PHIL 1301 (4005, 4006, 4481, or 4500): INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY
INSTRUCTOR: Mr. Glenn Chicoine, M.A.(R), M.A.; Ph.D. (candidate) Philosophy

4005 (771636): Tues./Thurs., 09:30–10:50 AM, room N–212;
4006 (771638): Tues./Thurs., 12:30–01:50 PM, room N–212;
4481 (771639): Tues. ONLY, 11:00 AM–12:20 PM, N–212; & Internet;
or 4500 (771641): Tues./Thurs., 07:05–08:25PM, room N–114.

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT:
Make clear exactly who is emailing or calling: GlennChicoine@dcccd.edu;
Or: Messages c/o Adjunct Office, Room C–201, Telephone (972) 391–1047.

Primarily using email, you can also meet with the Instructor on most days shortly
before or shortly after class, depending on scheduling.
But the Instructor has a sort of “open door policy.” Just speak up and he will help
you and meet with you, if he is at all able, including at special times and days. Of course,
such meetings must always be on campus and in a more-or-less public place.

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
[For more TSI information: https://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0910/admiss/tsi.cfm?loc=4.]

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS—ONE TEXTBOOK:
Steven M. Cahn, ed., Classics of Western Philosophy, 7th or 8th Editions ONLY
(Indianapolis/Cambridge: Hackett, 2006 or 2012); ISBN 1-60384-743-X;
or 978-1-60384-743-8. See your email and eCampus for further material.

WORK REQUIRED FOR THIS COURSE:
This semester is organized around selections in your textbook from six major
Western thinkers: (in the first half) Plato, Aristotle, and Descartes; and then (in the
second half) David Hume, G. W. F. Hegel, William James, and Jean-Paul Sartre.
You must read certain, rather short selections at home prior to class. Then you
will bring them to class in order to analyze them and apply them to our existence and
modern life. You must be present, reflective, interpersonally open, and single-tasked.
In our analysis we must challenge both the philosophers and ourselves, as well as each other too, if others so wish, and if done civilly. There will be background lectures.

You must maintain (A) an email address and (B) have access to the eCampus site for this course for handouts, assignments, questions, and answers.

Agendas and posturing will be heard; in fact, they are welcomed. Yet they must be presented briefly and to the point. After that, they will be considered “disruptive.”

**GRADING:**

There is a Midterm Test and a non-cumulative Final Test, each is for half of your final grade. Each includes multiple choice and true-and-false questions, together with an essay. We will review for the tests, though not necessarily exhaustively—that is: Anything covered in class or in the textbook assignments can be on the tests.

**WRITING EXPECTATIONS:** The “essay” sections on these tests require the student to write the English language in longhand or to print legibly (at the Instructor’s discretion), using grammatically correct sentences that are complete and that have proper punctuation. Your college-level dictionaries should always be carried and used.

Experience shows that higher grades correlate with higher attendance and involvement. So your cumulative grade depends also in part on (1) attendance, (2) class preparation (esp. assigned reading), and (3) calm, clear, and concise discussion input.

The precise numerical values of these in lowering your grade are as follows:

**“QUARTER-GRADE BREAKDOWN”**:  
Your Cumulative Test Numerical Grade can be lowered precisely as follows:
- 1 for each absence without a substantive excuse (- .5 with substantive excuse);
- 1 for each instance of unpreparedness, or lack of involvement (after two warnings); and
-1 for each instance of class disruption, including lateness (after two warnings).

**EXTRA-CREDIT ASSIGNMENTS:**

Your Cumulative Test Numerical Grade can be increased points by Extra-Credit Assignments (these are required from the Hybrid Class). These include special Answer Sheets, Quizzes, Attendance at School Events, or Extra Readings with Report Forms.

Therefore, your Final Grade is calculated as follows:

\[
\text{Midterm Test} + \text{Final Test} = \text{Subtotal} / 2
\]

\[
\text{equals Cumulative Test Numerical Grade}
\]

\[
\text{minus “Quarter-Grade Breakdown” (if merited)} + \text{Extra-Credit Assignment Points (if merited)} = \text{Final Numerical Grade}
\]

Grading Scale: A 100–90, B 89–80, C 79–70, D 69–60, F below.
PHIL 1301 (Intro Philosophy) 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:

**Exemplary Educational Objectives in Intro Philosophy**
1. To demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
2. To understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context.
3. To respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.
4. To articulate and have informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.
5. To demonstrate knowledge of the influence of literature, philosophy, and/or the arts on intercultural experiences.

**Core Curriculum Intellectual Competencies**
1. Reading – the ability to analyze and interpret a variety of printed materials – books, documents, and articles – above 12th grade level.
2. Writing – the ability to produce clear, correct and coherent prose adapted to purpose, occasion and audience – above 12th grade level.
3. Speaking – the ability to communicate orally in clear, coherent, and persuasive language appropriate to purpose, occasion, and audience – above 12th grade level.
4. Listening – analyze and interpret various forms of spoken communication, possess sufficient literacy skills of writing, reading – above 12th grade level.
5. Critical Thinking – think and analyze at a critical level.

**ATTENDANCE** is required for this course. When a death, illness, injury, accident, greater duty, or established religious holiday presents itself, verbal proof can be given to the Instructor for his allowance of the missed class (*but it’s still - .5*).

**OBTAINING YOUR GRADES AT THE END OF THE SEMESTER:**
Grade reports are no longer mailed. Especially: the Instructor *cannot* email results to you. Convenient access is available online or by telephone. Use your student identification number when you log in to e-Connect or call DCCCD Touch Tone Services. Web site address: www.econnect.dcccd.edu. Telephone: (972) 613-1818.

**MISSED TESTS AND ASSIGNMENTS** can only be made up with an official note or a truthful verbal account of death, injury, illness, accident, greater duty, or an established religious holiday. Tests that are not taken and any assignments that are not received on the due day—*unless dealt with within hours*—are missed assignments and in all cases merit an immediate unchangeable zero.

“**INCOMPLETES,”** in ten years, have never been granted for any of my classes.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY:**
The purpose of the Student Code of Conduct is to provide guidelines for the educational environment of The Dallas County Community College District. Such an environment presupposes both rights and responsibilities. Disciplinary regulations at the college are set forth in writing in order to give students general notice of prohibited conduct. Students should be aware of disciplinary actions for all forms of academic dishonesty,
including cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, plagiarism, and collusion. Your College Catalog and the DCCCD Catalog contain the entire Student Code of Conduct; it is on the Internet at http://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0506/ss/code.cfm.

PLAGIARISM is here defined as “copying anything from another’s material—especially, in our context, words or writing—without giving full, verifiable credit to the rightful owner or originator of the material.” It is the same as dishonesty and cheating. It merits an “F” on the assignment.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY also includes copying from another student’s work in the classroom (with or without his or her knowledge or compliance), or using hidden sources of information (like hand-held devices, notes, or writing on hands or elsewhere). This merits an “F” on the assignment or test. Though teachers can be wrong and you have avenues of appeal: Even the appearance of cheating on tests or other assignments will merit an “F” on that assignment. Your “F” comes first; your “trial” later. I have failed more than one cheater.

CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT EXPECTATIONS:
No interfering conversations, naps, cell phone noises or use; reading of newspapers or comic books; doing work for other classes; hostile or verbally demeaning interchanges with the Instructor or fellow students (as determined by the Instructor); or “lounging” (e.g. feet on desks or seats) are allowed in class. These are all disruptions. Unless it is for Notes, Reference, or Emergencies—TURN OFF YOUR HAND-HELD ELECTRONIC DEVICES!

THREATENING WORDS OR ACTIONS, either in the class, halls, or parking lot, if interpreted by the Instructor as hostile to the Instructor, or to another student, or to the student him- or herself, will be dealt with by an Emergency Response from Campus Security. The overly or hostilely condemning of groups is threatening. But the forgoing is not for mere human messiness and mistakes. We all can be excessive.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION will be taken on a case by case basis under the direct guidance of the Deans of Social Science and the Instructional Division, as well as the Vice President of Student Services. So you have protection and can appeal.

Without a withdrawal request by this date, a student on the course roll will receive a performance grade. For more information: Admissions/Registrar, (972) 860-7167.

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/coursedrops.

STUDENT EMAIL:
Legal privacy issues prevent your Instructor from discussing your work or your grades on commercial email accounts. If you wish to send your papers as attachments to an email (and the Instructor permits it), or if you have a question about your grade, you must open a student email account. The account is free. You may set it up by going to http://www.dcccd.edu/netmail/home.html. All students receiving financial aid must open a student NetMail account.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS/OBSERVANCES:
Students who will be absent from class for the observance of a religious holiday must notify the instructor in advance. Please refer to the college catalog section on Student Responsibilities.

EMERGENCY/INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURE:
In case of emergency or inclement weather conditions, Eastfield students should listen to KEOM-FM Radio Station (88.5) as the primary media source. In partnership with the Mesquite Independent School District, Eastfield College Administration will notify KEOM immediately after a decision is made to cancel classes on any given day of inclement weather or for emergency purposes. Students may also monitor other local radio and television stations. The earliest an announcement may be broadcast on KEOM Radio is 6 a.m. Students may also refer to the Eastfield College web page www.eastfieldcollege.com for the Inclement Weather announcement under the Features area of the front page. The announcement will be posted immediately following the decision to close the college.

REPEATABILITY ISSUE:
Pending legislative action and DCCCD Board approval, effective for Fall Semester 2005, the Dallas County Community Colleges will charge a higher tuition rate to students registering the third or subsequent time for a course. All third and subsequent attempts of the majority of credit and Continuing Education/Workforce Training courses will result in higher 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. For complete information and updates, go to: http://www.dcccd.edu/ThirdCourseAttempt/.
FINANCIAL AID STUDENTS:
If you are receiving Financial Aid grants or 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. Failure to contact the Instructor will result in your name being submitted to the Financial Aid Office as a “non-attendee.” All students receiving financial aid must open an Email account through NetMail. See directions in this syllabus for opening an Email account (above).

DISABILITIES
Students requesting accommodations due to the presence of a disability must identify themselves in a timely fashion and demonstrate/document the need for accommodation through the Disability Services Office (DSO). For information regarding the rights and responsibilities of students with disabilities, contact DSO at 972/860-8348 voice/TDD.

ADA SERVICES:
Students with a disability and/or a special need who require ADA accommodations, please contact Eastfield College Disability Services Office (room C-2378) at (972) 860-8348:  http://www.eastfieldcollege.edu/SSI/DSO/index.html. For any testing accommodation, you must go through the EFC Disability Services Office.

PRINTING ON CAMPUS: Printing in the Computer Lab (L-108), Library, and Learning Assistance Center will cost 5 cents a page. Students must bring a $1.00, $5.00, $10.00, or $20.00 bill to the lab to create an account. Accounts must be created before attempting to print. No change is made in the lab. Once the money is in the bill acceptor, it cannot be retrieved. Cash refunds are not possible. Accounts stay active as long as the account has value.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT: The student has free reign, confidential protection, and personal responsibility in reporting such violations by his or her Instructor to the Human Resources Director, or to the Vice Chancellor of Educational Affairs.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA)
In compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), the College may release information classified as “directory information” to the general public without the written consent of the student. Directory information includes: (1) student name, (2) student address, (3) telephone numbers, (4) date and place of birth, (5) weight and height of members of athletic teams, (6) participation in officially recognized activities and sports, (7) dates of attendance, (8) educational institution most recently attended, and (9) other similar information, including major field of student and degrees and awards received. Students may protect their directory information at any time during the academic year. If no request is filed, directory information is released upon written inquiry. No telephone inquiries are acknowledged. No transcript or academic record is released without written consent from the student, except as specified by law.
READING ASSIGNMENTS & SCHEDULE:

PHIL 1301 (4005, 4006, 4500, 4481): INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY
Text: Cahn, ed., Classics of Western Philosophy, 7th or 8th ed. (2006 or 2012).

THE HUMAN SOUL

Plato (biographical sketch, henceforth “bio.”); from the Phaedo, marginal nos. 62c–79c;

Study Guides: Plato: “Phaedo Overview,” “Theory of the Forms,” and “The Divided
Line”; along with Mr. Chicoine: “Tips for Studying Philosophy”
Historical Survey: “Human Beginnings through the Pre-Socratics”

Weeks IV and VI: (Sept. 18–Oct. 4):
MIND AND MATTER

René Descartes (bio.), from Meditations on First Philosophy, Meditations One, Two, and Six.

Study Guides: Descartes: “I think, therefore I am,” “Meditations One and Two,” and
“On Material Reality”; and Power Point: “There is Material Reality”
Historical Survey: Power Point: “From the Pre-Socratics through the Enlightenment”

Week VII: Review for Midterm Test (Tuesday, Oct. 9):

Week VII: MIDTERM TEST (Thurs., Oct. 11).
Our Midterm is on the Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, along with
the Handouts and Historical Surveys (etc.), that we covered.
**Weeks VIII–XIII:** (Oct. 16–Nov. 20) (Thanksgiving, Nov. 22, OFF):

SKEPTICAL EMPIRICISM

David Hume (bio.), from *An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding*, Sections II, III, and IV.

Study Guides: Hume: “Overview,” “All our Ideas come from our Impressions,” and
Power Point: “David Hume”

INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIP

G. W. F. Hegel (bio.), from *Phenomenology of Spirit*, “Master and Slavery.”

**ETHICS**

**Week XII:** (Last Day to Drop with a “W,” Thurs., Nov. 15, 2012)

Study Guides: “Nineteenth Century: Radical Transition” (also in a Power Point), “The Rise of Atheism,” “Ethics Overview” (also in a Power Point), and “WORKSHEET: Applying Ethical Principles”

**Weeks XIV to XV:** (Nov. 27–Dec. 4): GOD VERSUS NO-GOD

William James (bio.), Essay: “The Will to Believe”;
Jean-Paul Sartre (bio.), *The Humanism of Existentialism*.


**Review for Final:** Last Class Day (Thursday, Dec. 6): (Extra-Credit) Assignments Due

**FINAL TEST** (To Be Announced). **Finals Week is Mon.–Thurs., Dec. 10–13.**

Our Final Test is on the Hume, Hegel, Ethics, James, and Sartre, as well as the Handouts and Historical Surveys (*etc.*), that we covered.