

**JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
State University of New York

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**INSTITUTIONAL COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Course Title:** Intro to Philosophy

**Course Abbreviation and Number:** PHL 1510

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Course Type:** Lecture

**Course Description:** Students will gain an understanding of the Western philosophical tradition and the influences of philosophical thinking. Students are introduced to major areas of philosophy and explore the relationships between concepts in metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, social philosophy, and aesthetics.

Prerequisite: ENG 1510.

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**General Education Requirements Met**

SUNY

Western Civilization

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**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the development of the distinctive features of the history, institutions, economy, society, culture, etc., or Western Civilization assessment via listing and describing a variety of philosophers and philosophical beliefs from the pre-Socratics to modern Western philosophy. (SUNY Gen Ed – Western Civilization)
  2. Relate the development of Western civilization to that of other regions of the world via identifying various philosophical views on what constitutes justice, good and evil, and morality. (SUNY Gen Ed-Western Civilization)
  3. Define and discuss the major branches of philosophy.
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**Topics Covered:**

- What is philosophy?
  - Different philosophical traditions (including but not limited to)
    - Pre-Socratics
    - Classical philosophy
    - Sophists
    - Religious philosophy
    - Rationalism
    - Empiricism
  - Pragmatism
  - Free will versus Determinism
  - Morality and Ethics
  - Modern philosophical issues
  - Argumentation
    - Reasons versus conclusions
    - Unspoken assumptions
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**Information for Students**

- Expectations of Students
  - [Civility Statement](#)
  - [Student Responsibility Statement](#)
  - [Academic Integrity Statement](#)
- [Accessibility Services](#)

Students who require accommodations to complete the requirements and expectations of this course because of a disability must make their accommodation requests to the Accessibility Services Coordinator.

- [Get Help: JCC & Community Resources](#)
- [Emergency Closing Procedures](#)

- Course grade is determined by the instructor based on a combination of factors, including but not limited to, homework, quizzes, exams, projects, and participation. Final course grade can be translated into a grade point value according to the following:

A=4.0	B+=3.5	B=3	C+=2.5	C=2	D+=1.5	D=1	F=0
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- Veterans and active duty military personnel with special circumstances (e.g., upcoming deployments, drill requirements, VA appointments) are welcome and encouraged to communicate these to the instructor.
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**Effective Date:** Fall 2021