HCC – Southwest College
Instructor: Dr. Lamont Rodgers
Office: Stafford Learning Hub Room 305
Learning Web Page: https://learning.hccs.edu/faculty/lamont.rodgers
Email: lamont.rodgers@hccs.edu
Office Hours: By appointment
Phone: 713-718-5598
Please feel free to contact me concerning any problems that you are experiencing in this course. You do not need to wait until you have received a poor grade before asking for my assistance. Your performance in my class is very important to me. I am available to hear your concerns and just to discuss course topics. Feel free to come by my office anytime during these hours. I response to all emails within 24 hours. Course Description: 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.

PREREQUISITE(S): • ENGL 1301 or higher
HCC CORE CURRICULUM: 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.

Course Goals: The course takes several central philosophical problems as its point of departure for engaging in critical thought, analysis, understanding, and application of themes and concepts to understanding the world around us. Students will acquire a familiarity with logical terminology and reasoning and they will apply this to classic and contemporary texts in philosophy. While many of the themes of the course are fundamental and may appear abstract the overall focus will be on understanding for life and right action.
Student Learning Outcomes: 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: Students will:
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.

Notice About Online Learning Management Software: This is a web-enhanced lecture course that uses Canvas. The Canvas Login page is: eagleonline.hccs.edu Your Eagle Online username is the same as your HCC Eagle ID (or User ID) which is used for Online Registration (for example: W0034567). Your password is the same password you use to log in to PeopleSoft, HCC Webmail, and Active Directory (computer terminal login). For any questions about your Eagle ID or password, please go check online here.

You do not need to purchase anything for this class. However, you need access to Canvas. Students need to access the readings during class. So either have a reliable electronic device on which to access the readings or print the readings ahead of time and bring them to class.

IMPORTANT: Eagle Online works best with the latest version of Mozilla Firefox. Download it free, here (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.. (Please check your Operating System to see if you have Firefox in your applications.)

Adopted Texts: No textbooks are required for this course. All readings are supplied online in Canvas. Grading Components and Weights:

10 Quizzes worth 80 points each. (800 points) These quizzes are on all the material that preceded them. Thus, each quiz is cumulative in the sense that all the material from previous quizzes is fair game.

Since this is a distance learning class, all quizzes are open book and open note. I strongly discourage you from taking the quizzes before having read the material and looking at the practice quizzes. Please see the syllabus for deadlines. They are written in stone. 3 Discussion Forums worth 70 points each. (210 points) The professor regards these forums as presentations. Students will write in complete sentences on the college level. If students claim that something is true, students will provide evidence for their claims.

Each forum will focus on a different issue. The specific requirements and a relevant rubric for each forum are available in the Discussions section. If you are not sure what you need to do, you must more than 24 hours before the deadline.

Please see the syllabus for the deadlines. Grading Policy: All grades will be calculated according to a percentage of total points. The total number of points for this term is 1,000. The term grade legend follows:

A = 90% to 100% (900 to 1000 points) 4 points per semester hour
B = 80% to 89.9% (800 to 899 points) 3 points per semester hour
C = 70% to 79.9% (700 to 799 points) 2 points per semester hour

D = 60% to 69.9% (600 to 699 points) 1 point per semester hour
F = 0% to 59.9% (000 to 539 points) 0 points per semester hour
FX (Failure due to non-attendance) 0 points per semester hour
IP (In Progress) 0 points per semester hour
W (Withdrawn) 0 points per semester hour
I (Incomplete) 0 points per semester hour
AUD (Audit) 0 points per semester hour

IP (In Progress) is given only in certain developmental courses. The student must re-enroll to receive credit. COM (Completed) is given in non-credit and continuing education courses. FINAL GRADE OF FX: Students who stop attending class and do not withdraw themselves prior to the withdrawal deadline may either be dropped by their professor for excessive absences or be assigned the final grade of "FX" at the end of the semester. Students who stop attending classes will receive a grade of "FX", compared to an earned grade of "F" which is due to poor performance. Logging into a DE course without active participation is seen as non-attending. Please note that HCC will not disperse financial aid funding for students who have never attended class.

Students who receive financial aid but fail to attend class will be reported to the Department of Education and may have to pay back their aid. A grade of "FX" is treated exactly the same as a grade of "F" in terms of GPA, probation, suspension, and satisfactory academic progress. To compute grade point average (GPA), divide the total grade points by the total number of semester hours attempted. The grades "IP," "COM" and "I" do not affect GPA. Late policy: No work may be submitted late for this course. The deadlines are on the course calendar. Once a deadline passes, you have no opportunity to do the work. !! Philosophy Tutoring is available at http://hccs.askonline.net/ (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site. Please use it if you need it !! Academic Honesty: Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. A student who is academically dishonest is claiming an advantage not available to other students. The instructor is responsible for measuring each student's individual achievements and also for ensuring that all students compete on a level playing field. Thus, in our system, the instructor has teaching, grading, and enforcing roles. You are expected to be familiar with HCC's policy on Academic Dishonesty located at http://www.hccs.edu/about-hcc/procedures/student-rights-policies-procedures/student-procedures/ Pleading ignorance of the rules, including improper documentation (MLA, APA, etc.…) is no justification for academic dishonesty. Students who plagiarize, collude, or cheat will not have an opportunity to resubmit their work and they will receive a grade of 0 for the first assignment, an F in the course for a second assignment, and a report in our Maxient system which could lead to dismissal from the college. Make-up Policy: No work may be submitted late for this course. The deadlines are on the course calendar. Once a deadline passes, you have no opportunity to do the work. Attendance and Withdrawal Policy: HCC Students are expected to attend class regularly. A daily record of absences will be maintained throughout the semester. NOTE: It is the responsibility of the student to drop, or officially withdraw from this course. Your instructor will withdraw a student if and only if provided a written request from that student. Additionally, system-wide rules affect withdrawals:

• Students who repeat a course for a third, or more times, may face a significant tuition/fee increase at HCC and other Texas public colleges and universities.

• The Texas Legislature passed a law limiting new students (those starting college in Fall 2007) to no more than six total course withdrawals throughout their academic career in obtaining a baccalaureate degree. There may be future penalties imposed.

• No student may withdraw from a course following the set "last date to withdraw", which for Summer 1, 2018 is XXXX. After that date and time, a student can only be given a grade earned, or an "I" for incomplete. Incompletes must be made up by the end of the following long semester, after which they will automatically change to a grade of "F". Students receiving an "I" for a course are ineligible for graduation until the "I' has been removed from a student's transcript. Students with Disabilities: Houston Community College is dedicated to providing an inclusive learning environment by removing barriers and opening access for qualified students with documented disabilities in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Ability Services is the designated office responsible for approving and coordinating reasonable accommodations and services in order to assist students with disabilities in reaching their full academic potential. In order to receive reasonable accommodations or evacuation assistance in an emergency, the student must be registered with Ability Services.

If you have a documented disability (e.g. learning, hearing, vision, physical, mental health, or a chronic health condition), that may require accommodations, please contact the appropriate Ability Services Office below. Please note that classroom accommodations cannot be provided prior to your Instructor's receipt of an accommodation letter and accommodations are not retroactive. Accommodations can be requested at any time during the semester, however if an accommodation letter is provided to the Instructor after the first day of class, sufficient time (1 week) must be allotted for the Instructor to implement the accommodations.
Ability Service Contact Information Central College 713.718.6164
Coleman College 713-718-7376 Northeast College 713-718-8322
Northwest College 713-718-5422
713-718-5408
Southeast College 713-718-7144
Southwest College 713-718-5910
Adaptive Equipment/Assistive Technology 713-718-6629
713-718-5604
Interpreting and CART services 713-718-6333

EGLS3 – Evaluation for Greater Learning Student Survey System:
At Houston Community College, professors believe that thoughtful student feedback is necessary to improve teaching and learning. During a designated time near the end of the term, you will be asked to answer a short online survey of research-based questions related to instruction. The anonymous results of the survey will be made available to your professors and department chairs for continual improvement of instruction. Look for the survey as part of the Houston Community College Student System online near the end of the term. I will notify you when the system is

available for your participation.

Title IX Discrimination: 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 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 - Houston, TX 77266 (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site. (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.-7517 or Institutional.Equity@hccs.edu (713) 718-8271

Open/Campus Carry of Handguns: At HCC the safety of our students, staff, and faculty is our first priority. As of August 1, 2017, Houston Community College is subject to the Campus Carry Law (SB11 2015). For more information, visit the HCC Campus Carry web page at http://www.hccs.edu/district/departments/police/campus-carry/.

Course Calendar: MODULE 1: Dec. 17th to December 23rd: Read all of Module 1 and complete all four Quizzes. Finish Discussion 1 by the end of the day on the 23rd. This is the toughest week!
MODULE 2: Dec. 24th to Dec. 31st. Complete all Module 2 readings and do all 4 quizzes. Complete Discussion Board 2 by the end of the day on the 31st.

MODULE 3: January 1st to January 9th. Do all the readings in Module 3. Complete both quizzes. Do the final Discussion Board by the end of the day on January 9th