	Central Christian College of Kansas
Title:	Introduction to Philosophy
Credits:	3
Prerequisites:	No
Description:	Philosophy is a course that is essential for living in today's multicultural environment. This class challenges and clarifies what one believes, what one's notion(s) of reality are, what and how one comes to know about the world, and in general, how one views the world at large. This class is an important element in preparing students to be careful, and reflective critical thinkers while being exposed to the greatest western philosophers who have ever lived. The basic understanding of philosophy and its various components are foundational to the notion of what it means to be an "educated" person in the world in which we live. Emphasis will also be on Christian philosophy and ethics.

Course Objectives:

- understand the foundations of Western thought.
- be able to put forward a rationale for what you know about the world and why it matters.
- be able to think critically and will be challenged to be reflective in forming your worldview.
- gain a clear understanding of the differences between empirical and rational philosophy.
- know the primary arguments related to the debate between the scientific worldview and a faith-based worldview – the two worldviews that currently dominate and compete in our culture today.

	Palmer, Donald (2013). Looking at Philosophy: The unbearable heaviness of philosophy made lighter (6th ed.), New York, NY: McGraw-Hill Higher Education. ISBN: 978-0078038266

-

Topic	Readings	Assignments

Topic	Readings	Assignments
Introduction to Philosophy Pre-Socratic Philosophers The Athenian Period	*Looking at Philosophy* Chapter 1 Chapter 2	Pre-test Plagiarism Certification Discuss Apply
Topic	**Readings**	**Assignments**
The Hellenistic and Roman Periods Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy	*Looking at Philosophy* Chapter 3 Chapter 4	Discuss Apply
Topic	**Readings**	**Assignments**
Continental Rationalism and British Empiricism	*Looking at Philosophy* Chapter 5	Discuss Discuss 2 Apply
Topic	**Readings**	**Assignments**
Post-Kantian British and Continental Philosophy (The 19th Century)	*Looking at Philosophy* Chapter 6	Discuss Discuss 2 Apply
Topic	**Readings**	**Assignments**
The Phenomenological Tradition and its Aftermath	*Looking at Philosophy* Chapter 7	Discuss Apply
Topic	**Readings**	**Assignments**
Pragmatism and the Analytic Tradition	*Looking at Philosophy* Chapter 8	Discuss Final Paper Post-test

-

Assessments Number Points Each Total

Assessments	Number	Points Each	Total
Discussion	6	50	300
Application Assignments	5	60	300
Pre-test	1	5	5
Post-test	1	5	5
Final Paper	1	240	240
Total			850

Students are expected to post in the discussion board a minimum of three separate posts and three separate post dates per discussion thread. The three posts for each thread must include:

- One "initial" post in response to the instructor's question (or stated assignment) no later than Thursday of each course week.
- Two "follow up" post in response to at least one classmate by Sunday of each course week.

The initial response to a discussion question should substantively demonstrate familiarity with the content of the question. The response should be 150-200 words in length. To ensure the discussion is a collective and focused exploration of the topic in the question, the discussion thread should remain focused on the question.

The timing of responses is important since other students are dependent on your postings in order to fully develop the discussion and to post "follow up" discussion entries. Responses should occur in the week the discussion question is posted for reply. Preparation for the response is encouraged to ensure a thoughtful and well-founded contribution to the discussion.

Each learner is expected to both respond initially (by Thursday each week) to the discussion question or assignment instruction posted by the instructor/facilitator each week and make at least two follow-up responses to other learners' postings in the discussion thread by the end of the week (Sunday at 11:59pm). The purpose is to ensure an informed and thoughtful dialogue focused on the topic.

Initial Response (Standard Posting Requirements)

0 Points	1-2 Points	3-4 Points	5 Points
No initial response posted.	Initial response is superficial (less than 100 words), and/or posted after Thursday at 11:59 p.m. CT.	A substantive initial response is posted prior to Thursday at 11:59 p.m. CT that contains 100-149 words.	A substantive initial response is posted prior to Thursday at 11:59 p.m. CT that includes at least 1 reference to course material or another reliable source (150 words or more).

Initial Response (Quality of Content)

0 Points	1-2 Points	3-4 Points	5 Points
Response is irrelevant to the question and does not add to the intent of the discussion.	Response addresses the question, but lacks depth or goes off topic.	Response addresses the question, though greater reflection or development of thought would be helpful.	Response addresses the question, is reflective, and represents a substantive contribution to the discussion.

Follow-Up Posts

0 Points	1-2 Points		3-4 Points	5 Points
No follow-up posts made.	Follow-up posts do not provide sufficient analysis or synthesis of the discussion.		Follow-up posts demonstrate an appreciation for the input of others and add to the discussion.	Follow-up posts elaborate on the comments of others and add to the discussion with further analysis and synthesis.

Mechanics

0 Points	1-2 Points	3-4 Points	5 Points
Posts lack any organization and/or contain multiple errors in spelling or mechanics.	Posts are somewhat organized, but interrupted by significant errors in spelling and mechanics.	Posts could benefit by a bit more organization and attention to mechanical details.	Posts are clear and formatted in a way that is easy to read, free from spelling and mechanical errors.

Frequency of Participation

0 Points	1-2 Points	3-4 Points	5 Points
No participation in discussion.	All posts made on the same day.	Posts made on 2 different days.	Posts made on 3 (or more) different days.

Apply

There are 5 application assignments in this course - one each in weeks 1-5. These are designed so you apply the knowledge and skills you learn during the week.

Introduction

Absent	Needs Improvement	Proficient
There is no introduction to the paper. *(0 points)*	There is an introduction, but it does not introduce the topic, its importance, and/or alert readers to the structure of the discussion of your ideas. *(5 points)*	There is an introduction that introduces the topic, its importance, and it alerts readers to the structure of the discussion of your ideas. *(7 points)*

Body (Use of Course Terms and Concepts)

Absent	Needs Improvement	Proficient
No course terms and concepts were used. *(0 points)*	Some of the course terms and concepts were used inappropriately or key terms and concepts were missing from the discussion. *(15 points)*	All of the relevant course terms and concepts were present and used appropriately in the discussion. *(20 points)*

Conclusion

Absent	Needs Improvement	Proficient
There is no conclusion to the paper. *(0 points)*.	There is a conclusion, but it does not synthesize the main ideas of the paper, and/or provides implications for research and/or practice. *(6 points)*	There is a conclusion that synthesizes the main ideas of the paper, and/or provides implications for research and/or practice. *(8 points)*

Writing Mechanics (e.g. Spelling, Grammar, etc.)

Absent	Needs Improvement	Proficient
The paper had severe problems with spelling, grammar, etc. errors. (0 points)	The paper had some spelling, grammar, etc. errors. (3 points).	The paper had very minimal spelling, grammar, etc. errors. (5 points).

Format (e.g., length, font size, margins, in-text citations and reference list in APA style)

Absent	Needs Improvement	Proficient
The paper did not meet the minimum format requirements. (0 points)	The paper met some of the format requirements. (7 points)	The paper met all format requirements. (10 points)

Pre/Post-Tests

There is a pre and a post test in this course. The pre-test is scheduled for the first week of classes. The post test is scheduled for the last week of classes. While the actual score for both the pre and the post test do not get configured into your grade, you will earn 5 participation points for the submission of each. The pre and post tests should be taken seriously as they provide important feedback on your learning outcomes. This information is used to continuously improve the course.

Final Paper

For the final submission for this course, you will prepare a 4-6 page reflection paper. A detailed description of the assignment requirements can be found below.

Content Requirements

After thinking about your own philosophy and worldview these past 6 weeks, please include your responses to the following prompts. Incorporate your answers to these prompts in a flowing narrative, that includes an introduction, body, and conclusion. What has challenged you?

- What has changed/or not changed but has been strengthened in your own thought processes?
- What would you say your philosophy/worldview is at this juncture of your life?

In preparing your final paper, you will incorporate what you have learned in this course, your research, and your personal beliefs. Please utilize sources from your reading (text), as well as additional resources, including the Internet. Most importantly, please properly cite your resources using APA format.

Document Type:		MS Word
Paper Size:		8.5 X 11"
Length:		4-6 pages
Margins:		1"
Font:		12 pt Times New Roman or a similar font.
Line Spacing:		Double. No extra double space between paragraphs please
Paper Structure		Introduction Body Importance Conclusion References
In-text Citations & Reference List Style		APA
File Naming Convention		LastNameFirstName_FinalPaperProject Example: DoeJohn_FinalPaperProject

Ratings

Criteria	Absent	Needs Improvement	Proficient
Introduction	[There is no introduction to the paper. *(0 points)*	There is an introduction, but it does not introduce the topic, its importance, and/or alert readers to the structure of the discussion of your ideas. *(25 points)*	There is an introduction that introduces the topic, its importance, and it alerts readers to the structure of the discussion of your ideas. *(35 points)*
Body (Use of Course Terms and Concepts)	[No course terms and concepts were used. *(0 points)*	[Some of the course terms and concepts were used inappropriately or key terms and concepts were missing from the discussion. *(65 points)* _____ Student did not address the prompt/instructions correctly. *(55 points)]*	All of the relevant course terms and concepts were present and used appropriately in the

			discussion. *(90 points)*
Conclusion]	[There is no conclusion to the paper. *(0 points)*	There is a conclusion, but it does not synthesize the main ideas of the paper, and/or provides implications for research and/or practice. *(25 points)*	[There is a conclusion that synthesizes the main ideas of the paper, and/or provides implications for research and/or practice*. (35 points)*
Writing Mechanics (e.g. Spelling, Grammar, etc.)	The paper had 10 or more spelling, grammar, etc. errors. *(0 points)*	The paper had 5-10 spelling, grammar, etc. errors. *(15 points)]*	[The paper had very minimal spelling, grammar, etc. errors. *(20 points)]*
Format (e.g., length, font size, margins, in-text citations and reference list in APA style)	The paper did not meet the minimum format requirements and/or no APA citation. *(0 points)*	The paper met some of the format requirements and/or the student needs to review proper APA citation. **(15 points)** _____ The paper met some of the format requirements and/or no in-text citation was used. **(10 points)**	[The paper met all format requirements and APA requirement. *(20 points)*

Howdy, I'm in Section 7.