Philosophy 203 IN01, PHI203lecME01

Philosophy

Fall 2023

Class Time and Location: Online

Instructor: Robby Burt
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M.A., Speech/Theatre, Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, Louisiana, 1990.
ABD, Theatre/Fine Arts, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, 2000-2006.
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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 8-21	Syllabi
1.1	What is Philosophy?	Wed 8-23	Quiz 1
1.2	Traditional Divisions of Philosophy	W 8-23	Quiz 1
1.3	A Philosopher in Action: Socrates	W 8-23	Quiz 1
1.4	The Value of Philosophy	W 8-23	Quiz 1
1.5	Historical Showcase: The 1st Philosophers	W 8-23	Quiz 1
1.6	Reading over Voltaire	W 8-23	Quiz 1
2.1	Why Does Your View of Human Nature Matter?	M 8-28	Quiz 2
2.2	What is Human Nature?	M 8-28	Quiz 2
2.3	Mind-Body Problem: How Do Mind & Body Relate?	W 8-30	Quiz 3
	Read John Searle on Page 129		
	Read Garrett J. Deweese on 127		
2.4	Is There an Enduring Self?	W 9-6	Quiz 4
2.6	Historical Showcase: Plato, Aristotle, &…..	W 9-6	Quiz 4
2.5	Are We Independent & Self-Sufficient?	M 9-11	Quiz 5
3.1	What is Real? *(Library)*	W 9-13	Quiz 6
3.2	Reality: Material or Nonmaterial?	W 9-13	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 9-18	Quiz 7
Test 1	**Wednesday, September 20 (Chapters 1.1 - 3.6)**		
3.7	Is Freedom Real?	M 9-25	Quiz 8
3.8	Is Time Real? (Start Suicide Tourist)	W 9-27	Quiz 9
3.9	Historical Showcase: Hobbes & Berkeley	W 9-27	Quiz 9
3.10	Readings	W 9-27	Quiz 9
	Watch **Opioids, Inc.**	M Oct-2	
7.1	What is Ethics?	M 10-2	No Quiz
7.2	Is Ethics Relative?	M 10-2	No Quiz
7.3	Do Consequences Make an Action Right?	M 10-2	No Quiz
	Read Peter Singer page 512		
	Read Peter Singer page 514		

7.4	Do Rules Define Morality	W 10-4	No Quiz
	Watch **Opioids, Inc.,** writing & quiz	W 10-4	
7.5	Is Ethics Based on Character?	M 10-9	Quiz 10
7.6	Can Ethics.. Moral Quandaries?	W 10-11	Quiz 11
7.7	Ethics & Moral Responsibility	M 10-16	Quiz 12
7.8	Historical Showcase: Nietzsche & Wol….	M 10-16	Quiz 12

TEST 2 Wednesday, October 18 (Chapters 3.7--3.10 & 7.1--7.8)

	Research due	*10-23*	
8.1	What is Social & Political Philosophy?	M 10-23	Quiz 13
8.2	What Justifies the State?	M 10-23	Quiz 13
8.3	What is Justice?	W 10-25	Quiz 14
8.4	Limits on the State	W 10-25	Quiz 14
Handout	What is Art	M 10-30	Quiz 15
9.1	Does Life Have Meaning	W 11-1	Quiz 16
9.2	The Theistic Response to Meaning	W 11-1	Quiz 16
9.3	Meaning and Human Progress	W 11-1	Quiz 16
9.4	The Nihilist Rejection of Meaning	W 11-1	Quiz 16
9.5	Meaning as a Self-Chosen Commitment	W 11-1	Quiz 16

Philosophy research papers are due on November 7 at midnight in Blackboard

4.1	The Significance of Religion	M 11-6	Quiz 17
4.2	Does God Exist?	M 11-6	Quiz 17
4.3	Atheism, Agnosticism, and the Problem of..	M 11-6	Quiz 17
4.4	Traditional Religious Belief and Experience	W 11-8	Quiz 18
4.5	Nontraditional Religious Experience	W 11-8	Quiz 18
4.6	Historical Showcase: Aquinas…	W 11-8	Read for Test
4.7	Readings	W 11-8	Read for Test

TEST 3 Monday, November 13 (Art + Chapters 9.1 –9.5 &4.1—4.7)

5.1	Why is Knowledge of Problem?	W 11-15	Quiz 19
5.2	Is Reason the Source of our Knowledge?	W 11-15	Quiz 19
5.3	Can the Senses Account for Knowledge?	M 11-27	Quiz 20
	Makeup Quiz (Ch. 5.4) Quiz 21	M 5-1 Makeup Quiz	
5.4	Kant: Does the Knowing Shape the World?	W 11-29	
6.4	Can Interpretations be True?	M 12-4	
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 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 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. with 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 Research Paper **150 pts**.

The student will write a complete three-page traditional research paper over a subject listed below. (One student per topic). Midnight on November 7 is the deadline for the paper submission. The paper will be presented in 12 pt. size type, double spaced, and in MLA format (The Purdue Owl gives great examples of formatting and instructions). The student can expect to find scholarly material to use as research. The thesis of the paper should cover following: biography of the philosopher, two of their main arguments, rebuttal of these arguments by other philosophers. The background or biography should not be any longer than one-third of the paper. The research paper will be submitted through Blackboard AND a hard copy with research submitted to the instructor, either delivered by hand or sent through mail received no later than November 7. 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. Any paper containing plagiarism or does not contain in-text

citation, or a works cited page will receive the grade of 0. The paper that is written by AI or in part by AI will receive a 0.

Topics

Mass Shootings	Fracking	Gerrymandering	Genetic Cloning
Human Trafficking	Hate Speech	Labor Unions	
Flag Burning	Waterboarding	OTC Birth Control	Felon Voting
Religious School with State Support		ACLU	AI
Affirmative Action in Colleges		Church & Taxes	Drone Strikes
Employer Mandate Vaccines		School Vouchers	Punishment for crime
Is morality relative or absolute		Can torture be justified	Is taxation justified
Are miracles real		Is stealing ever permissible	What is beauty 26

Research requirements

One book from the UARM library or Interlibrary loan yellow highlighted
At least two articles from the library database such as Proquest blue and orange
One e-book source like Proquest pink highlight
One online scholarly site that is an education site https://plato.stanford.edu/ green

The student will submit their paper with a works cited page, in-text citations, and copies of the research used for the paper. Within the copies of the research submitted, the student will show the source of the research including author, title, publisher, and date of publication. The student will highlight direct quotes and/or highlight ideas (see above color examples) that have been reworded, this will require additional photocopies. The student will then use one highlight color to designate the information used in research and to color code that in the paper. For example, use the pink highlighter to highlight research from the ProQuest e-book site, and then highlight in pink the sections in the paper where the ProQuest e-book has been cited. Highlight in green the EDU source from the research and highlight in green the sections in the paper where the EDU source has been cited and so on. If you need help with the research paper assignment (1) Find examples in Blackboard of what to send me. (2) In the UARM website under “current students”, then find “library”, next find where the link to “research guides” and watch a video on how to access the library catalogue, ProQuest, ProQuest E-book, and ILL. If you don’t have success with this, you can contact the library for help. (3) Go to SSS in the library for help. (4) Don’t wait until the last week to start or ask questions.

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 Points **120 points**

Each student will be able to earn 6 points for each of the 20 discussion assignments for the total of 120 points. There will be one make-up discussion day near the end of the semester to substitute for the lowest discussion grade. The student should expect to write six lines for each post to receive full credit (the same as six lines of 12 pt. size in a Word document). Short posts will have points deducted; you will need at least three complete lines to receive credit. Please check your spelling and grammar before you post, and if you are using information from a source be sure to cite in your post. Your posts should be your own thought, as you are the one receiving credit for the course. Posts will have points deducted for the following reasons: spelling and grammar mistakes, not pertinent to the subject, repeat closely the post of another student, and rambling without making point. Discussions that are detected as written by AI will not be accepted, the student will have to come to a campus with the instructor to rewrite the post. Some of the post will be written with the proctor present during testing on campus.

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	100 points
Research paper & research	150 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

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.

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.

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

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 Fall SEMESTER

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						
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	Philosophy	Office	Philosophy	Office		
11:30-12:00	Philosophy	Office	Philosophy	Office		
12:00-12:30	Philos to 12:15 Office	Office	Philos to 12:15 Office	Office		
12:30-01:00	Office	Music	Office	Music		
01:00-01:30	Office	Music	Office	Music		
01:30-02:00	Office Philosophy online	Music 1:45 Philos Online	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	Theatre Online 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						