**Philosophy 203 Lec01, LecCVM, LecCVW**
**Philosophy**
**Spring 2021**

**Class Time and Location**: Monday and Wednesday from 12:30p.m. – 1:45 p.m.; O.C.

**Instructor**: Robby Burt
B.A., Speech/Theatre Education, Northeastern State Univ., Tahlequah, OK, 1988.
M.A., Speech/Theatre, Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, Louisiana, 1990.
ABD, Theatre/Fine Arts, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, 2000-2006.
**Office Location**: Room 234, Spencer Hall
**Office hours**: Posted on office door and the last page of the syllabus
**Office Phone:** (479)394-7622, Ext. 1338 E-mail: rburt@uarichmountain.edu

**Prerequisite:** None

**Resources**: **Textbook**: *Philosophy: A Text with Readings*, by Manuel Velasquez, 11th ed.
ISBN-13: 978-0-495-80875-6
Scantrons will be needed for four tests.
Student e-mail will need to be checked on a regular basis.
Moodle: Don't rely on Moodle to average your grade.

**Course Description:** This humanities course is designed to acquaint the student with the philosophical, political, economical, aesthetic, and religious ideas which have been influential in the history of western culture from the ancient Greeks to the present. This course requires at least one paper using a documentation format. (ACTS: PHIL 1103) (Offered fall and spring semester)

**Program Outcomes for the AA, AS, and AGS degrees:**

Students will increase their:
*writing, reading, speaking, and listening skills
*competency in mathematics, utilizing their analytical and occupational skills to solve real life problems
*understanding of different cultures and societies across the globe and how both have changed over time
*understanding of basic principles and their application in the field of physical sciences and biological sciences
*technological and research skills

**Rationale:** The program outcome will be achieved through delving into three major components of philosophy as covered in the text, which include: epistemology metaphysics, and ethics.

**Course Objectives**: Upon successful completion of Philosophy 203, the student should be able to do the following:

1. The students should be able to examine philosophical arguments.
   Components:
   - Material comprehension
   - Context to humanity
   - Personal context
2. The students should be able to distinguish the writings of philosophers and their philosophy.
   Components:
   - Material comprehension
   - Historical context
   - Context to the student
3. The students should be able to locate research material.
   Components:
   - Credible material
   - Validity of citation
   - Proof by Documentation
4. The student should be able to write a research paper.
   Components:
   - Grammar
   - Clarity
   - Formatting
   - Topic insight
5. The students should be able to state their position on philosophical arguments.
   Components:
   - Material comprehension
   - Synthesize ideas
   - Distinguish argument/counter argument

**General Expected Learning Outcomes**

*Expand critical thinking skills * Sharpen analytical skills

*Lean to apply logic to any problem * Diversity awareness

*Learn how to think about the big problem by deconstructing and looking at details.

**Topical Outline/Course Schedule** (Discussion pt. days are underlined)

| Ch. # | Title | Date | Quiz # |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Syllabus | Mon 1-11 | Syllabi |
| 1.1 | What is Philosophy? | Wed 1-13 | Quiz 1 |
| 1.2 | Traditional Divisions of Philosophy | W 1-13 | Quiz 1 |
| 1.3 | A Philosopher in Action: Socrates | W 1-13 | Quiz 1 |
| 1.4 | The Value of Philosophy | W 1-13 | Quiz 1 |
| 1.5 | Historical Showcase: The 1st Philosophers | W 1-13 | Quiz 1 |
| 1.6 | Reading over Voltaire | W 1-13 | Quiz 1 |
| 2.1 | Why Does Your View of Human Nature Matter? | M 1-18 | Quiz 2 |
| 2.2 | What is Human Nature? | M 1-18 | Quiz 2 |
| 2.3 | Mind-Body Problem: How Do Mind & Body Relate? | W 1-20 | Quiz 3 |
| | Read John Searle on Page 129 | | |
| | Read Garrett J. Deweese on 127 | | |
| 2.4 | Is There an Enduring Self? | M 1-25 | Quiz 4 |
| 2.6 | Historical Showcase: Plato, Aristotle, &….. | M 1-25 | Quiz 4 |
| 2.5 | Are We Independent & Self-Sufficient? | W 1-27 | Quiz 5 |
| 3.1 | What is Real? *(Library)* | M 2-1 | Quiz 6 |
| 3.2 | Reality: Material or Nonmaterial? | M 2-1 | Quiz 6 |
| 3.3 | Reality in Pragmatism | | Read for Test |
| 3.4 | Reality in Logical Positivism | | Read for Test |
| 3.5 | Antirealism: The Heir of Pragmatism &… | | Read for Test |
| 3.6 | Encountering Reality: Phenomenology&… | W 2-3 | Quiz 7 |
| **Test 1** | **Monday, February 8 (Chapters 1.1 - 3.6)** | | |
| 3.7 | Is Freedom Real? | W 2-10 | Quiz 8 |
| **Winter Break on Monday, February 15** | | | |
| 3.8 | Is Time Real? 5B | W 2-17 | Quiz 9 |
| 3.9 | Historical Showcase: Hobbes & Berkeley | W 2-17 | Quiz 9 |
| 3.10 | Readings | W 2-17 | Quiz 9 |
| | Watch 5B | M 2-22 | |
| 7.1 | What is Ethics? | M 2-22 | No Quiz |
| 7.2 | Is Ethics Relative? | M 2-22 | No Quiz |
| 7.3 | Do Consequences Make an Action Right? | M 2-22 | No Quiz |
| | Read Peter Singer page 512 | | |
| | Read Peter Singer page 514 | | |
| 7.4 | Do Rules Define Morality | M 2-22 | No Quiz |

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|---|---|---|---|
| 7.5 | Is Ethics Based on Character? | W 2-24 | Quiz 10 |
| 7.6 | Can Ethics.. Moral Quandaries? | M 3-1 | Quiz 11 |
| 7.7 | Ethics and Moral Responsibility (Suicide Tourist) | W 3-3 | Quiz 12 |
| 7.8 | Historical Showcase: Nietzsche & Wol…. | W 3-3 | Quiz 12 |

**TEST 2 Monday, March 8 (Chapters 3.7--3.10 & 7.1--7.8) (Finish Suicide Tourist)**

*Research in class due with in-class writing* *W 3-10*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 8.1 | What is Social & Political Philosophy? | M 3-15 | Quiz 13 |
| 8.2 | What Justifies the State? | M 3-15 | Quiz 13 |
| 8.3 | What is Justice? | W 3-17 | Quiz 14 |
| 8.4 | Limits on the State | W 3-17 | Quiz 14 |

**Spring Break: March 22 - 26**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Handout | What is Art | M 3-29 | Quiz 15 |
| 9.1 | Does Life Have Meaning *Paper Due* | W 3-31 | Quiz 16 |
| 9.2 | The Theistic Response to Meaning | W 3-31 | Quiz 16 |
| 9.3 | Meaning and Human Progress | W 3-31 | Quiz 16 |
| 9.4 | The Nihilist Rejection of Meaning | W 3-31 | Quiz 16 |
| 9.5 | Meaning as a Self-Chosen Commitment | W 3-31 | Quiz 16 |
| 4.1 | The Significance of Religion | M 4-5 | Quiz 17 |
| 4.2 | Does God Exist? | M 4-5 | Quiz 17 |
| 4.3 | Atheism, Agnosticism, and the Problem of.. | M 4-5 | Quiz 17 |
| 4.4 | Traditional Religious Belief and Experience | W 4-7 | Quiz 18 |
| 4.5 | Nontraditional Religious Experience | W 4-7 | Quiz 18 |
| 4.6 | Historical Showcase: Aquinas… | W 4-7 | Read for Test |
| 4.7 | Readings | W 4-7 | Read for Test |

**TEST 3 Monday, April 12 (Art + Chapters 9.1 –9.5 &4.1—4.7)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 5.1 | Why is Knowledge of Problem? | W 4-14 | Quiz 19 |
| 5.2 | Is Reason the Source of our Knowledge? | W 4-14 | Quiz 19 |
| 5.3 | Can the Senses Account for Knowledge? | M 4-19 | Quiz 20 |
| | Makeup Quiz (Ch. 5.4) Quiz 21 | W 4-21 | Makeup Quiz |
| 5.4 | Kant: Does the Knowing Shape the World? | W 4-21 | |
| 6.4 | Can Interpretations be True? | M 4-26 | |
| 5.5 | Does Science Give Us Knowledge? | W 4-28 | |
| | Review for Final | W 4-28 | |
| 6.2 | What is Truth? | On Final Test Study Guide | |
| 6.3 | Does Science Give Us Truth? Study Final | On Final Test Study Guide | |

**TEST 4 during finals week (Chapters 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 6.4, 5.5, 6.2 & 6.3)**

**Course Conduct**

This course is conducted through lecture, discussion, in-class writing, and will contain quizzes to be completed in Moodle. It is to the advantage of each student to be present at each class meeting and to be prepared for discussion and writing assignments in class.

**UA Rich Mountain Credit Hour Calculator**

For every course credit hour, you should expect to spend at least three clock hours per week of concentrated attention on course-related work, including but not limited to time attending class, as well as out-of-class time spent reading, reviewing, organizing notes, preparing for upcoming quizzes/exams, problem solving, developing and completing homework, and other activities that enhance learning. For a three hour course, a typical student should expect to spend at least nine hours per week dedicated to the course. This includes time spent in class.

**Course Requirements/Student Evaluation**

**Tests**

There will be four exams given during the semester. Each exam will be worth 85 points.

| | |
|---|---|
| Test 1 will be held on February 8 | **85 pts.** |
| Test 2 will be held on March 8 | **85 pts.** |
| Test 3 will be held on April 12 | **85 pts.** |
| Test 4 will be held during finals week | **85 pts.** |

Tests are to be taken in the classroom with the instructor present.

**Philosophy Paper** **110 pts.**

The student will write a complete four-page research paper; topics listed below. The works cited page will be page five. (One student per topic and post your pick in the Moodle sign-up). March 31 is the deadline for submission; 10 pts. per day late fee after the deadline. This paper will be presented in 12 pt. size type, double spaced, and in MLA format. The student is required to find scholarly material to use as research. After submission, I will let you know if the paper needs to be reworked for a higher grade if it meets the deadline. The thesis of the paper should explain the main ideas you will address in the paper. The student will explore the philosophical arguments of a certain philosopher with an intro, a section dealing with their arguments, and another section going into counterarguments. OR- The controversial topic should have an intro section, a section that explains the arguments for and another section that contains arguments against; these arguments are made by philosophers. The student will be allowed their personal opinion at the end of the paper. Submit the research paper in Moodle.

The criteria for the paper will consist of the following: original thought, thorough coverage and understanding of the material, grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, and insight into the topic. Paper without works cited page or complete in-text citation will be given the grade of 0. ***If the paper seems to contain plagiarism or has been copied and sent through online text augmentation it will be necessary for the student to supply copies of all source material.***

**Research points** **40 pts.**

One book from the UA Rich Mountain library (5 pts.)
One quote from our text (5 pts.)
At least three articles from the library database such as Proquest (15 pts.)
One e-book source like Proquest (5 pts.)
One online scholarly site that is an education site (.edu) (10 pts.)

All research can be attached in Moodle or handed in to Mr. Burt during class on March 10. Students will need to make a copy of the citation by making a copy of the text that shows the following information: author, title, publisher, and date of publication. Please see me during the first two weeks if you do not understand how to find this information. Research will not be taken after March 14, 10 pts. per day late fee.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Simone de Beauvoir | Georg W. Hegel | Human Cloning | Philosophical Anarchism |
| Affirmative Action | Animal Rights | Political Obligation | Theories of Punishment |
| George Dickie | Assisted Suicide | Jose Vasconcelos | Cornel West |
| Anthony Savile | George Santayana | Robert Nozick | 3rd Wave Feminism |
| Wilhelm Dilthey | F. Schleiermacher | Samuel Ramos | Bell Hooks |
| Artificial Intelligence | Civil Disobedience | Colonialism | Arne Naess |
| Blank Slate | Consciousness | Ayn Rand | St. Thomas Aquinas |
| Turing Test | John Rawls | Environmental Ethics | Averroes |
| Hypatia | Hannah Arendt | Iris Murdoch | Damaris Cudworth Masham |
| Vine Deloria Jr. | Plutarch | Voltaire | Adam Smith |

**In-Class Writing** **90 pts.**

There will be approximately 4-5 in-class writing assignment throughout the semester, the total of 90 points is available. The student will have to be in-class on the day of the writing assignment to complete the work. It is important for the student to peruse the required text reading for each class. The student will be graded on the following:
original thought, thorough coverage and understanding of the material, grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, and insight into the topic.

**Quizzes** **300 pts.**

There will be twenty quizzes during the semester and each quiz is worth 15 points to equal a grand total of 300 points. The quiz schedule is listed on the third and fourth pages of the syllabus, and deadlines can also be found in Moodle. Quiz 21 is a make-up quiz and will take the place of the lowest quiz grade. Quizzes will not be reopened after the deadline. The study guide for quizzes can be found in Moodle; most questions will be in the study guide.

**Discussion/Participation Points** **120 points**

Each student will earn 6 points for taking an active part in class discussion/participation. Page three and four of the syllabi show the classes that will engage in discussion. There are twenty discussion days that divide the 120 points into 6 points per discussion day. The designated dates will have the specific date underlined. If the student chooses not to take part in the class discussion the student will receive zero discussion points for the day. Any student that is tardy, leaves class early, or is not present for discussion will not receive discussion/participation points for the day. **However**, the student can fulfill the assignment by posting a discussion response to the question prompt in Moodle. Six complete lines of text that directly answers the question will be accepted in lieu of verbal in-class discussion. The post is due at midnight of the corresponding class discussion. No posts will be accepted after the deadline.

**Total Points Available 1,000 pts**

Breakdown of Points

| | |
|---|---|
| Test 1 | 85 points |
| Test 2 | 85 points |
| Test 3 | 85 points |
| Test 4 | 85 points |
| In-class writing | 90 points |
| Final Paper | 110 points |
| Paper research | 40 points |
| Quizzes | 300 points |
| Discussion | 120 points |

**1,000 Total Points**

**Grading Scale**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 900 – 1,000 pts. | "A" | 90 – 100% | Excellent |
| 800 – 899.9 pts. | "B" | 80 – 89.9% | Above average |
| 700 – 799.9 pts. | "C" | 70 – 79.9% | Average |
| 600 – 699.9 pts. | "D" | 60 – 69.9 % | Below average |
| Below 600 | "F" | Below 60% | Failing |

## Class Procedures/Student Requirements

**Course Attendance/Tardy**

It is mandatory that the student attend classes. Any student with a total of nine absences will automatically receive the grade of "F" for the semester. The student missing two classes out of the first four meetings will be dropped from the roster. The student tardy to class may miss a discussion, a writing assignment, a test, or not have the amount of allotted time to complete the assignment. The student is expected to be in class for the entire duration of the period. A seating chart will be used during the semester.

**Cell Phone Use**

Do not use cell phones or devices during class time. Turn off and put away cell phones and devices so they do not become a distraction to you, the instructor, and other students. Failure to comply will result in handing your device over to the instructor and not receive in-class discussion points. OR, be asked to leave the classroom without completing assignments.

**Semester Calendar**

We will follow the UA Rich Mountain schedule/calendar for breaks, testing, and weather days.

**Inclement Weather Procedure**

Listen to local radio and TV stations for UA Rich Mountain to be closed due to inclement weather. If a test is assigned for the day the college is closed, your instructor will make adjustments and announce the make-up process the next time the class meets. You can also go to the campus website for this information. Log on to www.uarichmountain.edu

**UA Rich Mountain Guidelines**

It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with the guidelines set up for this class as well as the guidelines pertaining to UA Rich Mountain. UA Rich Mountain guidelines can be found in the current UA Rich Mountain catalogue, and/or the student handbook.

**Academic Dishonesty Policy**

Cheating on an exam or quiz will result in the grade of "F" for that assignment. Plagiarism for the research paper will result in the grade of "F" for the class. Any student that is caught cheating will be directed to the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

**Face Mask Policy:** As per the Executive Order from the governor of Arkansas, all students are required to wear a proper face covering that completely covers the nose and mouth while on campus and in class. Masks with holes or masks that do not completely cover nose and mouth

are not acceptable. Any student that does not have a proper mask will leave class and be referred to the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs for possible disciplinary action.

**Food and Drink:** Food and drinks, including water are not allowed in the classroom at any time.

**Disability Policy**

It is the policy of UA Rich Mountain to accommodate students with disabilities, pursuant to state and federal law. Any student with a disability who needs accommodations (for example: in seating placement, examinations, or access to information), should contact the Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Office, 394-7622 ext. 1460.

**Arkansas Clean Air Act**

In compliance with the Arkansas Clean Air Act, UA Rich Mountain is a smoke and tobacco free facility. Students and guests are to refrain from the use of all tobacco products while on campus.

**Student Misconduct**

Students committing misconduct are subject to disciplinary sanction(s) and or restrictions. Misconduct or prohibited behavior includes, but is not limited to endangerment, harassment, disruption, sexual misconduct, dishonesty, illegal drugs and/or alcohol, fire or safety issues, gambling, property violations, computer violations or other violations as listed in detail in the UA Rich Mountain catalog.

**UA Rich Mountain Mission**

UA Rich Mountain provides transformative education to all learners.

**Campus Security**

UA Rich Mountain strives to provide a safe learning environment; therefore, students who know of any security risk are asked to contact a college official. http://www.uarichmountain.edu/at-a-glance/disclosures

**OFFICE SCHEDULE: 2021 Spring SEMESTER INSTRUCTOR Robby Burt**

| TIME | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATUR |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 06:00-06:30 | | | | | | |
| 06:30-07:00 | | | | | | |
| 07:00-07:30 | | | | | | |
| 07:30-08:00 | | | | | | |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 08:00-08:30 | Oral Com | | Oral Com | | Office | |
| 08:30-09:00 | Oral Com | | Oral Com | | Office | |
| 09:00-09:30 | Com to 9:20 Office | | Oral Com to 9:20 Office | | Office | |
| 09:30-10:00 | Office | Oral Com | Office | Oral Com | Office | |
| 10:00-10:30 | Office | Oral Com | Office | Oral Com | Office | |
| 10:30-11:00 | Office | Oral Com to 10:50 Art Online | Office | Oral Com to 10:50 Office | Office | |
| 11:00-11:30 | Theatre | Art Online | Theatre | Office | Office | |
| 11:30-12:00 | Theatre | Office | Theatre | Office | Office | |
| 12:00-12:30 | THTR to 12:20 Office | Office | THRT to 12:20 Office | Office | Office | |
| 12:30-01:00 | Philosophy | Music | Philosophy | Music | Office | |
| 01:00-01:30 | Philosophy | Music | Philosophy | Music | Office | |
| 01:30-02:00 | Philosophy to 1:50 | Music to 1:50 Office | Philosophy to 1:50 Office | Music to 1:50 Office | Office | |
| 02:00-02:30 | | Office to 2:05 | Office | Office to 2:05 | | |
| 02:30-03:00 | | | Office | | | |
| 03:00-03:30 | | | Office | | | |
| 03:30-04:00 | | | Office | | | |
| 04:00-04:30 | | | Art Online | | | |
| 04:30-05:00 | | | Art Online | | | |
| 05:00-05:30 | | | Art Online | | | |
| 05:30-06:00 | | | Art Online | | | |
| 06:00-06:30 | | | | | | |
| 06:30-07:00 | | | | | | |
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