

Division of Humanities and Fine Arts

Chris Iwata, Dean

Auditorium 19a

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### Program Information

Philosophy examines basic questions regarding such topics as the nature of truth, sound reasoning, goodness, beauty, God, justice, and reality. Philosophy courses apply the insights of different cultural traditions to contemporary life. Diligent study of philosophy will improve one's critical thinking skills.

### Career Opportunities

Teaching; Medical Ethics; Public Service; Religious Service; Publishing; Social Work.

### PHIL 300 Introduction to Philosophy 3 Units

*Prerequisite:* None.

*Advisory:* ENGWR 100 with a grade of "C" or better, or by the assessment process.

*General Education:* AA/AS Area II(b); AA/AS Area I; CSU Area A3; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

This course will apply critical thinking techniques of analysis and evaluation to the methods, arguments, and positions of several philosophers on topics such as human freedom, the belief in God, the nature and limits of scientific knowledge, natural rights, the nature of the State, and the basis of moral judgments.

### PHIL 310 Introduction to Ethics 3 Units

*Prerequisite:* None.

*General Education:* AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

This course introduces the student to classical and contemporary ethical theories and their application to a variety of contemporary moral issues such as capital punishment, animal rights, affirmative action, abortion, euthanasia, torture, and same-sex marriage.

### PHIL 320 Logic and Critical Reasoning 3 Units

*Prerequisite:* None.

*General Education:* AA/AS Area II(b); CSU Area A3

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

Logic and critical reasoning provides instruction on the tools needed to be an effective rational person. The student will learn to identify premises and conclusions in arguments and to identify cogent inductive arguments and valid deductive arguments. Special emphasis is placed on recognizing and overcoming perceptual and cognitive errors and biases that hinder the ability to think critically. The standards of critical thinking and logic will be discussed in terms of their historical development and their cultural impact on society.

**PHIL 322 Critical Thinking About the Paranormal 3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* ENGWR 300 with a grade of "C" or better  
*General Education:* AA/AS Area II(b); CSU Area A3; IGETC Area 1B  
*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*  
*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

The primary emphasis of this course is on learning to evaluate the experience of paranormal phenomena using fundamental principles of critical thinking and logical analysis. The need for scientific experiments testing paranormal claims is explained, as are the logical requirements and limitations of such experiments and the inherent difficulties of meeting those requirements. Students will write a minimum of 8,000 words divided among at least five essays, all of which require research.

**PHIL 325 Symbolic Logic 3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.  
*Advisory:* ENGWR 100 with a grade of "C" or better, or placement by the assessment process.  
*General Education:* AA/AS Area II(b); AA/AS Mathematics Competency; CSU Area A3  
*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*  
*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

This course is an introduction to the nature of deductive systems of logic and their application. Students will learn to evaluate argument forms for validity and soundness. This course is recommended for students of the sciences, computer programming, mathematics, and philosophy.

**PHIL 330 History of Classical Philosophy 3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.  
*Advisory:* Completion of ENGWR 100 with a "C" or better  
*General Education:* AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B  
*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*  
*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

This course is a study of the origin and development of Western philosophy from the period of the ancient Greeks and Romans. The course is recommended for all philosophy, history, and humanities majors.

**PHIL 331 History of Modern Philosophy 3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.  
*Advisory:* ENGWR 300 with a grade of "C" or better.  
*General Education:* AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B  
*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*  
*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

This course is a study of the development of Western philosophy from the period the Renaissance through the period of modern Europe and America. The course is recommended for all philosophy, history, and humanities majors.

**PHIL 333 J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Charles Williams and Romantic Idealism and the Meaning of Life 3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.  
*General Education:* AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B  
*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*  
*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

This course focuses on the philosophy of literature. J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Charles Williams, and the medieval grail myths will be the literary basis for philosophic issues and discussion. Plato, neoplatonism, and Romantic Idealism will be the basis for concepts in metaphysics and aesthetics. This will include concepts of myth, Tibetan metaphysics/magic, and fairy tales, as well as concepts of beauty and eros.

**PHIL 338 Contemporary Philosophy 3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.  
*Advisory:* Completion of ENGWR 100 with a "C" or better  
*General Education:* AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B  
*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*  
*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

This course is recommended for students interested in an introduction to philosophy with a focus on existential concerns, such as alienation, authenticity, anxiety, and on problems in the philosophy of mind and language, such as the structure of consciousness and the meaning of "meaning" and language games.

**PHIL 352 Introduction to World Religions 3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.  
*General Education:* AA/AS Area I; AA/AS Area VI; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B  
*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*  
*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

This course is an introductory survey of selected world religions. Emphasis is on the origins, beliefs, and interpretations of philosophical concepts underlying Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, African, and Native American religions. Major topics include ideas of revelation, mysticism, religious myths, worship, and ritual.

**PHIL 353 Religions of the Far East 3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.  
*Advisory:* ENGWR 100 with a grade "C" or better  
*General Education:* AA/AS Area I; AA/AS Area VI; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B  
*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*  
*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

This course is an introduction to the major religions of the Far East: Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, Sikhism, Taoism, Confucianism, Shintoism, and Sufism. The origins, myths, basic teachings, development, and modern forms of each religion will be surveyed through comparison and contrast with each other in order to clarify religious concepts and practices. The influences of these religions on Western cultures will be examined.

**PHIL 354 Religions of the West 3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.

*Advisory:* ENGWR 300

*General Education:* AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

Study of the origins, history, development, important teachings, mythology, and modern forms of the major Western religions—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Zoroastrianism, a forerunner of these, will also be examined in detail. In order to clarify concepts and practices, comparison and contrast with other religions will be used as a basis for discussion. The influences of these religions on the Western world will be identified and examined.

**PHIL 368 Law, Justice, and Punishment 3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.

*General Education:* AA/AS Area V(b); AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2;

CSU Area D8; IGETC Area 3B

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

This course introduces the student to the historical, cultural, legal, and philosophical development in American culture of (1) abstract principles such as rights, justice, the nature of law, freedom of speech, equal protection of the law, and following precedent; and (2) theoretical issues such as statutory and constitutional interpretation, utilitarian and retributive theories of punishment, and justice as fairness; and (3) practices such as the exclusionary rule, plea bargaining, and the insanity defense.

**PHIL 480 History of Classical Philosophy 3 Units - Honors**

*Prerequisite:* ENGWR 100 with a grade of "C" or better; or placement through the assessment process.

*General Education:* AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B

*Enrollment Limitation:* Eligibility for the Honors Program

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

This course is a study of the origin and development of Western philosophy from the period of the ancient Greeks and Romans. The course is recommended for all philosophy, history, and humanities majors. This honors section uses an intensive instructional methodology designed to challenge motivated students.

**PHIL 481 History of Modern Philosophy 3 Units - Honors**

*Prerequisite:* ENGWR 100 with a grade of "C" or better; or placement through the assessment process.

*General Education:* AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B

*Enrollment Limitation:* Eligibility for the Honors program.

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

This course examines, analyzes, and critically evaluates key philosophical works from Descartes to Kant. In addition, this honors course uses an intensive instructional methodology designed to challenge motivated students.

**PHIL 482 Law, Justice, and Punishment 3 Units - Honors**

*Prerequisite:* None.

*General Education:* AA/AS Area V(b); AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2;

CSU Area D8; IGETC Area 3B

*Enrollment Limitation:* Eligibility for the Honors Program.

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

This course introduces the student to the historical, cultural, legal, and philosophical development in American culture of (1) abstract principles such as rights, justice, the nature of law, freedom of speech, equal protection of the law, and following precedent; and (2) theoretical issues such as statutory and constitutional interpretation, utilitarian and retributive theories of punishment, and justice as fairness; and (3) practices such as the exclusionary rule, plea bargaining, and the insanity defense.

**PHIL 495 Independent Studies in Philosophy 1-3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU; UC Transfer credit will be awarded only after the course has been evaluated by the enrolling UC campus. The units completed for this course cannot be counted toward the minimum 60 units required for admissions.*

*Hours:* 54 hours LAB

See Independent Studies

**PHIL 499 Experimental Offering in Philosophy .5-4 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None

*Advisory:* Eligibility for ENGWR 300; one or more courses in philosophy with a grade of "C" or better.

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU; UC Transfer credit will be awarded only after the course has been evaluated by the enrolling UC campus. The units completed for this course cannot be counted toward the minimum 60 units required for admissions.*

*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

Experimental offerings in Philosophy 499 will encompass topics from the following areas: (a) knowledge and existence, (b) self and mind, (c) philosophy and the arts, (d) norms and politics, (e) philosophy of the East and West, (f) philosophical literature and myths, (g) science and human nature, and (h) specific ideas of individual philosophies. The course may be repeated for credit providing there is no duplication of topics.