Program Description

The philosophy program consists of one comprehensive survey course augmented by special courses in critical thinking, ethics, political philosophy, and religion. All constitute a basic and well-rounded introduction to philosophy. Each course presumes no prior study of philosophy.

Associate Degree

Not available in this discipline.

PHIL 001 3 Units
Introduction to Critical Thinking and Reasoning
Course Advisory: ENGL 001 or ENGL 062. Study of logical thinking and reasoning in everyday life. Emphasis is on informal logic in contrast to formal symbolic logic. Special attention is given to “computer literacy” and “educational television.” Critical reading and writing are required. The course does not fulfill the IGETC critical thinking requirement. Three hours lecture.

PHIL 003 3 Units
Introduction to Philosophy
Course Advisory: ENGL 001 or ENGL 062. General introduction to the central methods and recurring problems in the Western philosophical tradition. Topics of inquiry are theories of knowledge, theories of existence, philosophy of religion, free will and determinism, and the mind-body problem. Critical reading and writing are required. Three hours lecture.

PHIL 004 3 Units
Introduction to Moral Philosophy
Course Advisory: ENGL 001 or ENGL 062. Introduction to moral philosophy and major ethical theories of the Western philosophical tradition. Critical reading and writing are required. Three hours lecture.

PHIL 005 3 Units
Critical Thinking: The Philosophic Grounds of Literacy
Prerequisite: Engl 001. Course Advisory: SCC minimum Math standard. Designed to educate students in the fundamental principles of sound and cogent thinking and reasoning expressed primarily in argumentative essays. More specifically, the course is a practicum in critical literacy, i.e., the written practice and refinement of fundamental skills and dispositions required in effective argumentation, critical analysis and evaluation, conceptual inquiry, and discursive expression in general. The study of exemplary argumentative writings from a variety of philosophical, social, and political sources is integral. Objective exams and critical essays are required. This course fulfills the IGETC critical thinking requirement. Three hours lecture.

PHIL 031 3 Units
Introduction to World Religions of the East
Course Advisory: SCC minimum English standards. Introduction to a comparative study of world religions of the East including Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism, Confucianism, Daoism and Shinto. Emphasis is on analysis of origin and historical background, founders, beliefs and practices, impact on culture and society, and contemporary issues. Three hours lecture.

PHIL 032 3 Units
Introduction to World Religions of the West
Course Advisory: SCC minimum English standards. Introduction to a comparative study of world religions of the West including North American Indian, African, Greek and Roman, Mesopotamian and Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Emphasis is on historical background, founders, beliefs and practices, impact on culture and society, and contemporary issues. Three hours lecture.