

## **PHIL 1101: Introduction to Philosophy**

### **A. Course Description**

1. Number of credits: 3
2. Lecture hours per week: 3  
Lab hours per week: 0
3. Prerequisites: None
4. Co-requisites: None
5. MnTC Goals: 6

An introduction to the study of philosophy, with emphasis on developing skills in philosophical modes of inquiry and analysis. Major content areas include epistemology, metaphysics, and value theory, and may also include topics in political philosophy, philosophy of science, philosophy of mind, philosophy of law, philosophy of religion, and philosophy of language. Readings will include both historical and contemporary texts.

**B. Date last revised:** Fall 2015

### **C. Outline of Major Content Areas**

1. Epistemology: theories of knowledge
2. Metaphysics: theories of the nature of reality
3. Value Theory: ethics and/or metaethics; aesthetics
4. At least one of the following: political philosophy, philosophy of science, philosophy of mind, philosophy of law, philosophy of religion, philosophy of language

### **D. Course Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will

1. Be able to identify important historical and contemporary philosophers and their works (6a)
2. Be able to read, interpret, and respond to philosophical texts, theories, positions (6e, 2c)
3. Be able to think philosophically about questions and issues of both universal and personal importance (6e)
4. Be able to clearly state and then critically evaluate central arguments, problems, issues, and questions in the major content areas covered by the course (6c, 2c)
5. Be able to identify and compare/contrast major historical and contemporary divisions and controversies in philosophy (6a, 2b)
6. Be able to articulate the value assumptions incorporated into philosophical works and positions (6b, 2d)
7. Demonstrate improved critical reading, writing, and thinking skills (2b, 2c, 2d)

### **E. Methods for Assessing Student Learning**

1. Essays and Papers
2. Exams and Quizzes

3. Service Learning
4. Homework Assignments
5. Discussion Projects and Participation

**F. Special Information:** None