Brookhaven College and Tele-college
Social Science Dept.
Fall 2012

Course Information:

Philosophy 1301 Section 2402
3 credit hours
Since this is a distance learning course you have full access to all course material 7 days a week, the hours are at your convenience.

Instructor Information:
Dr. Bob Daly
Phone number: 972 860-4130 (This is the division office so please leave a message).
(email) rDaly@dcccd.edu

Contact Information:
I try to review and grade all newly posted material at least once a week. Also, you can expect me to respond to your e-mails normally within 24-48 hours. Be aware that while this is my general and intended practice, it is subject to the changes and chances of life.

Technical Requirements and Support (for eCampus users)
- Phil 1301 Sect 2402 requires access to a computer, the Internet and e-mail (if applicable)
- If you should have any technical difficulties, you may go to the http://ecampus.dcccd.edu or call 972-669-6402. There is a link for Student Assistance where you may submit a ticket. Also alert me via my email (rdaly@dcccd.edu) concerning any technical problems. (if applicable)
- Everything you need to know about the Dallas Community Colleges and distance education can be found at our website: http://www.brookhavencollege.edu/dl/
The eCampus Technical Support and Help Desk can be found at http://www.brookhavencollege.edu/dl/fac-support.aspx

Current Catalog Course Descriptions:
- Current Catalog Course Descriptions:
- PHIL 1301 (3 Credit Hours)
  Offered at BHC, CVC, EFC, ECC, MVC, NLC, RLC.
  Introduction to Philosophy
  This is a Texas Common Course Number. This is a DCCCD Core Curriculum Course.
  Prerequisite: Developmental Reading 0093 or English as a Second Language (ESOL) 0044 or have met the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) standard in Reading.

  Course Description: An introduction to the ideas about such things as the good life, reality, God, the acquisition and characteristics of knowledge, and the nature of humans. Students will evaluate both ancient and modern theories about these issues in terms of their logic, historical significance, and meaning in everyday life, as they practice the methods for doing philosophy. (3 Lec.)
  Coordinating Board Academic Approval Number 3801015112
Required Materials:
  (Available to purchase at the campus Bookstore or online)

COURSE OBJECTIVE
PHIL 1301 IS A PART OF THE CORE CURRICULUM and addresses the following Exemplary Educational Objectives and Core Curriculum Intellectual Competencies as set forth by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board:
  o Current Course Competencies (applies to Core courses only)
  o Current Course Objectives (applies to Core courses only)
  o Student Learning Outcomes

PHIL1301 Student Learning Outcomes
I. Describe different philosophical positions and concepts by writing an essay in which students identify and explain two or more different philosophical positions and the relevant philosophical concepts.
II. Apply critical thinking by writing an essay in which students analyze the strengths and weaknesses of a philosophical position or theory.
III. Create an informed personal response to a philosophical problem by writing an essay in which students develop and defend their personal response to a selected philosophical problem.

Below I have underlined the key verbs in each SLO. These verbs correspond to the 6 levels of learning according to Bloom's famous taxonomy, 1 being the lowest, 6 the highest. (I have noted in red parenthesis the level of learning for each verb.) Notice that the first SLO measures levels 1 and 2, the second SLO measures levels 3 and 4, and the final SLO measures levels 5 and 6. This means that we are teaching, assessing and measuring all 6 levels of learning, according to the Bloom taxonomy.

PHIL1301 Student Learning Outcomes
I. Describe (1) different philosophical positions and concepts by writing an essay in which students identify (2) and explain (2) two or more different philosophical positions and the relevant philosophical concepts.
II. Apply (3) critical thinking by writing an essay in which students analyze (4) the strengths and weaknesses of a philosophical position or theory.
III. Create (5) an informed personal response to a philosophical problem by writing an essay in which students develop (6) and defend (6) their personal response to a selected philosophical problem.

CALENDAR AND SCHEDULE OF DUE DATES
Fall Semester, 2012
August 20 (M) Faculty Reports
August 27 (M) Classes Begin
September 3 (M) Labor Day Holiday
September 10 (M) 12th Class Day
November 15 (R) Last Day to Withdraw from Aug 27 start date classes (drop date varies based on start date)
November 22 (R) Thanksgiving Holidays Begin
November 26 (M)       Classes Resume
December 10-13 (M-R)   Final Exams (please refer to the Final Exam schedule for your class meeting time)
December 13 (R)        Semester Ends
December 17 (M)        Last day for faculty to submit grades electronically through eConnect to the Registrar’s Office
December 21 (F)        College buildings and offices close for the holidays at end of workday

Course Requirements:
Students are responsible for being prepared for each class deadline. To be prepared one must be ready to discuss all materials assigned for each discussion board (I will post the schedule for all DB’s on the announcement board). The readings are fairly short. This is to provide the student with ample time to read each assignment carefully and critically. To best prepare for each assignment, one should first read the assignment straight through quickly, just to get the main issues being discussed. Then, one should reread the material, this time being careful to pay attention to the details of the author’s arguments. The second time through one should be taking notes and looking up any words that are unfamiliar. This technique is amazingly effective (for every class you take).

1. Quizzes: You will have one (1) introductory quiz that is based on the material contained in the syllabus. In addition I will give you 7 quizzes throughout the semester (please check the announcement board to verify the deadline for each test). All questions in the 7 quizzes will be straight from the reading assignments (and you will have access to flash cards (these will be found in each assignment section) that you should use to study before each test. Each deadline is final and no make-up quizzes will be given for any reason.

2. Papers: You will have a total of four (4) papers that will be assigned during the semester (again, please check either the reading assignment page or the announcements section for dates). I will give you a topic on which you must write a brief essay (600-800 words) and when you submit them please be sure to use the ecampus HTML link (associated with each paper assignment), feature to deliver the paper Please do not email them to me. I will remind you of the deadline for each of these papers through the announcement page. The purpose of these papers is to focus on one particular argument or theory. The goal is not to do research (looking up stuff in the library) but to focus your thoughts on one argument or one position and dig deep. Your grade on these papers will be primarily based on the clarity of your writing, the command of the material and the "depth" of your explanations. (Which side of the issue you are on is completely irrelevant).

4. Discussion Board: You are expected to participate in 10 (ten) discussion boards the topics for which will either be assigned by me (one for each of the 7 Learning Modules) and 3 that you may generate on your own and you should use these open questions to post issues or concerns you find in your readings. Since the discussion board carries a 10 point value per participation I will grant points for both the amount of participation (that is how frequently you join in during each exchange) as well as for the quality of that participation (keeping to the point, presenting cogent arguments, making relevant points, etc.).
Make-Up Quizzes & Papers:
In order to maintain a fair grading requirement and to assure that people who do the work on time and as assigned get full credit for their work the deadlines are strict and will not be altered. As indicated above if you have a family crisis and are not able to complete a requirement on time please get in touch with me either by phone or via email and I will try to work out a solution. If, however, you contact me on the day of the deadline or after there will be no accommodation.

Grading:
The quizzes will count for a maximum of 20 points (1 point per correct answer), each of the papers will count for a maximum of 100 points, discussion boards will count for a maximum of 10 points each, and the syllabus quiz will count for a maximum of 10 points. This means your maximum grade points will be 660. I grade according to the standard 10-point scale and I do not curve grades:

- 660-594= A
- 593-549= B
- 548-504= C
- 503-459= D
- 458 and below=F

Students will be able to retrieve their grades on-line through the Internet on DCCCD eConnect web-site at [http://econnect.dcccd.edu](http://econnect.dcccd.edu) or through the telephone touch-tone system at 972-613-1818. Students who do not have Internet access at home or work may also access their grades by using drop-in computer labs at various college locations. Students must select the Student Menu, click on My Personal Info, And scroll down to My grades. Students may request official academic transcripts free of charge at the Admissions Office. Student advising reports (an unofficial document, which includes a history of their DCCCD coursework, grades, GPA, and academic standing) are also available from both the Academic Advising Office and the Admissions Office.

Reading List

**What is Philosophy?**

**Week one**
Syllabus/Introductions
1.1, pp.1-26 and pp.55-57 (Philosophical Problems & Russell)
1.2, pp.27-41 (Philosophical Methods)
1.3, pp.42-54 and pp.62-63 (Thought Experiments & Nozick)

Sept. 3rd Labor day no classes

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**Epistemology**

**Week two**
7.1, pp.530-552 and pp.587-589 and pp.599-600 (Skepticism and Descartes)
7.1 and 7.2, pp.552-572 and pp.594-596 (Realism/Phenomenalism and Berkeley)

Sept 10th Last day to drop without “W”

**Week three**
7.3, pp.573-586 and 597-598 (Causal-Reliability and Explanationists Theories and Gettier)
Philosophy of Religion
Week four 6.1, pp.434-446 and pp.507-508 (Cosmological Argument & Aquinas)

Week five 6.1, pp.447-467 and pp.509-517 (Teleological Argument & Swinburne & Hume)
6.1, pp.467-478 (Ontological Argument)

Week six 6.2, pp.478-492 and pp.518-521 (Problem of Evil & Johnson)
6.3, pp.493-506 and pp.522-527 (Faith and Reason)

Philosophy of Mind
Week seven 2.1, pp.66-89 and pp.159-163 (Substance Dualism and Descartes)

Week eight 2.2, pp.90-114 and 164-170 (Behaviorism, Identity Theory and Taylor)
2.3, pp.115-135 and pp.176-177 (Functionalism and Bisson)

Week nine 2.4, pp.136-158 and pp.171-175 (Eliminative Materialism and Chalmers)

Free Will and Determinism
3.1, pp.180-198 and pp.228-232 (Hard Determinism and Blantchford)

Week ten 3.1 and 3.2 pp.198-216 and Stace (Indeterminism and Compatibilism)
3.3, pp.217-227 and 238-239 (Libertarianism and Lamont)

Personal Identity
Week eleven 4.1, pp.248-272 (Animalism and The Soul Theory)
4.2, pp.273-290 and 305-313 (Memory Theory and Locke and Reid)

Nov. 15 Last Day to withdrawal with a “W”

Week twelve 4.3, pp.291-304 and 315-319 (Brain Theory and Parfit)

Ethics
5.1, pp.326-346 and 408-413 (Relativism-Divine Command Theory and Stace)

Week thirteen 5.2, pp.347-367 and 414-416 and 429-432 (Utilitarianism, Bentham and LeGuinn)
5.3, pp.368-379 and 417-421 (Deontology and Kant)

Week Fourteen 5.3, pp.379-395 and 422-424 (Social Contract Theories and Rawls)

Week Fifteen 5.4, pp.396-407 and 425-428 (Virtue Ethics and MacIntyre)

Dec. 7th All class work due today (by midnight via ecampus)
INSTITUTIONAL POLICIES:

WITHDRAWAL

If you are unable to complete this course, it is your responsibility to withdraw formally. The withdrawal request must be received in the Registrar's Office by Nov. 15th. Failure to do so will result in your receiving a performance grade, usually an "F." If you drop a class or withdraw from the college before the official drop/withdrawal deadline, you will receive a "W" (Withdraw) in each class dropped. For procedures see the Brookhaven College website and select A-Z and "Add/Drop/Withdraw Information" for a listing.

STOP BEFORE YOU DROP

For students who enrolled in college level courses for the first time in the fall of 2007, Texas Education Code 51.907 limits the number of courses a student may drop. You may drop no more than 6 courses during your entire undergraduate career unless the drop qualifies as an exception. Your campus counseling/advising center will give you more information on the allowable exceptions. Remember that once you have accumulated 6 non-exempt drops, you cannot drop any other courses with a "W". Therefore, please exercise caution when dropping courses in any Texas public institution of higher learning, including all seven of the Dallas County Community Colleges. For more information, you may access: https://www1.dcccd.edu/cat1112/ss/oep/dw.cfm

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY POLICY

Scholastic dishonesty is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion. As a college student, you are considered a responsible adult. Your enrollment indicates acceptance of the Dallas County Community Colleges Code of Student Conduct published in the Brookhaven College Catalog https://www1.dcccd.edu/catalog/ss/code.cfm?loc=2.

THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT INFORMATION

If you are a student with a disability and/or special needs who requires ADA accommodations, please contact your Disability/Special Services office in Room S-124 or call 972-860-4673 on the Brookhaven Campus.