

PHIL 101

Introduction to Philosophy

3 Credits

Community College of Baltimore County Common Course Outline

Description

PHIL 101 - Introduction to Philosophy: teaches the use of critical analysis and critical thinking applications to examine global, social, and local phenomena within a philosophical context. Students explore philosophical and scientific similarities and differences by analyzing the meaning of human existence, explaining, and justifying ethical choices, exploring and recognizing the nature, sources, and limits of human knowledge, the question of whether God exists, how one justifies an answer to this question, and different theories about the nature of reality. The course actively encourages students to recognize the relevance of philosophy to everyday life circumstances.

Co-requisites: ACLT 053 or (ESOL 054 and ESOL 052)

Overall Course Objectives

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

1. evaluate how critical analysis is an essential part of philosophizing;
2. explain the influence that cultural, ethical, and social orientations have on the development and acceptance/rejection of various philosophical theories;
3. analyze a philosophical argument or position;
4. explain the importance and relevance of rationally and constructively questioning basic beliefs and assumption;
5. apply scholarly writing to articulate philosophical issues;
6. find, evaluate, use, and cite appropriate academic sources;
7. apply technology to research modern philosophical thought and issues;
8. explain ethical ramifications of philosophical theories, ideas, and actions;
9. describe major subdivisions within the discipline of philosophy;
10. identify the core ideas of major philosophers and philosophical tenets chosen from diverse cultures;
11. distinguish between diverse opinions, ethical and justified philosophical claims;
12. describe varied conceptions of human nature that are implied by different philosophical theories;
13. describe ways in which philosophy is a dynamic discipline which is responsive to new discoveries in related fields;
14. create a philosophical argument or position; and
15. defend a philosophical argument or position.

Major Topics

The Common Course Outline (CCO) determines the essential nature of each course.
For more information, see your professor's syllabus.

- I. Critical Thinking
- II. Epistemology
- III. Ethical Theory and Practice
- IV. Historical Philosophical Developments
- V. Logic
- VI. Metaphysics
- VII. Social and Political Philosophy

Course Requirements

Grading will be determined by the individual faculty member, but shall include the following, at minimum:

- two exams
- four quizzes
- one research paper of 750 words (Common Graded Assignment)

Written assignments and research projects: Students are required to use appropriate academic resources in their research and cite sources according to the style selected by their professor.

Other Course Information

This course is an approved 3–credit General Education course in the Arts and Humanities. One or more assignments will infuse CCBC General Education Program outcomes and will account for a minimum of 10% of the total course grade. The assignment(s) will allow students to demonstrate at least 5 of the 7 General Education program outcomes.

Students are required to comply with the CCBC Student Code of Ethics in managing classroom interactions with faculty and co-learners.

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