

COURSE OUTLINE

Philosophy 119 (C-ID Number: PHIL 130)
History of Philosophy: Ancient Period (C-ID Title: History of Ancient Philosophy)

I. Catalog Statement

Philosophy 119 is a critical study of the philosophic systems of the ancient Greeks and Romans, with special emphasis on the Pre-Socratics, Plato, Aristotle, and Roman philosophical thinkers.

Total Lecture Units: 3.0

Total Course Units: 3.0

Total Lecture Hours: 48.0

Total Faculty Contact Hours: 48.0

Recommended preparation: Eligibility for ENGL 101

II. Course Entry Expectations

Prior to enrolling in the course, the student should be able to:

1. organize and write thesis-based essays;
2. use organized, detailed examples, facts, logical explanations, and other appropriate support for thesis statements;
3. summarize, analyze, and synthesize information, express and apply standards for judgment, compare and contrast, and evaluate evidence in order to form and state reasoned opinions.

III. Course Exit Standards

Upon successful completion of the required coursework, the student will be able to:

1. read short primary texts with comprehension;
2. write discursive/exploratory essays which summarize and argue for a philosophical position;
3. sustain informed, engaged, and tolerant critical discussions;
4. identify and cogently summarize some of the philosophical theories of the Pre-Socratics, Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, and Post-Aristotelian thinkers;
5. speak and write intelligently about some ancient and contemporary philosophical issues;
6. develop the skills to listen carefully to opposing viewpoints and to offer a

philosophical response to them.

IV. Course Content

Total Faculty Contact Hours = 48

A. Introduction to Ancient Philosophy	1 hour
1. Goal of clear, rational, non-biased thinking	
2. Historical periods of philosophy and major ancient figures	
B. Pre-Socratics	3 hours
1. The Milesians	
2. Heraclitus and the Eleatics	
3. Pluralism and Atomism	
C. Socrates and Plato	15 hours
1. Socratic Ethics	
2. Platonic epistemological metaphysics	
D. Aristotle	9 hours
1. On happiness	
2. On virtue	
3. The problem of acrasia	
E. Ancient Moral Psychology	10 hours
1. Three ancient views of moral psychology	
2. Stoics vs Plato on emotions	
F. Stoicism	5 hours
1. Stoic ethics	
2. Seneca on anger	
G. Epicureanism	5 hours
1. Epicurean ethics	
2. Lucretius on love and fear of death	

V. Methods of Instruction

The following methods of instruction may be used in the course:

1. lecture and class discussions;
2. group discussion;
3. small group projects and presentations;
4. multi-media presentations.

VI. Out of Class Assignments

The following out of class assignments may be used in the course:

1. five to ten page papers attempting to solve a philosophical problem (e.g. "What is

happiness?);

2. construction of careful, sustained and useful critiques of peer's first drafts (e.g. restate a thesis, raise unaddressed questions, construct plausible counter-examples to the thesis- such as the "former heroin addict case");
3. rethinking and rewriting papers in response to criticism (i.e. consider a given counter-example, draw out its implications, and revise the theory or argument in response);
4. group work preparation for graded group work presentations (e.g. divide essays amongst groups, meet to discuss arguments for each position, present as a debate; for example, arguments from Aristotle on anger vs. Seneca's arguments about anger).

VII. Methods of Evaluation

The following methods of evaluation may be used in the course:

1. regularly scheduled in-class essays;
2. final examination.

VIII. Textbook(s)

Pojman, Louis and Lewis Vaughn. *Classics of Philosophy*. 3rd ed. Oxford: Oxford University, 2010. Print.
13th Grade Reading Level. ISBN 0195116453

IX. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the required coursework a student will be able to:

1. summarize accurately many of the philosophical theories defended by the most important ancient philosophers (including the presocratics, Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, the Stoics, and the Epicureans);
2. give specific examples to support or oppose giving specific answers to various philosophical questions that were debated by ancient philosophers;
3. apply ancient philosophical concepts and arguments to present-day issues and practices.