



## An Introduction to Philosophical Inquiry I – PHIL 101

### University Studies Program

### Course Outline

COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE:	Pre 1998
OUTLINE EFFECTIVE DATE:	September 2023
COURSE OUTLINE REVIEW DATE:	April 2028

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#### GENERAL COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces students to the questions and ideas in the world of thought and the skills of moral reasoning. In the context of both classical and contemporary philosophers, the moral principles used to justify how we should live are examined. An analysis of various moral traditions will seek to answer Socrates' timeless ethical question, "how ought we to live?" Western, Eastern, Indigenous, Feminist, and Queer perspectives will be discussed.

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**Program Information:** This course can be used as either a required course or an elective in several College Programs. Refer to the College Program Guide for additional information.

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**Delivery:** This course is delivered face-to-face and online

**COTR Credits:** 3

**Hours for this course:** 45 hours

#### Typical Structure of Instructional Hours:

Instructional Activity	Duration
Lecture Hours	45
Seminars / Tutorials	
Laboratory / Studio Hours	
Practicum / Field Experience Hours	
Other Contact Hours	
<b>Total</b>	45

#### Practicum Hours (if applicable):

Type of Practicum	Duration
On-the-job Experience	N/A
Formal Work Experience	N/A
Other	N/A
<b>Total</b>	

**Course Outline Author or Contact:**

Vance Mattson, M.A. McGill University

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Signature

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**APPROVAL SIGNATURES:**

Department Head

Erin Aasland Hall

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Dean of Business and University Studies

Stephanie Wells

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Department Head Signature

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Dean Signature

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Valid from: September 2023 – April 2028

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Education Council Approval Date

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**COURSE PREREQUISITES AND TRANSFER CREDIT:****Prerequisites:** None**Corequisites:** None**Flexible Assessment (FA):**

Credit can be awarded for this course through FA

☐ Yes☒ No**Transfer Credit:** For transfer information within British Columbia, Alberta and other institutions, please visit <http://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>.

Students should also contact an academic advisor at the institution where they want transfer credit.

**Prior Course Number:** N/A

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## Textbooks and Required Resources:

Textbook selection varies by instructor and may change from year to year. At the Course Outline Effective Date, the following textbooks were in use:

### Course Reading Package

Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online text calculator <https://textbook.cotr.bc.ca/> for a complete list of the currently required textbooks.

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## LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students should be able to

- Explain the origins and essence of philosophical inquiry;
  - Apply sound critical thinking skills to philosophical issues;
  - Identify the sources and limitations of diverse ethical traditions;
  - Discuss the establishment of dominant moral narratives in the regulation of human experience, and investigate the challenges posed by historically excluded orientations; and
  - Formulate philosophical arguments and theories in the field of ethics.
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## COURSE TOPICS:

- Introduction to Philosophy and Ethics
- Greek Ethical Thought: Plato, Aristotle, Epicurus, and Stoic Thought
- Christian Ethical Thought: Augustine and Aquinas
- Eastern Ethical Thought: Buddhist and Taoist Thought
- Indigenous Ethical Thought
- Thinkers of the Enlightenment: Thomas Hobbes, Benedict de Spinoza, David Hume, and Immanuel Kant
- Critical Theories: Arthur Schopenhauer, Friedrich Nietzsche, Soren Kierkegaard, Feminist Perspectives, Michel Foucault
- Conclusions

See instructor's Syllabus for the detailed outline of weekly readings, activities, and assignments.

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## EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT:

Assignments	% Of total Grade
Attendance and participation	10%
Written assignments	10%
Exams	60%
Final Essay	<u>20%</u>
Total	100%

Please see the instructor's Syllabus for specific classroom policies related to this course, such as breakdown of evaluation, penalties for late assignments, and the use of electronic aids.

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## EXAM POLICY:

Students must attend all required scheduled exams that make up a final grade at the appointed time and place.

Individual instructors may accommodate for illness or personal crisis. Additional accommodation will not be made unless a written request is sent to and approved by the appropriate Department Head prior to the scheduled exam.

Any student who misses a scheduled exam without approval will be given a grade of "0" for the exam.

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## COURSE GRADE:

Course grades are assigned as follows:

Grade	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
Mark (Percent)	≥ 90	89-85	84-80	79-76	75-72	71-68	67-64	63-60	59-55	54-50	≤ 50

A grade of "D" grants credit, but may not be sufficient as a prerequisite for sequential courses.

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## ACADEMIC POLICIES:

See [www.cotr.bc.ca/policies](http://www.cotr.bc.ca/policies) for general college policies related to course activities, including grade appeals, cheating and plagiarism.

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## COURSE CHANGES:

Information contained in course outlines is correct at the time of publication. Content of the courses is revised on an ongoing basis to ensure relevance to changing educational, employment, and marketing needs. The instructor will endeavour to provide notice of changes to students as soon as possible. The instructor reserves the right to add or delete material from courses.