HCC | **HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**Division of Philosophy, Humanities and Library Sciences
Philosophy Department**
https://www.hccs.edu/programs/areas-of-study/liberal-arts-humanities--education/philosophy/

Phil 1301: Introduction to Philosophy | Lecture | #16746
Fall 2019 | 16 Weeks (Oct. 21 to Dec. 15)
Distance Learning
3 Credit Hours | 48 hours per semester

Instructor Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Lamont Rodgers   Office Phone: 713-718-5598
Office:305   Office Hours: By appointment
HCC Email: lamont.rodgers@hccs.edu   Office Location: Stafford Learning Hub

Please feel free to contact me concerning any problems that you are experiencing in this course. Your performance in my class is very important to me. I am available to hear the concerns and just to discuss course topics.

Instructor's Preferred Method of Contact
Writing to me through Canvas email is probably the easiest way to get in touch with me. I will respond to emails within 24 hours Monday through Friday; I will reply to weekend messages on Monday mornings.

Prerequisites and/or Co-Requisites
ENGL 1301

Canvas Learning Management System

This section of PHIL 1301 will use Canvas (https://eagleonline.hccs.edu) to supplement in-class assignments, exams, and activities. You are taking a distance learning course. You must have a reliable internet connection, either at home or on campus. HCCS Open Lab locations may be used to access the Internet and Canvas. **USE FIREFOX OR CHROME AS THE INTERNET BROWSER**.

HCC Online Information and Policies
Here is the link to information about HCC Online classes including the required Online Orientation for all fully online classes: http://www.hccs.edu/online/

Scoring Rubrics, Sample Assignments, etc.
Look in Canvas for the scoring rubrics for assignments, samples of class assignments, and other information to assist you in the course. https://eagleonline.hccs.edu/login/ldap

Instructional Materials

Textbook Information
All readings are available for free in Canvas. There is no textbook to buy.

Tutoring
HCC provides free, confidential, and convenient academic support, including writing critiques, to HCC students in an online environment and on campus. Tutoring is provided by HCC personnel in order to ensure that it is contextual and appropriate. Visit the HCC Tutoring Services website for services provided.

Libraries
The HCC Library System consists of 9 libraries and 6 Electronic Resource Centers (ERCs) that are inviting places to study and collaborate on projects. Librarians are available both at the libraries and online to show you how to locate and use the resources you need. The libraries maintain a large selection of electronic resources as well as collections of books, magazines, newspapers, and audiovisual materials. The portal to all libraries' resources and services is the HCCS library web page at http://library.hccs.edu.

Supplementary Instruction
Supplemental Instruction is an academic enrichment and support program that uses peer-assisted study sessions to improve student retention and success in historically difficult courses. Peer Support is provided by students who have already succeeded in completion of the specified course, and who earned a grade of A or B. Find details at http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/supplemental-instruction/.

Course Overview

This course is a study of the major issues in philosophy and/or the work of major philosophical figures in philosophy. Topics in philosophy may include theories of reality, theories of knowledge, theories of value, and their practical applications (Texas ACGM). It provides a theoretically diverse introduction to the study of ideas, including arguments and investigations about abstract and real phenomena, particularly in the areas of knowledge, ethics, and religion (HCC Course Catalogue). This course stresses the HCC Core Objectives of Critical Thinking, Communication Skills, Personal Responsibility, and Social Responsibility

Core Curriculum Objectives (CCOs)

This course satisfies the Philosophy, Language, and Culture component area or the Component Area Option in the HCC Core Curriculum. If you are not sure that you need this course to graduate, please consult with your advisor.

Program Student Learning Outcomes (PSLOs)

1. Demonstrate an understanding of arguments, problems, and terminology in philosophy.

2. Analyze and critique philosophical texts in ways that demonstrate an awareness of argument structure and the evaluation of philosophical claims.
3. Present logically persuasive arguments orally and in writing that are relevant to philosophical issues covered in course material.
4. Evaluate personal and social responsibilities of living in a diverse world in terms of the philosophical issues raised in course material.

Course Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs)

1. Read, analyze, and critique philosophical texts.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of key concepts, major arguments, problems, and terminology in philosophy.
3. Present logically persuasive arguments both orally and in writing.
4. Demonstrate critical thinking skills in evaluation and application of philosophical concepts to various aspects of life.
5. Evaluate the personal and social responsibilities of living in a diverse world.

Learning Objectives

1.1 Read canonical texts in the philosophical tradition.

1.2 Analyze, discuss, and critique philosophical texts in class, including through student presentations.

1.3 Analyze and critique philosophical texts in written work, including papers and tests.

2.1 Learn basic philosophical vocabulary, major arguments, and positions in central areas of philosophy.

2.2 Define key concepts in your own words and provide definitions in regular quizzes.

2.3 Demonstrate understanding of key arguments and claims made by philosophers studied in the course through short answer questions and papers.

3 Present logically persuasive arguments in presentations, papers, and tests.

4.1 Engage in critical thinking through classroom discussion and presentations.

4.2 Demonstrate critical thinking skills in written work.

5.1 Consider the impacts of philosophical ideas on personal and social responsibility.

5.2 Apply philosophical concepts discussed in the course to personal and contemporary issues, demonstrating a concern for social and personal responsibility.

Student Success

Expect to spend at least twice as many hours per week outside of class as you do in class studying the course content. Additional time will be required for written assignments. The assignments provided will help you use your study hours wisely. Successful completion of this course requires a combination of the following:

- Reading the textbook
- Meeting all deadlines
- Completing assignments on time
- Emailing your instructor ahead of time if you have questions
- Having a reliable internet connection

There is no short cut for success in this course; it requires reading (and probably re-reading) and studying the material using the course objectives as a guide.

Instructor and Student Responsibilities

As your Instructor, it is my responsibility to**:**
- Provide the grading scale and detailed grading formula explaining how student grades are to be derived
- Facilitate an effective learning environment through learner-centered instructional techniques
- Provide a description of any special projects or assignments
- Inform students of policies such as attendance, withdrawal, tardiness, and making up assignments
- Provide the course outline and class calendar that will include a description of any special projects or assignments
- Arrange to meet with individual students before and after class as required

As a student, it is your responsibility to**:**
- Attend class in person and/or online
- Participate actively by reviewing course material, interacting with classmates, and responding promptly in your communication with me
- Read and comprehend the textbook
- Complete the required assignments and exams
- Ask for help when there is a question or problem
- Keep copies of all paperwork, including this syllabus, handouts, and all assignments
- Be aware of and comply with academic honesty policies in the HCCS Student Handbook

Assignments, Exams, and Activities

Written Assignment

One term paper on a topic assigned by the instructor. The paper will be 4 to 5 pages in length. Specific instructions will be available in Canvas when the paper is assigned. This paper is worth 200 points.

Exams

10 Gateway quizzes worth 10 points each. These quizzes may be taken as often as students desire. The highest score counts. These quizzes are worth 10 points each, for a total of 100 points.

3 Exams worth 100 points each. These sections exams may be taken just once. They are worth a total of 300 points. They amount to half of the final grade.

Grading Formula

90% to 100% (540 points to 600 points) is an A
80% to 89% (480 points to 539 points) is a B
70% to 79% (420 points to 479 points) is a C
60% to 69% (360 to 418 points) is a D
Less than 60% (359 points and below) is an F.

Incomplete Policy:

I will allow a student to take an Incomplete in this class only if they have met all of the following conditions:

1. The student has a medical, legal, family, or personal emergency that prevents them from completing work for the course.
2. This issue occurs after the last day to withdraw.
3. The student has maintained good academic standing in the course up to that point.
4. The student requests an incomplete from the professor prior to the end of the course.
5. The student arranges a schedule for completing incomplete assignments in writing with professor

Additionally, any student who is unable to complete the course due to pregnancy can receive an incomplete, even if she does not meet the previous conditions.

HCC Grading Scale can be found on this site under Academic Information:
http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/student-handbook/

Course Calendar

October 25th to November 15th: Module 1 – Gateway Quizzes 1 through 4, and Exam 1 are due by the end of the day on the 8th.

November 16th to November 30: Module 2 – Gateway Quizzes 5 through 7, and Exam 2 are due by the end of the day on November 30th.

Dec. 1 to Dec. 13th: Module 3 – Gateway Quizzes 6 through 10, Exam 3, and the Term Paper are due by the end of the day on Dec. 13th.

Syllabus Modifications

The instructor reserves the right to modify the syllabus at any time during the semester and will promptly notify students in writing, typically by e-mail, of any such changes.

Instructor's Practices and Procedures

Missed Assignments

This is a distance learning class. Unless you have a legal or medical note indicating that you were incapable of completing the work in the allotted time frame, there are no excused assignments. This means that a note indicating that you were sick for a day or two at the end of the work period does not count as an excuse. Do not wait until the end of the work period to complete assignments.

Academic Integrity

If you plagiarize in this course, you will receive a zero for the assignment. You will also be entered into our tracking system. There are no second chances when it comes to cheating.

Here's the link to the HCC information about academic integrity (Scholastic Dishonesty and Violation of Academic Scholastic Dishonesty and Grievance):
http://www.hccs.edu/about-hcc/procedures/student-rights-policies--procedures/student-procedures/

Attendance Procedures

You must access the course via Canvas and complete the assignments on time.

Student Conduct

Please use proper "netiquette" when participating in the online classroom. Some rules of "netiquette" include:
1.Be friendly, positive and self-reflective.
2.Use proper language and appropriate titles in your responses.
3.Use effective communication –read and re-read before posting.
4.Maintain professionalism –do not use texting abbreviations or slang.5.
If you do not understand a question or response, please ask for clarification.
6.Always be respectful of others and their privacy.
(Adapted from Patsalides, 2010: http://www.brighthub.com/education/online-learning/articles/26946.aspx)

PHILOSOPHY Program Information

Add program-specific information such as the following:
- PHIL Majors
- Careers in PHIL
- HCC PHIL Student Organizations
- PHIL Scholarships

Provide details for each or include links to the information

HCC Policies

Here's the link to the HCC Student Handbook http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/student-handbook/ In it you will find information about the following:

- Academic Information
- Academic Support
- Attendance, Repeating Courses, and Withdrawal
- Career Planning and Job Search
- Childcare
- disAbility Support Services
- Electronic Devices
- Equal Educational Opportunity
- Financial Aid TV (FATV)
- General Student Complaints
- Grade of FX
- Incomplete Grades
- International Student Services
- Health Awareness
- Libraries/Bookstore
- Police Services & Campus Safety
- Student Life at HCC
- Student Rights and Responsibilities
- Student Services
- Testing
- Transfer Planning
- Veteran Services

EGLS³

The EGLS³ (Evaluation for Greater Learning Student Survey System) will be available for most courses near the end of the term until finals start. This brief survey will give invaluable information to your faculty about their teaching. Results are anonymous and will be available to faculty and division chairs after the end of the term. EGLS³ surveys are only available for the Fall and Spring semesters. EGLS3 surveys are not offered during the Summer semester due to logistical constraints.
http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/egls3-evaluate-your-professors/

Campus Carry Link

Here's the link to the HCC information about Campus Carry:
http://www.hccs.edu/departments/police/campus-carry/

HCC Email Policy

When communicating via email, HCC requires students to communicate only through the HCC email system to protect your privacy. If you have not activated your HCC student email account, you can go to HCC Eagle ID and activate it now. You may also use Canvas Inbox to communicate.

Housing and Food Assistance for Students

Any student who faces challenges securing their foods or housing and believes this may affect their performance in the course is urged to contact the Dean of Students at their college for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so.

This will enable HCC to provide any resources that HCC may possess.

Office of Institutional Equity

Use the link below to access the HCC Office of Institutional Equity, Inclusion, and Engagement (http://www.hccs.edu/departments/institutional-equity/)

disAbility Services

HCC strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including long and short term conditions, mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please meet with a campus Abilities Counselor as soon as possible in order to establish reasonable accommodations. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between you, your instructor(s) and Ability Services. It is the policy and practice of HCC to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law. For more information, please go to http://www.hccs.edu/support-services/disability-services/

Title IX

Houston Community College is committed to cultivating an environment free from inappropriate conduct of a sexual or gender-based nature including sex discrimination, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and sexual violence. Sex discrimination includes all forms of sexual and gender-based misconduct and violates an individual's fundamental rights and personal dignity. Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex-including pregnancy and parental status in educational programs and activities. If you require an accommodation due to pregnancy please contact an Abilities Services Counselor. The Director of EEO/Compliance is designated as the Title IX Coordinator and Section 504 Coordinator. All inquiries concerning HCC policies, compliance with applicable laws, statutes, and regulations (such as Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504), and complaints may be directed to:

David Cross
Director EEO/Compliance
Office of Institutional Equity & Diversity
3100 Main
(713) 718-8271
Houston, TX 77266-7517 or Institutional.Equity@hccs.edu

http://www.hccs.edu/departments/institutional-equity/title-ix-know-your-rights/

Office of the Dean of Students

Contact the office of the Dean of Students to seek assistance in determining the correct complaint procedure to follow or to identify the appropriate academic dean or supervisor for informal resolution of complaints.

https://www.hccs.edu/about-hcc/procedures/student-rights-policies--procedures/student-complaints/speak-with-the-dean-of-students/

Department Chair Contact Information

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http://learning.hccs.edu/faculty/helen.graham