

0101P115

Introduction to Philosophy

Instructor: TBA

Time: Monday through Friday (June 30, 2025-August 1, 2025)

Office Hours: 2 hours (according to the teaching schedule)

Contact Hours: 60 (50 minutes each)

Credits: 4

E-mail: TBA

Course Description

This course introduces the general nature of philosophical thought, and its basic methods and goals. The material covered includes selections by both current and historically important philosophers (e.g., Plato, Augustine, Descartes, Marx, Musachi and Heidegger) on such classic philosophical topics as the existence of God, the nature of right and wrong, and the possibility of knowledge. Through our readings and discussions we will also attempt to reach a clearer understanding of ourselves (personal identity), our relationship to other people (moral responsibility), and our relationship to the world around us (freedom of the will). Some of the general skills students will develop include the formulating and defending of theoretical positions and the ability to think critically about difficult and abstract issues.

Required Textbook(s)

Reading materials will be provided by the course instructor in class.

Prerequisites

No prerequisites

Course Hours

The course has 25 sessions in total. Each class session is 120 minutes in length. The course meets from Monday to Friday.

Course Schedule

Please note that the schedule is meant to give an overview of the major concepts this course. Changes may occur in this calendar as needed to aid in the student's development.

Week1

Monday	Introduction to the course
Tuesday	Plato's "Meno"
Wednesday	Plato's "Meno"
Thursday	Plato "Republic", sections on Allegory of Cave and Divided Line
Friday	Review of Materials

Week 2

Monday	Continue with Plato's Divided Line and Allegory of Cave
Tuesday	Exam # 1 on Plato and Commence with Augustine
Wednesday	Augustine Continue "Free Choice of Will"
Thursday	Augustine on Free Choice of the Will
Friday	Review of Materials

Week 3

Monday	Descartes on “Discourse on Method”
Tuesday	Continue with Descartes
Wednesday	Discussion and Application of Descartes’ Method
Thursday	Exam #2 on Augustine and Descartes
Friday	Review of Materials

Week 4

Monday	Karl Marx on “Communist Manifesto”
Tuesday	Marx Continue on Communist Manifesto
Wednesday	Finish Marx and Commence with Musachi
Thursday	Musachi : Five Rings
Friday	Review of Materials

Week 5

Monday	Finish Musachi
Tuesday	Heidegger on “Discourse on Thinking”
Wednesday	Heidegger on “Discourse on Thinking”
Thursday	Exam # III on Marx, Musachi and Heidegger
Friday	Summation of Course

Course Requirements

Exams

There will be three exams over the five-week term, each exam will be worth 20% of the final grade.

Assignments

There will be take-home reading and writing assignments during the summer term, the assignments will be worth 30% of the final grade.

Participation

The remaining 10% of the student's grade will be determined by regular attendance and participation in class. You are allowed 3 absences maximum for the course before dropping a letter grade. Full and prepared participation is expected. Attendance is mandatory in the class. Respect towards the instructor and classmates are expected. Unjustified absences, disrespectful behavior in the classroom and lack of participation in class will have a negative impact on the final grade.

Grading Policy

Type	Percentage
Attendance	10%
Assignments	30%
Three Exams(20% each)	60%

Grading Scale

The instructor will use the grading system as applied by JNU:

Definition	Letter Grade	Score
Excellent	A	90~100
Good	B	80~89
Satisfactory	C	70~79
Poor	D	60~69
Failed	E	Below 60

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory in the class. It would be recorded each class and forms part of students' participation record. Students should inform the instructor at the earliest opportunity if they need to ask for a leave. All absences may have negative effect on

students' final grades. Any students with more than three unexcused absences will automatically fail the course.

Academic Integrity

As members of the Jinan University academic community, students are expected to be honest in all of their academic coursework and activities. Academic dishonesty, includes (but is not limited to) cheating on assignments or examinations; plagiarizing, i.e., misrepresenting as one's own work any work done by another; submitting the same paper, or a substantially similar paper, to meet the requirements of more than one course without the approval and consent of the instructors concerned; or sabotaging other students' work within these general definitions. Instructors, however, determine what constitutes academic misconduct in the courses they teach. Students found guilty of academic misconduct in any portion of the academic work face penalties that range from the lowering of their course grade to awarding a grade of E for the entire course.