

Introduction to Philosophy (PHIL 1013)

Fall 2009

Course Description: After a review of the methods and sub-fields of philosophy, students will describe the position selected philosophers have taken on several basic problems. Students will also describe and defend their own perspectives on these problems.

Prerequisite: English 1113 – English Composition

Course Competencies: Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Discuss basic methods in philosophy
- Discuss, both orally and in writing, major philosophical positions on epistemological, metaphysical, ethical, religious, and judicial issues.
- Apply theories of various philosophers regarding metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, religion, and justice to given problems and situations.
- Analyze a given philosophical argument to assess logical consistency and implications for human existence.

Global Awareness: Although most of the philosophers we will be studying in the course are from Western Europe and the United States, we will often go beyond the textbook so that we can ask this important question: do the issues that concern western philosophers matter at all to eastern philosophers, or do they concern themselves with different philosophical questions?

Note: This sample syllabus is being provided in order to give general knowledge of the subject and should not be considered the sole outline of the course. Class format, assignments, and due dates may vary by professor.