



Introduction to Philosophy
PHIL 100 (Section **XX**) – 3 Credits
Delivery Mode: **XX**

Semester:
Instructor:
Office Hours:
Office Location:
Phone Number:
Email:

Prerequisite/Co-Requisites: None

Goodwin University works towards an inclusive learning environment where all members of the Goodwin community are treated with respect and dignity. We strive towards universally designed learning environments that are equitable and inclusive. We work to denounce discrimination of any form and maintain a collaborative community with an awareness of global perspectives on social justice.

Course Description



This course introduces students to a broad range of philosophical issues; readings may include major philosophers of the Western tradition: Plato, Aristotle, St. Augustine, St. Thomas Aquinas, Descartes, Hume, Kant, Hegel, Marx, Kierkegaard, Schopenhauer, and Sartre. Students will consider issues of ethics, the nature of reality, religious philosophy and the nature of God, the limits of human knowledge, freedom and predestination, and the nature of the good life.



Course Goal

The course may include some analysis of films, as well as news stories and other cultural events and trends. Every effort will be made to provide points of entry for the exercise of critical thought.



Required Text

None.

Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment Methods

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Methods
To learn the basic terminology of philosophy.	Reflection assignments
To learn basic logical reasoning.	Quiz on logic
To write clearly and thoughtfully on philosophical issues.	Reflection assignments
To be able to engage in academic discussion.	Discussion board posts
To appreciate a diversity of philosophical thought from different cultures and peoples.	Discussion board posts
To understand, interpret, critique, compare, and apply major philosophical theories.	Reflection assignments
To relate philosophy to contemporary human problems and conditions.	Reflection assignments



Grading Policy

Your performance in this course is assessed using multiple, varied methods in the areas listed below and based on the expectations as described in the syllabus and outlined in assessment scoring guides or rubrics. If you do not understand the expectations, it is your responsibility to ask the instructor questions.

Module 1 Reading Response	10%
Module 2 Reading Response	10%
Module 3 Reading Response	10%
Module 4 Reading Response	10%
Module 6 Reading Response	10%
Logic Quiz	10%
Term paper	25%
Discussion Board	15%
Total:	100%

Grading Key

93-100 = A	80-82 = B-	67-69 = D+
90-92 = A-	77-79 = C+	63-66 = D
87-89 = B+	73-76 = C	60-62 = D-
83-86 = B	70-72 = C-	Below 60 = F



Coursework Expectations

This section of the syllabus contains a listing with brief descriptions of the assessment methods for this course. They are designed to align with the student-learning outcomes and provide you with varied ways to demonstrate mastery of the course content. ***Additional instructions and related scoring guides or rubrics are posted to Canvas.***



Discussion Board (15%): Weekly discussion board threads will allow you to collaborate with classmates in an effort to share critical insight and ideas regarding the course's readings.



Reading Responses (50%): Each of the course's reading responses will offer you the opportunity to engage with and respond to a selected reading. The feedback provided on these weekly assignments will guide you in your development as a writer, critical thinker, reader, and philosopher. These assignments will also serve to reinforce philosophical concepts and prepare for the semester's term paper.



Term Paper (25%): The final research paper represents the culmination of those critical conversations and philosophies studied throughout the semester. In this final project, you will gather research to support an essay inspired by a philosophy.



Logic Quiz (10%): In the final exam, you will respond to two short essay questions that will prompt you to reflect on critical themes evident in the readings assigned throughout the semester.

Course Outline *
The Course Outline / Class Schedule contains due dates.

Week (Assignment due dates)	Topic	Reading	Assignments
Module 1 Due Date:	Course Overview Branches of Philosophy Taoism	Tao-te Ching by Lao-tzu (Part I)	Reading Response due on Taoism
Module 2 Due Date:	Buddhism	Karaniya Metta Sutta	Reading Response due on Buddhism
Module 3 Due Date:	Plato	Plato: "The Allegory of the Cave"	Reading Response due on "The Allegory of the Cave"
Module 4 Due Date:	Aristotle	Aristotle <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> Book One	Reading Response due on Aristotle
Module 5 Due Date:	Logic	None	Logic Quiz
Module 6 Due Date:	Kant	Kant: <i>Foundations of the Metaphysics of Morals</i> (excerpts)	Reading Response due on Kant
Module 7 Due Date:	Ethics	None	Term Paper due
Module 8 – Catch Up Week Due Date:	None	None	None – meet with your instructor if needed.

**This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.*



Class Policies



Class Meetings: Arrive on time and be prepared for class with materials (e.g., pen, paper, laptop, textbook, assignments). Please refer to the course outline for schedule of meeting dates and holidays. Regular attendance and participation in class is expected. If you expect to be absent or late for a class meeting, email me **before** the beginning of class. If you need to leave class early, speak with me **before** the class session.



Late Arrival/Registration

This course began on **XX** date. Participating in the course is vital to the learning process. If you arrive in the course after this date, your instructor recommends that you:

- Understand that required course assignments **cannot** be waived due to late arrival
- Thoroughly read and review the Timely Submission of Coursework Policy on this syllabus
- Meet with your instructor as soon as possible to discuss the course assignments and due dates



Canvas: Canvas contains class materials such as PowerPoints, worksheets, media, and links for submitting assignments. Be sure to **check Canvas often** to stay up to date on announcements, new course materials, and other important information. **All assignments must be submitted on Canvas.**



Academic Integrity: Goodwin University values the principles of academic integrity. This means that our class expects students to think critically, to share original ideas, and to be honest with respect to their intellectual efforts. Submission of work for academic credit must be original to this class, and it must be the student's own work. Goodwin University courses document sources in accordance with APA 7th ed. It is the responsibility of each student to become familiar with what constitutes academic dishonesty and to avoid all forms of cheating and plagiarism. If you have questions about the university's Academic Integrity Policy or about what constitutes academic dishonesty, ask your instructor.



Timely Submission of Coursework: Balancing workload and meeting deadlines are an integral of the

university experience and professional careers. All work in this course is due by **XX**. Assignment due dates are listed in the Course Outline and on Canvas, so be sure to make note of them and create a schedule of reminders to ensure assignments are submitted on time. Any assignments not submitted by the specified due date will result in a grade of "0" (zero) for that assignment, and a grade of "0" will be entered in the Canvas gradebook. This practice provides you with real-time information on your grade for the course and maintains the integrity of the gradebook. Because due dates are listed in this syllabus, the need for extensions should be extremely rare. Should you have a need to request an extension, email me by **XX** the week the assignment is due. Write Request for an Extension in the subject line of your email and explain to me your plan for completing your work. There is no need to share the reason for your request. You will have **XX** to complete this work. In addition, please note that **XX** extensions are possible in this course.



Laptops and Tablets: Laptops and tablets are welcome in the classroom for academic purposes.



Cell Phones: As a courtesy to your classmates and the instructor, please set cell phones to vibrate. If you must take or make a call, please step out of the classroom to do so.



Course Decorum: We will create a positive environment in the classroom. There is an expectation of respect and professionalism (i.e., demonstrate respect for instructors, peers, and self, participate in classroom activities, and follow course and college policies).



Communication and E-mail: Students are expected to communicate in a professional manner (i.e., verbal, written, and electronic). I will send course updates and announcements through Canvas so please **check your Goodwin e-mail account regularly.**



APA Style: This course follows APA style format for all written assignments. All written assignments must be produced using software that is compatible with Canvas. Assessment of written assignments will include use of APA format, writing, grammar, quotations, and references. Academic Writer is also available at <https://goodwin.libguides.com/academicwriter> to help with APA formatting.



Expectations for Written Work: The following are basic expectations for all written work:

1. One-inch margin for all sides of the page (e.g., top, bottom, left, and right side of the page).
2. The font is 12 point.
3. The paper is double spaced.
4. The first page of the paper includes:
 - ✓ Your full name
 - ✓ The date of submission

Goodwin University Policies and Services

This course adheres to all policies outlined in the Goodwin University catalog.

General academic policies of Goodwin University may be found on the college web site at and in the college catalog at <http://www.goodwin.edu/academics/catalogs.asp>.

Student services information may be found on the Goodwin University website at <https://www.goodwin.edu/student-affairs/> and <http://www.goodwin.edu/library/>.