Department:

Philosophy

Course Description:

This course provides a study of major philosophical ideas of the Western world from the time of Plato to the present. The course will present a broad overview of the history of philosophy and the thoughts of major philosophers. Emphasis will be placed on showing relationships between current societies and significant philosophical ideas.

Course Competencies:

The learning outcomes and competencies detailed in this syllabus meet or exceed the learning outcomes and competencies specified by the Kansas Core Outcomes Groups for this course as approved by the Kansas Board of Regents. (Kansas Regents Shared Number Course and Title: KRSN Course PHL 1010 Introduction to Philosophy.)

Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Summarize the historical development of philosophical inquiry.
2. Define and explain basic philosophical terms.
3. Describe basic philosophical theories and ideas.
4. Relate philosophical questions and conflicts to current events and present day life.
5. Use effective writing skills to provide clear explanations of philosophical ideas.

Course Content:

A. The Nature of Philosophy
B. The Question of Reality
   1. The First Metaphysicians
   2. The Idea of Form
   3. Mind and Matter
   4. Idealism
   5. Materialism
C. The Question of Knowledge
   1. Skepticism
   2. The Way of Reason
   3. The Way of Experience
   4. The Problem of Certainty
D. The Question of God
   1. God and the World
   2. God and Reason
   3. God and Evil
E. The Question of Morality
   1. Challenges to Morality
   2. Utilitarianism
   3. The Role of Duty
   4. Virtue
F. The Question of Society
   1. Liberty
   2. Democracy
   3. Justice

Learning Assessments:

Course competencies will be assessed by the use of documented written commentaries on the reading assignments, a mid-term exam, and a final exam.

Instructional Materials:

ISBN 0073386561

Guidelines for Requesting Accommodations Based on Documented Disability or Medical Condition

It is the intention of Highland Community College to work toward full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, to make instructional programs accessible to all people, and to provide reasonable accommodations according to the law.

Students should understand that it is their responsibility to self-identify their need(s) for accommodation and that they must provide current, comprehensive diagnosis of a specific disability or medical condition from a qualified professional in order to receive services. Documentation must include specific recommendations for accommodation(s). Documentation should be provided in a timely manner prior to or early in the semester so that the requested accommodation can be considered and, if warranted, arranged.

In order to begin the process all students must complete the “Disabilities Self-Identification Form” at this link: https://highlandcc.edu/pages/disability-services.

This form can also be accessed at the Highland Community College homepage under Students Services/Student Resources/Disability Service or by contacting the Disabilities Coordinator.