Instructor & Contact Information:

Dr. Michele Svatos
Phone: 972-860-7042
Email: msvatos@dcccd.edu or michsvatos@gmail.com
Office: G213  Office hours: TBA on eCampus during Fall and Spring semesters. I mostly work from home, and my office hours are held online

Required Text:
Philosophy, A Text with Readings, 13th edition by Manuel Velasquez. Publisher: Wadsworth, 2016. ISBN-10: 1305410475 or ISBN-13: 9781305410473 (same book, two different numbering systems). You can use the paperback edition or the e-text. The 11th or 12th edition is also fine. You do not need MindTap access, a CD-ROM, Infotrack, or any kind of access package, or anything that the bookstore “recommends” as supplemental material. Renting the text is much more affordable than buying it.

Course Description:
A study of major issues in philosophy and/or the work of major philosophical figures in philosophy. Topics in philosophy may include theories of reality, theories of knowledge, theories of value, and their practical applications. (3 Lec.) Coordinating Board Academic Approval Number 3801015112

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

Goals:
- Introduce major philosophers and philosophical controversies
- Develop some familiarity with the philosophical writings on which they are based
- Foster a lifelong appreciation for philosophical thinking

As a result of successfully completing this course, students will be able to:
- Read, analyze, and critique philosophical texts
- Demonstrate knowledge of key concepts, major arguments, problems, and terminology in philosophy
- Present logically persuasive arguments both orally and in writing
- Demonstrate critical thinking skills in evaluation and application of philosophical concepts to various aspects of life
- Evaluate the personal and social responsibilities of living in a diverse world

Structure:
You never need to come to campus. You need to meet deadlines, but do not need to be online at any particular time or day. Exams are taken online, and are timed.

Students will read each chapter in the textbook in numerical order and take an exam corresponding to the chapter. Students may prepare for the online tests by taking a series of practice quizzes, also available online, as well as through dialogue with the instructor and other students on the Discussion Board. The practice quizzes do not affect your grade. The 8 chapter exams usually consist of 20 questions worth 5 pts each, for a total of 100 pts per exam. In addition to the 8 chapter exams, there is a longer final exam worth 150 pts, with a greater variety of question types, including matching and short answer. There is also a mid-term essay and a term paper.

Discussion is encouraged but not required. There are built-in Discussion Opportunities for some of the chapters, which can earn you one special request if you do several; more details are available in Blackboard. A special request may be (a) to make up a missed test (when you didn’t request an extension in advance), (b) redo a test, or (c) be given the benefit of the doubt if you are very close to the next grade up at the end of the course.

Calendar and Deadlines: There are specific deadlines for assignments. The calendar, deadlines, and policy on extensions and make-up work are posted under the Deadlines/Calendar button in eCampus and you are responsible for knowing that information.

Requirements:
You may complete the course as quickly as you like. There assignment deadlines, however; see the deadlines button.
- If you are receiving Financial Aid grants or loans and are enrolled in a Distance Learning class, you must show participation in this class prior to the certification date. See the Calendar/Deadlines button and click on the Certification folder.
- There is a required orientation quiz worth 10 points, but the points are extra credit.
- There are deadlines for the exams and papers. See the deadlines button.
- Students earning less than 70% on the first or second test must retake it, and the 2 scores will be averaged, with a maximum of 70 averaged. This will not be done for other tests. You will need to email me for the retest password; be sure to do this in advance of the retest deadline.
- All work must be done through eCampus, including the submission of the term paper. Emailed papers will not be accepted.
- You will need a password for the orientation quiz, and if applicable the ch. 1 or 2 retest. See those areas for explanations of how to get the passwords.

Grading:

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 chapter tests</td>
<td>800 pts</td>
<td>61.53% (approx.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term essay</td>
<td>150 pts</td>
<td>11.53% (approx.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term paper</td>
<td>200 pts</td>
<td>15.38% (approx.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>150 pts</td>
<td>11.53% (approx.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1300 pts</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Your grades are determined by your points only. I do not round final grades; what you see in the eCampus system is what you get. The only extra credit available is the required orientation quiz, worth 10 points, although you can also earn a special request by doing several Discussion Opps. **If you skip an assignment such as the term paper, you still need the same number of points for an A, B, C or D in the course.**

**Grade scale:** 1300 points total

- A = 1170 - 1300 total points
- B = 1040 - 1169 total points
- C = 910 - 1039 total points
- D = 780 - 909 total points
- F = 0 - 779 total points

**Technology Policy:** Assignments are due as outlined in the course calendar/deadlines. Waiting until the last minute can be problematic as issues may arise with computers and internet access. **Experiencing technological difficulties or not having access to a computer or the internet are not acceptable reasons for missing assignment deadlines.** This is an online class, so reliable computer and internet access are crucial. Students should plan in advance to complete assignments utilizing resources available to them; for example, a local library or the Eastfield College library and computer lab.

**Academic Honesty Statement:**
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 DCCCD Code of Student Conduct, published in the DCCCD Catalog at http://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0506/ss/code.cfm

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on tests, plagiarism and collusion. **Cheating** includes copying from another student’s test or homework paper, using materials not authorized, collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test, knowingly using, buying, selling, stealing, or soliciting the contents of an unadministered test, and substituting for another person to take a test. **Plagiarism** is the appropriating, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of it in one’s own written work. **Collusion** is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work for fulfillment of course requirements. Academic dishonesty is a serious offense in college. You can be given a failing grade on an assignment or test, can be failed for the class, or you can even be suspended from college.

**In this course, any instance of academic dishonesty would typically earn an automatic failing grade for the course. In minor instances of plagiarism, it may earn a 0 for the assignment, or a 0 for the assignment and a whole grade reduction of the**
final course grade (such as C to B). Cheating and flagrant or repeated plagiarism can also result in academic suspension or other institutional sanctions. Flagrant plagiarism includes using an essay for sale or free essays site, or turning in someone else's paper as your own. If you have questions about what constitutes academic dishonesty, see the paper instructions in eCampus, the Student Handbook at www.dcccd.edu, or ask me for clarification.

Incompletes:
Incompletes are only given in situations where a student has a documented, extended emergency such as an extended hospitalization or deployment. They will not be given simply because a student needs more time or has missed deadlines. In order to qualify for an incomplete, the student must have completed well over half of the coursework, and must have a passing average on the completed work.

Certification:
You must attend and participate in your on-campus or online course(s) in order to receive federal financial aid. Your instructor is required by law to validate your attendance in your on-campus or online course in order for you to receive financial aid. You must participate in an academic related activity pertaining to the course but not limited to the following examples: initiating contact with your instructor to ask a question about the academic subject studied in the course; submitting an academic assignment; taking an exam; completing an interactive video; participating in computer-assisted instruction; attending a study group assigned by the instructor; or participating in an online discussion board about academic matters relating to the course. In an online course, simply logging in is not sufficient by itself to demonstrate academic attendance. You must demonstrate that you are participating in your online class and are engaged in an academically related activity such as in the examples described above. Failure to do so will prevent you from being certified and will affect your financial aid.

ADA Statement:
Students with a physical, mental or learning disability who require accommodations should contact the college Disability Services Office in C237. Call 972.860.8348 or email efcdso@dcccd.edu. For more information: http://www.eastfieldcollege.edu/SSI/DSO/index.html

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 date listed in your online classroom under the Deadlines button. 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 more information about drop deadlines, refer to the current printed Credit Class Schedule, contact the Admissions/Registrar's Office at 972-860-7167 (Room C119), or contact the division office.

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

Religious Holidays:
Absences for observance of a religious holy day are excused. Notification of the absence must be given to the instructor in writing at least two weeks prior to the date of the holy day. A student whose absence is excused to observe a religious holy day is allowed to contract with the instructor to take a make-up examination or complete an assignment within at a mutually agreed upon time after the absence.

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.

Obtaining Final Course Grades Using eConnect:
Final Grade Reports are no longer mailed. Convenient access is available online at www.econnect.dcccd.edu. Use your identification number when you log onto eConnect, an online system developed by the DCCCD to provide you with timely information regarding your college record. Your grades will also be printed on your Student Advising Report, which is available in the Admissions Office.

Eastfield College Email Policy:
Faculty and students must have and use a DCCCD account for all correspondence relating to academic coursework. Your email address for this class must be yours alone, and must have your name; you can’t use a spouse’s or parent’s email account. For information on setting up a DCCCD student email account go to: http://www.dcccd.edu/SS/OnlineSvs/Pages/MSOffice.aspx

Financial Aid Statement:
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 of repayment for the current semester. Students who fail to attend or participate after the drop date are also subject to this policy.

Financial Aid Statement for Distance Learning Classes:
If you are receiving Financial Aid grants or loans and are enrolled in a Distance Learning class, you must show participation in this class prior to the certification date by either e-mailing or contacting the instructor or logging on to eCampus. 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.

Repeating This Course: (Third Attempt to Enroll in a Course)
Effective for Fall Semester 2005, the Dallas County Community Colleges will charge additional tuition 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 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. See Third Attempt to Enroll in a Course at: http://www.dcccd.edu/thirdcourseattempt/

DCCCD Emergency Operating Procedures
http://video.dcccd.edu/rtv/DO/emergency_dcccd.wmv
Title IX and Diversity:
The Office of Institutional Equity, in coordination with DCCCD colleges, has the primary responsibility for reviewing, updating and implementing compliance policies and procedures. The Institutional Equity and Compliance Officer and the Office of Institutional Equity will ensure compliance with College District policies, federal and state laws related to sexual assault, Title IX, Title II (Americans with Disabilities Act) and the Military Veterans Full Employment Act to support diversity and inclusion.

Students with Disabilities:
If you are a student with a disability and/or special needs, or if you think you may have a disability, please contact the college Disability Services Office (DSO). Please note that all communication with DSO is confidential. If you are eligible for accommodations, please provide or request that the DSO send your accommodation letter to me as soon as possible (students are encouraged to contact DSO at the beginning of the semester). For more information regarding the College Disability Services Office, please visit the Student Services website: dcccd.edu/DSO Offices or contact DCCCD Office of Institutional Equity at (214) 378-1633.

College Disability Services Offices
Brookhaven 972-860-4673
Cedar Valley 972-860-8119
Eastfield 972-860-8348
El Centro 214-860-2411
Mountain View 214-860-8677
North Lake 972-273-3165
Richland 972-238-6180

A Note on Harassment, Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct
We are committed to assure all community members learn and work in a welcoming and inclusive environment. Title VII, Title IX and DCCCD policy prohibit harassment, discrimination and sexual misconduct. If you encounter harassment, sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, relationship violence, stalking), retaliation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, age, national origin, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, and/or gender expression, please contact your College Title IX Coordinator or the Office of Institutional Equity. We treat this information with the greatest degree of confidentiality possible while also ensuring student welfare and college safety.

We are concerned about the well-being and development of our students, and are available to discuss any concerns. There are both confidential and non-confidential resources and reporting options available to you. If students wish to keep the information confidential, please contact the college Counseling or Student Health Services. As required by DCCCD policy, incidents of discrimination and/or sexual misconduct shared with faculty will be reported to the College Title IX Coordinator or District Title IX Coordinator. The Title IX Coordinator will contact the student and determine if further investigation is needed. For more information about policies, resources or reporting options, please contact your college Title IX Coordinator or visit www.dcccd.edu/titleIX.

College Title IX Coordinators
Brookhaven Terri Edrich TitleIX-BHC@dcccd.edu 972-860-4825
Cedar Valley Grenna Rollings TitleIX-CVC@dcccd.edu 972-860-8181
Eastfield Rachel Wolf TitleIX-EFC@dcccd.edu 972-860-7358
El Centro Shantee’ Moore TitleIX-ECC@dcccd.edu 214-860-2138
Mountain View Regina Garner TitleIX-MVC@dcccd.edu 214-860-8561
North Lake Rosemary Meredith(acting) TitleIX-NLC@dcccd.edu 972-860-3992
Richland Bill Dial TitleIX-RLC@dcccd.edu 972-238-6386
Dallas Colleges Online Le’Kendra Higgs TitleIX-LEC@dcccd.edu 972-669-6672

District Title IX Coordinator
Office of Institutional Equity 214-378-1633
LaShawn Grant TitleIX-District@dcccd.edu
Objectives and Competencies

Philosophy 1301 is a part of the Core Curriculum and addresses the following Exemplary Educational Objectives and Core Curriculum Intellectual Competencies as set forth below by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board:

**Exemplary Educational Objectives in Social and Behavioral Sciences**
The objective of a social and behavioral science component of a core curriculum is to increase student’s knowledge of how social and behavioral scientists discover, describe, and explain the behaviors and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, events, and ideas. Such knowledge will better equip students to understand themselves and the roles they play in addressing the issues facing humanity. Therefore, the exemplary educational objectives for this class are:

1. To employ the appropriate methods, technologies, and data that social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
2. To examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods, social structures, and cultures.
3. To use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.
4. To develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.
5. To analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on the areas under study.
6. To comprehend the origins and evolution of U.S. and Texas political systems, with a focus on the growth of political institutions, the constitutions of the U.S. and Texas, federalism, civil liberties, and civil and human rights.
7. To understand the evolution and current role of the U.S. in the world.
8. To differentiate and analyze historical evidence (documentary and statistical) and differing points of view.
9. To recognize and apply reasonable criteria for the acceptability of historical evidence and social research.
10. To analyze, critically assess, and develop creative solutions to public policy problems.
11. To recognize and assume one’s responsibility as a citizen in a democratic society by learning to think for oneself, by engaging in public discourse, and by obtaining information through the news media and other appropriate information sources about politics and public policy.
12. To identify and understand differences and commonalities within diverse cultures.

**Exemplary Educational Objectives in 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 an 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.

The instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus as necessary.