

PHI 2010 Introduction to Philosophy
Spring 2018
3 credit hours
University of Central Florida

Dr. Christy Flanagan-Feddon
Flanagan-Feddon@ucf.edu

If you have questions, please email me rather than posting in Webcourses.

(I will usually respond immediately, but please allow up to 24 hours for a response.)

Required Textbook: *Philosophy: The Power of Ideas, 9th edition, Moore & Bruder* (McGraw-Hill)

***Please obtain your book ASAP. Students choose the method to obtain their books at their own discretion and are still responsible for completing the first assignment by the due date listed below. It is available at the UCF bookstore or many options online (Amazon has multiple options available for quick or immediate access). You can also obtain the book directly from the publisher <https://www.mheducation.com/highered/product/philosophy-power-ideas-moore-bruder/M0078038359.html> (we do not use the Connect online companion, but you may choose this option in order to use the eBook.)**

Course Description: This course is designed to introduce students to the fundamental concepts of philosophy from a historical perspective. Beginning with its ancient roots and continuing into contemporary thought, we will consider such questions as the nature of being, existence, human selfhood, morality, justice, religion, and the metaphysical foundations of knowledge. The course is designed to enable students to think more constructively about themselves and their place in the world and also to enrich their awareness of philosophy as an integral thread in the fabric of the liberal arts.

Course Objectives:

1. Analyze and evaluate basic terms commonly used in the study of philosophy.
2. Recognize and be able to describe key figures and trends in the history of philosophy.
3. Enhance reading, critical thinking skills and problem-solving abilities.
4. Provide the relevant arguments and justifications for different views in philosophy through lucid discussion and clearly written work.

Grading and Class Guidelines:

- **This syllabus should always be your primary resource for due dates, upcoming assignments, and class policies. PLEASE PRINT AND REVIEW CAREFULLY. Do not rely only on reminders from Webcourses.**
- **Reading Assignments: These readings are difficult.** While I will never assign long sections of reading, it will take some time to complete them *and* understand what you read. Be sure to give yourself enough time to read the assignments – and ideally, to read them more than once and take notes. Be sure that you can identify the main ideas of the readings after you have finished reading.

There are also PowerPoints available for your review in each week's Modules section, but **please note that these are not a replacement for the reading assignments.** The PowerPoints will highlight and expand on certain themes from the reading. **Any material found in the reading assignments is fair game for the quizzes and tests.**

- **Syllabus Quiz (5 points):** The Registrar's office needs to document student activity the first week of class in order for financial aid to be disbursed on time. Please review the syllabus and complete the brief syllabus quiz in order to satisfy this requirement no later than **Friday, January 12 at 5:00 pm.** If you complete the quiz after this time you will still receive your financial aid but it may be late. Even if you are not receiving financial aid you should complete this quiz in order to receive credit for the 5 points.
- **Assignments:** Each week you will have a reading assignment and/or film screening and quiz following. Except when noted below for holidays or special circumstances, quizzes are due on Sunday evenings no later than 11:59 pm. The quizzes are timed as explained in each week's Module. ***The quizzes will expire after the due date and makeups will only be granted in DOCUMENTED EMERGENCY situations that prevented you from completing the work on time.***
- ****IMPORTANT NOTES ABOUT ONLINE CLASSES AND ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES****
This is a self-directed, fast-paced course where you MUST work independently, stay organized and complete your work on time. We have the freedom of not having to meet at a set time every week, but that makes the assignment due dates even more important: they are the equivalent of attendance and quiz grades wrapped in one and they are the only way to keep pace with the class.

****Extensions will not be granted if you forget a due date, have work, personal conflicts, etc.**
Each week you have a window of time to complete your assignments. If you wait until the last minute to complete your work and then have internet problems, are not feeling well, etc., it is still your responsibility to find a way to finish your work. It is up to the student to plan accordingly.**

The assignments can only be made up if there is an EMERGENCY situation (hospitalization, death in immediate family, etc.) that absolutely prevents you from completing the work on time. This situation MUST be documented and you MUST contact me immediately in order to inform me of the situation. Make-up assignments will be given **only at the discretion of the instructor and in very rare circumstances.**

- **Please note the menu on the left side of Webcourses. See Modules for additional information regarding each week's assignments and quizzes. Each week's Module will open the weekend immediately before the content begins. Quizzes are also found through this menu on the left side.**
- **Final Grade Totals (235 points possible):**

Week 1 Quiz =	20
Quizzes (14 weeks x 15 pts) =	210
Syllabus Quiz =	5

Your points earned/235 = percentage