist: Karl Marx
- Assignments Due: MindTap

**Thursday 11/14**

- Topic: Transcendentalism - Thoreau
- Readings:
  - Thoreau, *Walden*
  - Thoreau, *Walking* (Handout)
- Assignments Due: None

**Week 14****Tuesday 11/19**

- Topic: The Mind and Consciousness, Part 1: Dualism (Revisited)
- Readings:
  - Soccio, Chapter 9: The Rationalist: René Descartes
  - Descartes, *Meditations on First Philosophy*, Meditation VI
  - Chalmers, *Zombies on the Web*: <http://consc.net/zombies-on-the-web/>
- Assignments Due: None

**Thursday 11/21**

- Topic: The Mind and Consciousness, Part 2: Materialist Theories of Consciousness
- Readings (Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy):
  - **Identity Theory**: <https://www.iep.utm.edu/identity/>
  - **Functionalism**: <https://www.iep.utm.edu/functionalism/>
  - **Behaviorism**: <https://www.iep.utm.edu/behavior/>
- Assignments Due: None

## Week 15

### Tuesday 11/26

- Topic: The Mind, Part 3: Non-Reductive Physicalism and Emergence
- Readings:
  - Mind and the Causal Exclusion Problem: <https://www.iep.utm.edu/causal-e/>
  - Clayton, *Mind and Emergence* (Handout)
- Assignments Due: None

**Thursday 11/28: Thanksgiving Day; No Class!**

## Week 16

### Tuesday 12/3

- Topic: Free Will and Determinism
- Readings:
  - Solomon, *The Big Questions*, Chapter 7: Freedom (Handout)
- Assignments Due: None

### Thursday 12/5

- Topic: Last Day of Class—Takeaways
- Readings: None
- Assignments Due: Paper #4