

SYLLABUS EDISON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY



PHI-121S-401FS ~ 3 Credit Hours ~ 1:30 – 2:45 p.m. Wednesdays ~ Piqua)

Instructor: Dr. Loleta B. Collins

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Dr. Collins's Welcome:

I welcome learners from all identity groups. Feel free to email me if you have any requests, questions, or concerns.

Required Materials:

Textbook: Stumpf, Samuel E. and James Fieser. *Philosophy: A Historical Survey with Essential Readings*. McGraw Hill: New York, 2024.

- You may use the 9th or 10th edition instead; you will find the assigned textbook readings for those editions Blackboard.

Blackboard. Access the Blackboard site directly at <https://edisonohio.blackboard.com> or through the ESCC homepage.

Technology Reminder: This is an webflex course. You are expected to have basic computer skills including but not limited to, adding attachments, uploading, downloading, and understanding concepts such as file formats. If you do not understand these or do not have mastery of these skills, please take CIS-110S Computer Concepts & Applications before taking this course.

English-Language Reminder: Introduction to Philosophy is a college-level course which requires college-level reading and composition skills. The material in this course is complex and requires a good deal of time to think through and consider. Please be sure you have time to devote hours of study each week to this complex collection of thoughts.

Weekly Expectations:

Each week, you will have the following things to do:

- 1) Check your Edison State email **daily**. All course related messages will be sent using your ESCC email.
- 2) Expect to log into the online class at least two times a week, more often is better.
- 3) Attend the Face-to-Face class session
- 4) Read the assigned textbook chapter (do this before completing the assignments)
- 5) Complete the assigned on-line quiz & homework assignments due
 - a) All online work is due on or before **11:59 p.m.** on the date listed below. (**Saturdays!!**)
 - b) If you are unsure of your ability to meet a particular due date, e-mail your instructor as soon as possible.

Course Schedule:

In-Class Date	Lecture Topic	Online Modules & Textbook Readings <i>Located in the first half of the textbook</i>	Primary Source Readings <i>Located in the second half of the textbook</i>	Work Due	Due Date
8/26/26	Syllabus & Introduction to Western Philosophy	Start Here Module, Module 1, Syllabus, & textbook pages 3-26	# 1 pages 5-11	Quiz 1	8/29/26
9/2/26	Truth, Knowledge & Goodness (The Sophists and Socrates)	27-42 & Module 2	# 2 pages 11-24	Quiz 2	9/5/26
9/9/26	Plato	43-71 & Module 3	# 5 pages 53-62	Quiz 3	9/12/26
9/16/26	Logic (Aristotle)	72-98 & Module 4	# 6 pages 62-80	Quiz 4	9/19/26
9/23/26	Materialism (Classical Philosophy after Aristotle)	99-121 & Module 5	# 3 & # 4 pages 93-104	Quiz 5 Essay 1	9/26/26
9/30/26	The Existence of God (Augustine)	122-162 & Module 6	# 8 pages 118-126	Quiz 6	10/3/26
10/7/26	Aquinas & Late Medieval	163-190 & Module 7	# 7 & # 8 pages 113-126	Quiz 7	10/10/26
10/14/26	Renaissance & Natural Law (Pascal, Bacon, & Hobbes)	191-224 & Module 8	# 3 pages 137-149	Quiz 8	10/17/26
10/21/26	Rationalism (Descartes, Spinoza, & Leibniz)	225-258 & Module 9	# 4 pages 149-162 # 9 pages 201-204	Quiz 9	10/24/26
10/28/26	Empiricism (Locke, Berkeley, & Hume)	259-287 & Module 10	# 10 pages 204-210 # 13 pages 225-236 # 16 pages 269- 271	Quiz 10	10/31/26
11/4/26	Skepticism & German Idealism (Kant & Hegel)	311-350 & Module 11	# 1 pages 281-297	Quiz 11 Essay 2	11/7/26
11/11/26	<i>Veteran's Day</i>	<i>No face-to-face class or assignments this week.</i>			11/14/26
11/18/26	Utilitarianism	361-386 & Module 12	# 5 pages 327-337	Quiz 12 AI Assgn	11/21/26

In-Class Date	Lecture Topic	Online Modules & Textbook Readings <i>Located in the first half of the textbook</i>	Primary Source Readings <i>Located in the second half of the textbook</i>	Work Due	Due Date
11/25/26	Marx & Nietzsche	391-414 & Module 13	# 6 pages 337-344 # 7 pages 345-352	Quiz 13	12/1/26 (Due date extended due to holiday)
12/2/26	Phenomenology & Existentialism	386-391 & 468-495 & Module 14	# 4 pages 318-327 Online: deBeauvoir's "Ambiguity & Freedom"	Quiz 14	12/5/26
12/9/26	Recent Philosophy	496-521 & Module 15	# 6 pages 401-409 Online: Noddings's "Caring"	Quiz 15 Term Paper	12/12/26

This syllabus is a guideline for the class progression; however, it is subject to change.

Grade Calculations

Assignments	Occurrences	Points	Total	Grade Scale
In-Class Participation	15	10	150	
Quizzes	15	25	375	
AI Assignment	1	50	50	
Essay One	1	50	50	
Essay Two	1	75	75	
Term Paper	1	100	100	
Total Possible Points			800	

90-100% = A
80-89% = B
70-79% = C
60-69% = D
59% & Below = F

This course offers no extra credit.

Dr. Collins's Student-Centered Office Hours:

Virtual (online) Office: Wednesdays: 8:00-9:00 a.m.; Mondays and Saturdays: 3:00-4:30 p.m.
Piqua Campus (Room 217) Wednesdays: 8:00-9:00 a.m., 10:15-11:15 a.m.; 12:30-1:30 p.m.
If these times do not fit your schedule, email what works for you; we will set a time to meet via Teams.

Dr. Collins's Credentials:

Dr. Collins has earned a Philosophical Doctorate (PhD) in Philosophy and Religion from the California Institute of Integral Studies (2017).

Course Policies

- Respect Statement:** This course is heavily reliant on dialogues between and among class members. We will be dealing with controversial topics about which individuals may have strong or differing opinions. Therefore, it is crucial that we work together to cultivate a respectful classroom space in which everyone can share their reactions and analyses comfortably. This means being considerate and patient with everyone else in the room. Verbal bullying, personal attacks, and proselytizing will not be tolerated under any circumstances.
- Intentional academic dishonesty** will result in referral to the Dean for appropriate action and a grade of "F" given for the course. Failure to cite a source is theft! Please refer to the Edison Community College Student Handbook for a detailed explanation of academic dishonesty.
 - Unless specifically stated in the assignment, the use of **artificial intelligence (AI)**, including but not limited to Grammarly, is intentional academic dishonesty because you are having someone (a computer) other than yourself complete your assignment. I want to see YOUR work and YOUR thoughts, not someone else's.
- Participation** is directly tied to how much you can learn; therefore, participation will contribute to your grade as shown above. Participation is also practice for showing up to work. If you have any concerns regarding your abilities to take part, please notify your instructor as soon as possible.
 - No-Show Reporting:** Students who do not complete any work by the first due date will be dropped as a No-Show.
- Instructor messages:** ESCC requires all instructors to reply to student messages within 24 to 48 hours. Sending the same request multiple times within the same day will not result in a faster response, as I am not online 100% of the time. Likewise, I recognize that my students may require some time to respond to my messages, so I will not send you repeated messages unless 48 hours has been exceeded.

- 5) **Instructor Assistance** on assignments must be requested **more than three days prior to the due date** of the assignment. (Otherwise, there will not be enough time to complete the work!)
- 6) **Due Dates** are listed on page one of this syllabus. Do not depend on the due dates in the Blackboard site as they sometimes change on their own.
- 7) **Late submissions** will lose 10 percentage points for every day the assignment is late.
 - a) Students are permitted a single, one-week extension on any assignment without receiving late deductions. Requests for the last week of class may result in an incomplete grade.
 - i) In order to obtain this extension, you must email the instructor two days before the assignment due date to request the extension. This exception can be enacted once without documentation/rational. Additional requests may be granted in extenuating circumstances and with documentation.
- 8) **Submission Format:** Assignments not submitted according to instructions will be awarded a zero for the grade. Please note: computer or electronic malfunction are included in the late deductions.
- 9) **Corrections:** There are no edits or corrections permitted once an assignment has been graded.
- 10) **Final Submissions:** No assignments, including quizzes & discussion postings, turned in after 11:59 p.m. on the Saturday of the last week of classes will be accepted.
- 11) **Graded assignments** will be returned within one week from their due date. Assignments submitted early may not be returned until one week from the due date. Late assignments may not be graded until the following week. Any delays in grading will be shared in the Blackboard announcements.

Assignment Overviews *(You may turn in assignments early!)*

Grading Rubric:

All Assignments will be graded in the following manner:

- 1) Depth of research [25 percent]
- 2) Support of topic presented [25 percent]
- 3) Logical flow of argument & of written word [25 percent]
- 4) Proper citation format [7 percent]
- 5) Grammar & punctuation [10 percent]
- 6) Meeting of the Specific Requirements as outlined by the assignment [8 percent]

- **You may only use your textbook and the sources identified in the assignment to complete course work.**
 - Use of unauthorized materials will result in a 25% grade reduction.

Participation Details:

Your presence in class is directly tied to how well you learn. Therefore, your participation in class is graded. You will be given journal assignments to complete each class period; they will count toward your participation grade. In addition, you are expected to arrive on time, stay for the entire class, focus your attention on the material presented, and participate in the in-class discussions and in-class assignments. Failure to do so will result in a reduction of full or partial participation points. Do not expect to be told each time a deduction is made. If you have any concerns regarding your abilities to take part, please notify your instructor as soon as possible.

To *lose* participation points, do any of the following:

- Not attend class
- Leave early
- Arrive late
- Text message
- Do not complete in-class journal assignments
- Sleep
- Be disrespectful, including making rude or crude remarks
- Surf the net
- Have out-of-context discussions
- Disrupt the class in otherwise unacceptable manners

Quiz Overview:

You may take each quiz up to two times.

- Please check the first page of your syllabus for specific due dates.
- All quizzes may be found in the folder that corresponds to the quiz material you are being quizzed over.
 - For example, the Islam quiz is located in the "Islam" Course Module folder.
- The quizzes are objective (multiple choice, true/false, etc.).
- The quizzes are timed. The **timer does not stop** (even if you hit save!).

- Your highest score will be recorded for each quiz.

You must complete the quiz when you open it, so plan accordingly!

E-mail anytime you have questions or problems with the quizzes: lcollins@edisonohio.edu.

Essay Overview:

- ❖ Assignments are used as ways to judge your ability to grasp the information being presented. Unless permitted by the instructions, all assignments are to be completed **individually**.
 - Unless specified in the assignment instructions, **do not use online grammar programs** such as Grammarly; they are artificial intelligence, and they rewrite your work. Use of these programs constitutes intentional academic dishonesty and a course grade of "F".
- ❖ You may **only** use the material listed on the assignments as approved resources.
 - Unauthorized sources will result in a deduction of ten percent of the points possible.
- ❖ The full assignment details are found in the Assignments module in Blackboard.
 - All assignments should be completed in the format required by that assignment's instructions.
 - The assignments must be submitted through the Assignments page in the Blackboard site.
 - Files must be uploaded as attachments.
 - **Files must be .doc, .docx, .rtf, .pdf, .ppt, .pptx, or .txt file formats ONLY.**
 - ◆ Google Docs is NOT an acceptable file format.
 - ◆ Files not submitted in the approved format will be graded as a zero.
- ❖ All assignments require you to cite your sources; both with internal citations and a full citation at the end.
 - All assignments are submitted through Turnitin for plagiarism and AI checks.
 - Please visit www.eTutoring.org or Edison State's Tutoring Center to have your drafts reviewed.

Discussion Board (DB) Assignments:

You are to participate in on-line discussions to help demonstrate your understanding of the material and to demonstrate your ability to work in groups. For these assignments you are to answer the questions posted on the Discussion Board.

- ❖ Unless otherwise stated on the assignment, you may only use your textbook and the class materials to complete these assignments.
- ❖ All posts must contain in-text citations and a works cited list.
- ❖ Each assignment has the minimum length and score breakdown listed.
 - In general, each answer should be at least **200 words** in length, and each response should aim for a minimum of **75 words**.
- ❖ **Do not upload** a document as your DB answer – some people will not be able to read your posts!
- ❖ **DO type your answers and responses in a document first!**
 - You will also be able to spell-check and review your answers before submitting them.
 - You can then copy/paste your answer to the Discussion Board.
 - You will also have a back-up copy in case a problem with Blackboard occurs.
- ❖ The Start Here Module contains sample discussion board posts for your review.
- ❖ Remember proper discussion etiquette (netiquette), details of which are also in the Start Here module.

Citations:

All work in this course requires citations. This includes Discussion Board postings.

Please use **MLA** formatting. Visit <https://owl.purdue.edu/> or the Edison State tutoring center for assistance with citations.

To assist you in your work, a sample Works Cited page is located in chapter one of your online textbook.

Support Services Provided by the College

Edison State Community College has the College Support Services included in the Blackboard course for easy access.

Please click the ASSIST tab on Blackboard or the Edison State Student Resources folder within your course.

The state of Ohio requires the following policy to also be included in your syllabus.

Testing Your Faith Act Policy

Edison State Community College is committed to providing an environment respectful of students' beliefs. Students are permitted to be absent for up to 3 days each semester based on their faith, religion, or spiritual belief system with no academic penalty. Students must complete the Testing Your Faith Act Accommodations Form, <https://www.edisonohio.edu/services-support/registration-records>, located in "Forms" and provide a copy to their individual faculty within 14 days from the start of the course. The entire policy can be found in the student handbook at <https://www.edisonohio.edu/services-support/student-resources>.