

Course Outline

Programme	BS Philosophy	Course Code	APHL-122	Credit Hours	2	Prerequisite:	None
General Education Cluster: Arts & Humanities	Course Title	Fundamentals of Philosophy					
Course Introduction							
Philosophy explores most fundamental questions of human life and the universe. Philosophy addresses these questions through the human capacity to <i>reason</i> : philosophical answers are based on logical arguments, which analyze and seek to justify beliefs. It helps to look critically at your own and other’s ideas. Thus, Philosophy is a kind of investigation, in which you discover what you think, and then reflect on whether your opinions are really worth holding.							
Learning Outcomes							
On the completion of the course, the students will be able: 1. apply the theoretical concepts to academic and practical life. 2. analyze philosophical concepts that emerge in everyday contexts. 3. develop intellectual autonomy, analysis of different worldviews, scientific inquiry, and a commitment to employ analytical reasoning and intellectual integrity.							
Course Contents							
Contents				Reading Material			
1. Introduction to Philosophy i. What is Philosophy? ii. Why Philosophy Matters iii. Philosophical Terrain iv. The Socratic Method				Ch. 1: Philosophy and You, pp. 1-11, Bk: <i>Philosophy: Here and Now</i> by Lewis Vaughn			
2. Epistemology: The Theory of Knowledge i. Why Knowledge Matters ii. Knowledge and Belief iii. Theories of Knowledge;				Ch. 3: How Do We Know? (pp. 33-57) Bk. <i>Ultimate Questions: Thinking About Philosophy</i> by Nil Ch. Rauhut			

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Skepticism b. Empiricism c. Rationalism 	
3. Ethics: Moral Decision-Making <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Moral Intuitions & Moral Principles ii. Moral Relativism iii. Ethical Theories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Divine Command Theory b. Utilitarianism c. Deontology d. Virtue Ethics 	<p>Chap. 3, What Ought We to Do? (pp. 149-180) Bk. <i>Ultimate Questions: Thinking About Philosophy</i> by Nil Ch. Rauhut</p>
4. Social and Political Philosophy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Nature of Society ii. Who should Rule? The Question of Legitimacy iii. Anarchism, the Free Market and the Need for Government iv. What is Justice? Justice and Equality v. The Origins of Justice and the Social Contract vi. Rights and the Individual: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Libertarianism b. Liberalism c. Communitarianism 	<p>Ch.9: Justice and Good Society (pp. 285-304), Bk: <i>The Big Questions: A Short Introduction to Philosophy</i> by Robert C. Solomon & Kathleen M. Higgins.</p>
5. Philosophy of Art <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. What is Art? ii. Theories of Art: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Art as Representation of Reality b. Art as Expression of Emotions c. Art as Communication of Emotions 	<p>Ch. 8. What Things Shall I Call Art (pp. 479-508), Bk: <i>Introduction to Modern Philosophy: Examining the Human Condition</i>, 6th ed. by Alburey Castell, Donald M. Borchert, Arthur Zucker.</p>
6. Philosophy of Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. What is Science? ii. What is Scientific Method? iii. The Problem of Induction iv. Karl Popper's Theory of Falsificationism v. Thomas Kuhn's Theory of Scientific Revolutions 	<p>Ch. 6: Science, pp. 121-136. Bk: <i>Philosophy: The Basics</i>, 5th ed. by Nigel Warburton</p> <p>Ch. 4. Philosophy of Science, pp.133-139. Bk. <i>About Philosophy</i> by Richard Paul Wolff</p>
Textbooks and Reading Material	
Primary Textbooks: Vaughn, L. (2022). <i>Philosophy: Here and Now</i> . New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press.	

Chaffee, J. 2012. *The Philosopher's Way*. 4th ed. New York: Pearson

Rauhut, N. C. (2020). *Ultimate Questions: Thinking about Philosophy*. 4th ed. Pearson.

Warburton, N. (2015). *Philosophy: The Basics*. 5th edition. Routledge.

Wolff, R. P. (2014). *About Philosophy*. Pearson Education Limited.

Castell, A., Donald M. Borchert, Arthur Zucker (Eds). (2001). *Introduction to Modern Philosophy: Examining the Human Condition*. 6th ed. New York: Pearson.

Secondary Textbooks:

Solomon, R. C. & Higgins, K. M. (2017). *The Big Questions: A Short Introduction to Philosophy*. Cengage Learning.

Christian, J. L. (2012). *Philosophy: An Introduction to the Art of Wondering*. 11th ed. Wadsworth.

Miller, E. L. & Jensen, J. (2009). *Questions that Matter: An Invitation to Philosophy*. 6th ed. McGra-Hill.

Teaching Learning Strategies

Interactive Teaching Method

Assignments: Types and Number with Calendar

As per the university policy

Assessment

As per the university Assessment policy