Philosophy 1301, Section 2502

INSTRUCTOR: Tim Parrish
DAY/TIME: 5:40-7:00 p.m. TR Room K 250 (Fall, 2012)
OFFICE HOURS: By Appointment
VOICE MAIL: (972) 860-7444 ext. 9584  e-mail: tparrish@dcccd.edu

Required Materials:
Cahn, Steven. *Classics of Western Philosophy*. Hackett Publishing. 2006. ISBN 978-0-87220-859-9  (Available at the Bookstore; one copy is on reserve at the Library)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Phil 1301 Introduction to Philosophy (3)

This is a Texas Common Course Number.
Prerequisite: Developmental Reading 0093 or English as a Second Language (ESOL) 0044 or have met the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) standard in Reading.
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

CORE CURRICULUM INTELLECTUAL COMPETENCIES

**Reading** the ability to analyze and interpret a variety of printed materials-books, documents and articles above 12th grade level.

**Writing** the ability to produce clear, correct and coherent prose adapted to purpose, occasion and audience above 12th grade level.

**Listening** analyze and interpret various forms of spoken communication, possess sufficient literacy skills of writing, reading above 12th grade level.

**Critical thinking** think and analyze at a critical level.

EXEMPLARY EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

To **demonstrate** awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.

To **understand** those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context.

To **respond** critically to works in the arts and humanities.

To **articulate** an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.
To demonstrate knowledge of the influence of literature, philosophy and/or the arts of inter cultural experiences.

PHIL 1301 Learning Outcomes

PHIL 1301 learning outcomes describe the goals for all PHIL 1301 courses at Brookhaven College. These outcomes address the Core Curriculum Intellectual Competencies (CCIC) and the Exemplary Educational Objectives (EEO) in the humanities and visual and performing arts.

Upon completion of PHIL 1301, students should be able to demonstrate competence in philosophy by:

I. Displaying knowledge of a variety of philosophical concepts by writing an essay in which they identify and show understanding of key philosophical concepts and definitions.
II. Applying critical thinking skills by writing an essay in which they explain and assess the strengths and weaknesses of a philosophical position or theory.
III. Developing an informed personal reaction to a philosophical issue by writing an essay in which they explain and justify their personal response to a philosophical issue.

Absence due to Religious Holy Days:
Absences for observance of a religious holy day are excused. A student whose absence is excused to observe a religious holy day is allowed to take a make-up examination or complete an assignment within a reasonable time after the absence.

ADA Statement:
If you are a student with a disability and/or special needs who requires accommodations, please contact the college Disability Services Office.

Withdrawal Policy
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 the withdraw date (see schedule below). 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.

Financial Aid Recipients
Students who are receiving any form of financial aid should check with the financial aid office prior to withdrawing from classes. Withdrawals may affect your eligibility to receive further aid and could cause you to be in a position or repayment for the current semester. Students who fail to attend or participate after the drop date are also subject to this policy.

Third Attempt
Effective for the Fall Semester 2005, the Dallas County Community Colleges will charge additional tuition to students registering the third of subsequent time for a course. All third and subsequent attempts of the majority of credit and Continuing Education/Workforce Training courses will result in additional tuition to be charged. Developmental Studies and some other
courses will not be charged a higher tuition rate. Third attempts include courses taken at any of the Dallas County Community Colleges since the Fall 2002 Semester.

**Academic Dishonesty**
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 Dallas County Community Colleges Catalog. Violation of the Code of Student Conduct (especially plagiarism) will result in a performance grade of an F.

[https://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0506/ss/code.cfm](https://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0506/ss/code.cfm)

**CLASSROOM POLICY**

a) Final Withdrawing Date: If you are unable to complete this course, you must withdraw by Nov. 15 (before 4:00 p.m.). Withdrawing is a formal procedure which you must initiate. I cannot do it for you. You may do this in Admissions or Counseling. If you stop attending and do not withdraw, you will receive a performance grade, usually an "F".

b) No food and/or drinks in the classroom.

**SPECIAL INFORMATION**

a) Notification of Absence Due to Religious Holy Day(s):
Students desiring to observe a religious holy day, which will result in a class absence, should notify me in writing within the next two weeks. This procedure is official school policy.

b) ADA Statement- If you are a student with a disability and/or special needs who requires ADA accommodations, please contact BHC College Disability Services Office.

c) General Statement-The instructor has the right to add, delete, or revise segments of this course or syllabus.

d) If you are receiving Financial Aid grants of loans, you must begin attendance in all classes. Do not drop or stop attending any class without consulting the Financial Aid Office. Changes in your enrollment level and failing grades may require that you repay Financial Aid funds.

e) Academic dishonesty:
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 Dallas County Community Colleges Catalog.

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PURPOSE:

The purpose of this course is to help the student obtain an understanding of the content and purpose of philosophy in the West. In addition to learning the "basic facts", we will discuss the meaning of the ideas we encounter this semester. Understanding requires interpretation and application; i.e., you must take new language (terms and concepts) and put them into your own words and apply them to situations that are meaningful to you. This means that in philosophy you are free to ask: "why is this important?" "What does this philosopher mean and how does he know?" In fact, I require you to do so.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHOD:

The class will follow a lecture/discussion format utilizing instructor prepared material as well as student discussion. Each student will be responsible for presenting one of the required readings.

TESTS AND GRADES:

Your performance will be evaluated as follows:

Papers

There will be three major papers during the course of the semester. All papers and other assignments must be turned in. Students failing to do so will receive an F for the semester. Late papers will be penalized one point per day.

Participation

Students are expected to read the text before each class and participate in the classroom discussions. I will use examples to illustrate some of the abstract ideas we discuss so it is not essential that you already have a firmly held view on something like the Rationalist\Empiricist debate ahead of time (but you will be starting to develop your own philosophical position). What most people probably have is an opinion on the present debate concerning nature vs. nurture. Classroom discussions are designed to get students speaking about philosophical issues and I will ask a variety of simple questions to accomplish this. We will use nature vs. nurture as a tool to get at the philosophical issues underlying the debate.

ATTENDANCE:

Students with eight unexcused absences or more will receive an “F” for the semester.
Students are expected to read the material, attend class faithfully and participate in the discussions. Although it is important to listen and take notes, philosophy is also learned by reading, thinking and speaking.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION:

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Major Tests\papers</td>
<td>70%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Classroom presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debates\Reaction papers</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<td>Attendance\Participation</td>
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GRADING SCALE:

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<td>70-79</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>0-59</td>
<td>F</td>
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ELIMINATION OF GRADE MAILERS

Beginning with the Fall Semester 2003, printing and mailing of grade mailers at the close of each semester will be eliminated. Students will be able to retrieve their grades on-line through the Internet on the DCCCD eConnect web-site at 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.

RESERVE MATERIALS

(Ask for these by title at the front desk)
