

DATE ADOPTED:
DATE REVIEWED: 2002, 2007
DATE REVISED: 2002, 2008



Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education

Representing Alabama's Public Two-Year College System

Jefferson State Community College

PHL 106 Introduction to Philosophy

I. PHL 106 Introduction to Philosophy - 3 Semester Hours

II. Course Description

This course is an introduction to the basic concepts of philosophy. The literary and conceptual approach of the course is balanced with emphasis on approaches to ethical decision-making. The student should have an understanding of major philosophical ideas in an historical survey from the early Greeks to the modern era.

III. Prerequisite

None

IV. Textbook

Rachels, James. Problems from Philosophy. McGraw Hill (2004).
ISBN: 0-07-298080-X

V. Course Objectives

- A. Understand the unique problems of metaphysics, logic, epistemology, ethics, aesthetics, and political philosophy.
- B. Know the contributions of historically significant philosophers in the context of the history of ideas.
- C. Recognize and evaluate conceptual frameworks from a historical as well as a contemporary perspective.
- D. Reason and argue according to traditional logic and evaluate the reasoning and argumentation of others.
- E. Apply what is learned to current issues.

VI. Course Outline of Topics

- A. The nature and practice of philosophy
- B. Logic/argumentation
- C. Metaphysics
- D. Epistemology
- E. Ethics
- F. Social and political philosophy
- G. Philosophy of religion and art

H. Eastern philosophy

VII. Evaluation and Assessment

Written assessments

Grades will be given based upon A = 90 – 100%, B = 80 – 89%, C = 70 – 79%, D = 60 – 69%, and F = below 60%.

VIII. General Course Competencies

- A. The student will understand the major branches of philosophy.
- B. The student will be able to evaluate philosophical concepts from a historical as well as contemporary perspective.
- C. The student will be able to use problem solving skills in understanding the significance of traditional philosophical questions.

IX. Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes for which they are registered. Students who are unable to attend class regularly, regardless of the reason or circumstance, should withdraw from that class before poor attendance interferes with the student's ability to achieve the objectives required in the course. Withdrawal from class can affect eligibility for federal financial aid.

X. Statement on Discrimination/Harassment

The College and the Alabama State Board of Education are committed to providing both employment and educational environments free of harassment or discrimination related to an individual's race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, or disability. Such harassment is a violation of State Board of Education policy. Any practice or behavior that constitutes harassment or discrimination will not be tolerated.

XI. Americans with Disabilities

The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504) and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 state that qualified students with disabilities who meet the essential functions and academic requirements are entitled to reasonable accommodations. It is the student's responsibility to provide appropriate disability documentation to the College. The ADA Accommodations office is located in FSC 300 (205-856-7731).