PHILOSOPHY

PHILOSOPHY 2017-18

PHILOSOPHY

Cascade Campus
Cascade Hall (CH)
971-722-5251

Rock Creek Campus
Building 5, Room 245
971-722-7327

Sylvania Campus
Social Science Building (SS), Room 201
971-722-4289

pcc.edu/programs/philosophy/

DESCRIPTION

Philosophers ask and attempt to answer fundamental questions about ourselves and the world. What is real? What can be known? How should we live our lives? What is the nature of human nature? What distinguishes logic from illogic? Philosophy courses will look at the answers given to such questions by major historical figures and will help the student learn how to think critically about issues of the sort raised by these questions. Philosophy courses need not be taken in sequence. All philosophy courses are transferable to Portland State University, Oregon State University and the University of Oregon.

PHL 191. Analysis & Evaluation of Argument, 4 Credits.
Identifies and analyzes arguments by discerning simple logical patterns of argument, extracting arguments from the contexts in which they occur, restating them in clear and concise terms and clearing away needless language in formulating arguments. Illustrates common reasoning errors involving fallacies and provides logical alternatives. Prerequisites: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/AAS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/ASOT-B, Arts and Letters/AS.

PHL 195. Science, Skepticism, & the Unknown, 4 Credits.
Introduces scientific method, assessment criteria for scientific observations and explanations and the difference between genuine and pseudoscience. Prerequisite: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/ASOT-B, Arts and Letters/AAS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/AS.

PHL 197. Manufacturing Reality: Critical Thinking and the Media. 4 Credits.
Addresses the growing impact of electronic media on our perceptions of truth and reality. Emphasizes skills to critically deconstruct and analyze the embedded values, messages, and techniques of electronic media as a basis for empowering students to formulate meaningful responses. Prerequisites: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/ASOT-B, Arts and Letters/AAOT, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/AS.

PHL 201. Being and Knowing. 4 Credits.
Introduces philosophical questions and approaches associated with metaphysics (being) and epistemology (knowing) via the works of important figures in the history of philosophy. Prerequisites: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/AAS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/ASOT-B.

PHL 201H. Being and Knowing: Honors. 4 Credits.
Honors version of PHL 201. Introduces metaphysics and the theory of knowledge via the works of important figures in the history of philosophy. Prerequisites: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement, and 3.25 GPA. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/AAOT, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/ASOT-B.

PHL 202. Ethics. 4 Credits.
Studies attempts by philosophers to account for the difference between right and wrong, for the notion of moral obligation and to answer the question: How should we lead our lives? Prerequisites: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/AAOT, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/ASOT-B.
PHL 211. Existentialism. 4 Credits.
Investigates existential philosophy from the 19th Century to the present. Introduces different branches of existentialist thought and the influence existentialism had on philosophy, literature, and culture in the 19th and 20th Centuries. Includes existentialist philosophers such as, but are not limited to, some of the following: Kierkegaard, Nietzsche, Heidegger, Camus and Sartre. Prerequisites: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/AS, Arts and Letters/ASOT-B, Arts and Letters/AAS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/AAOT.

PHL 212. Introduction to Philosophy of Mind. 4 Credits.
Introduces historical and contemporary thought in the philosophy of mind, considering traditional philosophical questions about the nature of the human person in the light of recent research in the cognitive sciences. Includes reading pertinent philosophical and related texts, and may involve museum and research facility field trips (except in online classes), the informal replication of experiments demonstrating interesting aspects of conscious experience, and the utilization of pertinent online, film, and other contemporary media accounts. Features texts from the literature of philosophy of mind, such as discussions of brains in vats, zombies, the plight of color-blind neuroscientists, and what it’s like to be a bat. Prerequisite: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/ASOT-B, Arts and Letters/AAS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/AAOT.

PHL 221. Symbolic Logic. 4 Credits.
Introduces the concepts and techniques of modern symbolic logic for deductive inference. Develops basic propositional and predicate logic skills including: translating ordinary language into symbolic statements, using truth tables for various logical tests, applying inference rules and strategies in argument proofs, and evaluating the validity of complex deductive arguments. Requires: Basic computer skills (including the ability to use MyPCC and D2L, and perform online searches). Recommended: MTH 65 or MTH 95. Prerequisites: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/ASOT-B, Arts and Letters/AAS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/AAOT.

PHL 222. The Philosophy of Art and Beauty. 4 Credits.
Explores individual and cultural assumptions about the nature of art and aesthetic expression. Applies a philosophical approach to the study of art forms from many world cultures. In seminar/workshop format, the class involves the study of a variety of media and genres, with possible field trips to museums, galleries, gardens, and performing arts events. Prerequisites: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/ASOT-B, Arts and Letters/AAS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/AAOT, Arts and Letters/AS.

PHL 298. Independent Study: Philosophy. 1-4 Credit.
Provides advanced, individualized study in areas of philosophy not considered in other courses to meet special interests or program requirements. Requires a term project and readings approved by the instructor. Recommended: prior study in philosophy and instructor permission. Prerequisite: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available.