Philosophy 203 IN01

Philosophy

Spring 2023

Class Time and Location: Online

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
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Prerequisite: None

Resources: **Textbook**: *Philosophy: A Text with Readings*, by Manuel Velasquez, 11th ed.
ISBN-13: 978-0-495-80875-6 (Bring your text to class)
Submit work through Word document, don't attach to Google docs
Student e-mail will need to be checked on a regular basis.
Blackboard: Don't rely on Blackboard to average your grade.

Course Description: This humanities course is designed to acquaint the student with the philosophical, political, economic, 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 1-18	Syllabi
1.1	What is Philosophy?	Mon 23	Quiz 1
1.2	Traditional Divisions of Philosophy	M 1-23	Quiz 1
1.3	A Philosopher in Action: Socrates	M 1-23	Quiz 1
1.4	The Value of Philosophy	M 1-23	Quiz 1
1.5	Historical Showcase: The 1st Philosophers	M 1-23	Quiz 1
1.6	Reading over Voltaire	M 1-23	Quiz 1
2.1	Why Does Your View of Human Nature Matter?	W 1-25	Quiz 2
2.2	What is Human Nature?	W 1-25	Quiz 2
2.3	Mind-Body Problem: How Do Mind & Body Relate?	M 1-30	Quiz 3
	Read John Searle on Page 129		
	Read Garrett J. Deweese on 127		
2.4	Is There an Enduring Self?	W 2-1	Quiz 4
2.6	Historical Showcase: Plato, Aristotle, &…..	W 2-1	Quiz 4
2.5	Are We Independent & Self-Sufficient?	M 2-6	Quiz 5
3.1	What is Real?	W 2-8	Quiz 6
3.2	Reality: Material or Nonmaterial?	W 2-8	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&…	M 2-13	Quiz 7
Test 1	**Wednesday, February 15 or 16 with proctor (Chapters 1.1 - 3.6)**		
3.7	Is Freedom Real?	W 2-22	Quiz 8
3.8	Is Time Real? (Start Suicide Tourist)	M 2-27	Quiz 9
3.9	Historical Showcase: Hobbes & Berkeley	M 2-27	Quiz 9
3.10	Readings	M 2-27	Quiz 9
	Watch **Opioids, Inc.**	W 3-1	
7.1	What is Ethics?	W 3-1	No Quiz
7.2	Is Ethics Relative?	W 3-1	No Quiz
7.3	Do Consequences Make an Action Right?	W 3-1	No Quiz
	Read Peter Singer page 512		
	Read Peter Singer page 514		

7.4	Do Rules Define Morality	M 3-6	No Quiz
	Opioids, Inc. writing & quiz	M 3-6	
7.5	Is Ethics Based on Character?	W 3-8	Quiz 10
7.6	Can Ethics.. Moral Quandaries? (Crucible Essay)	M 3-13	Quiz 11
7.7	Ethics & Moral Responsibility (Watch Suicide Tour)	W 3-15	Quiz 12
7.8	Historical Showcase: Nietzsche & Wol….	W 3-15	Quiz 12

TEST 2 March 27-28 (Chapters 3.7--3.10 & 7.1--7.8)

	Research due	*3-29*	
8.1	What is Social & Political Philosophy?	W 3-29	Quiz 13
8.2	What Justifies the State?	W 3-29	Quiz 13
8.3	What is Justice?	M 4-3	Quiz 14
8.4	Limits on the State	M 4-3	Quiz 14
Handout	What is Art	W 4-5	Quiz 15
9.1	Does Life Have Meaning	M 4-10	Quiz 16
9.2	The Theistic Response to Meaning	M 4-10	Quiz 16
9.3	Meaning and Human Progress	M 4-10	Quiz 16
9.4	The Nihilist Rejection of Meaning	M 4-10	Quiz 16
9.5	Meaning as a Self-Chosen Commitment	M 4-10	Quiz 16

Philosophy research papers are due on April 10 at midnight in Blackboard

4.1	The Significance of Religion	W 4-12	Quiz 17
4.2	Does God Exist?	W 4-12	Quiz 17
4.3	Atheism, Agnosticism, and the Problem of..	W 4-12	Quiz 17
4.4	Traditional Religious Belief and Experience	M 4-17	Quiz 18
4.5	Nontraditional Religious Experience	M 4-17	Quiz 18
4.6	Historical Showcase: Aquinas…	M 4-17	Read for Test
4.7	Readings	M 4-17	Read for Test

TEST 3 April 19-20 with proctor (Art + Chapters 9.1 –9.5 &4.1—4.7)

5.1	Why is Knowledge of Problem?	M 4-24	Quiz 19
5.2	Is Reason the Source of our Knowledge?	M 4-24	Quiz 19
5.3	Can the Senses Account for Knowledge?	W 4-26	Quiz 20
	Makeup Quiz (Ch. 5.4) Quiz 21	M 5-1	Makeup Quiz
5.4	Kant: Does the Knowing Shape the World?	M 5-1	
6.4	Can Interpretations be True?	W 5-3	
5.5	Does Science Give Us Knowledge?	On Final Test Study Guide	
6.2	What is Truth?	On Final Test Study Guide	
6.3	Does Science Give Us Truth?	On Final Test Study Guide	

TEST 4 May 7-8 (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 Blackboard. 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	**85 pts. with proctor**
Test 2	**85 pts. no proctor**
Test 3	**85 pts. with proctor**
Test 4	**85 pts. no proctor**

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

Philosophy Paper **110 pts.**

The student will write a complete three-page research paper; topics listed below. The works cited page will be page four. (One student per topic and post your pick in the Blackboard sign-up). April 10 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. 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 opinion at the end of the paper, limit to ½ page. Submit the research paper in Blackboard.

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 contains plagiarism or has been copied and sent through online text augmentation the grade of "F" will be assigned.

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 Blackboard by midnight of 3-29-2023, or handed in to Mr. Burt on March 29 at the beginning of class. 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 April 2, 10 pts. per day late fee.

Abortion	Artificial Intelligence	Censorship	Freedom of Speech
Climate Change	Capital Punishment	Health Insurance	Religious Freedom
Evolution	Marijuana Legalization	Marriage Equality	Vaccines
Privacy Rights	Immigration Reform	Opioid Crisis	Transgender Rights
White Supremacy	The Green New Deal	Electoral College	Student Debt Crisis
Black Lives Matter	Federal Livable Wage	Historic Statue Removal	
Voter Rights	Critical Race Theory	Israeli/Palestinian Conflict	
Pornography	Flint Water Crisis	Racial Profiling	
Genetic Engineering	Sex Education	Self Driving Cars	
Me Too Movement	COVID restrictions		

In-Class Writing **100 pts.**

There will be approximately 4-5 in-class writing assignments throughout the semester, the total of 100 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 Blackboard. 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 Blackboard; 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. **However**, the student that does not choose to speak in class can partially fulfill the assignment by posting a complete six-line discussion response to the question prompt in Blackboard, 5/6 points is the maximum points for this option unless the student has a valid excused absence from the college. 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

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 and being counted absent for the day.

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.

Title IX Sexual Harassment

If there is an issue of this nature, it should be reported immediately to the Title IX Director, Terry Francis at (479) 394-7622, Ext. 1460. To report a concern, or to learn more about UA RICH MOUNTAIN's Title IX and Non-Discrimination Policies, visit https://www.uarichmountain.edu/title-ix-policy

Illness Policy: Students are encouraged but not required to wear masks in classroom and public spaces. For attendance purposes, a student who is displaying symptoms of illness must email: contact.tracing@uarichmountain.edu to determine next steps for an excused absence related to COVID or flu. Contacting an instructor **DOES NOT** start this process or guarantee an excused absence.

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: 2023 Spring SEMESTER

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

07:30-08:00						
08:00-08:30	Oral Com	Theatre Online	Oral Com	Theatre Online		
08:30-09:00	Oral Com	Theatre Online	Oral Com	Theatre Online		
09:00-09:30	Com to 9:15 Office	Office	Oral Com to 9:15 Office	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 10:45 Office	Office	Oral Com to 10:45 Office	Office	
11:00-11:30	Office	Office	Office	Office		
11:30-12:00	Office	Office	Office	Office		
12:00-12:30	Office	Office	Office	Office		
12:30-01:00	Philosophy	Music	Philosophy	Music		
01:00-01:30	Philosophy	Music	Philosophy	Music		
01:30-02:00	Philosophy Philosophy online	Music 1:45 Philos Online	Philosophy Office	Music to 1:45 Theatre to 2:00		
02:00-02:30	Philos Online	Philos Online	Office			
02:30-03:00	Philos Online	Philos Online	Office			
03:00-03:30	Office to 3:15	Office to 3:15	Office 3:15			
03:30-04:00						
04:00-04:30						
04:30-05:00						
05:00-05:30						
05:30-06:00						
06:00-06:30						
06:30-07:00						
07:00-07:30						