



## Introduction to Philosophy

### **Instructors:**

Mr. Ryan Cook (PhD. Candidate in Philosophy, Princeton University)  
Mr. Adam Crager (PhD. Candidate in the Philosophy, Princeton University)  
Dr. Zena Hitz (Asst. Professor of Philosophy, University of Maryland; Visitor to James Madison Institute at Princeton University)  
Mr. Jack Woods (PhD. Candidate in Philosophy, Princeton University)

### **Guest Lecturers:**

Dr. Gideon Rosen (Stuart Professor of Philosophy and Chair of the Council of the Humanities at Princeton University)  
Dr. Cornell West (Class of 1943 Professor in the Center for African American Studies at Princeton University)

**Course Number:** PHI-102 (085781)      **Course Title:** Introduction to Philosophy  
**Credits:** 3

**Meeting Time and Place:** \*\*\*\*\*

**Catalogue description:** A study of the basic problems and methods of philosophical inquiry. Topics include theories about knowledge, reality, human nature, ethics, religion and science, with consideration of the thought of such major thinkers as Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, Hume, Kant, Nietzsche and Sartre.

**Required Texts:**      Plato's Republic, translated by Grube, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Hackett, 1992  
                                 A Rulebook for Arguments, Andrew Weston, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, Hackett, 2009

**Recommended Texts:** Looking at Philosophy, Donald Palmer, 5<sup>th</sup> edition, McGraw Hill, 2010  
                                 What Does it All Mean?, Thomas Nagel, Oxford, 1987

### **Grading:**

Response papers = 30%  
Midterm exam = 25%  
Final exam = 25%  
Class participation + other short assignments = 15%  
Analysis assignment = 5%

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Mercer County Community College is committed to Academic Integrity – the honest, fair and continuing pursuit of knowledge, free from fraud or deception. This implies that students are expected to be responsible for their own work, and that faculty and academic support services staff members will take reasonable precautions to prevent the opportunity for academic dishonesty. The college recognizes the following general categories of violations of Academic Integrity, with representative examples of each. Academic Integrity is violated whenever a student:

**A. Uses or obtains unauthorized assistance in any academic work.**

- copying from another student's exam.
- using notes, books, electronic devices or other aids of any kind during an exam when prohibited.
- stealing an exam or possessing a stolen copy of an exam.

**B. Gives fraudulent assistance to another student.**

- completing a graded academic activity or taking an exam for someone else.
- giving answers to or sharing answers with another student before, during or after an exam or other graded academic activity.
- sharing answers during an exam by using a system of signals.

**C. Knowingly represents the work of others as his/her own, or represents previously completed academic work as current.**

- submitting a paper or other academic work for credit which includes words, ideas, data or creative work of others without acknowledging the source.
- using another author's words without enclosing them in quotation marks, without paraphrasing them or without citing the source appropriately.
- presenting another individual's work as one's own.
- submitting the same paper or academic assignment to another class without the permission of the instructor.
- falsifying bibliographic entries.
- submitting any academic assignment which contains falsified or fabricated data or results.

**D. Inappropriately or unethically uses technological means to gain academic advantage.**

- inappropriately or unethically acquiring material via the Internet or by any other means.
- using any electronic or hidden devices for communication during an exam.

Each instructor and academic support service area is authorized to establish specific guidelines consistent with this policy.

Consequences for Violations of Academic Integrity

For a single violation, the faculty member will determine the course of action to be followed. This may include assigning a lower grade on the assignment, assigning a lower

final course grade, failing the student in the course, or other penalty appropriate to the violation. In all cases, the instructor shall notify the Chair of the Academic Integrity Committee of the violation and the penalty imposed. When two (or more) violations of academic integrity are reported on a student, the Academic Integrity Committee (AIC) may impose disciplinary penalties beyond those imposed by the course instructors. The student shall have the right to a hearing before the AIC or a designated AIC subcommittee.

### Appeals

The student has a right to appeal the decision of the instructor or the Academic Integrity Committee. Judicial procedures governing violations of Academic Integrity are contained in the Student Handbook.

Approved: Board of Trustees May 19, 1983  
2004

Revised: May 18, 2000, March 18,

### Students with Disabilities

Any student in this class who has special needs because of a disability is entitled to receive accommodations. Eligible students at Mercer County Community College are assured services under the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. If you believe you are eligible for services, please contact Arlene Stinson, the Director of Academic Support Services at LB221, (609) 570-3525, stinsona@mccc.edu.

### **Week 1**

Tuesday      What is philosophy?: Guest lecture by Dr. Gideon Rosen

Thursday      Plato's Republic Book I  
Rulebook for Arguments Chapters 1-3

### **Week 2**

Tuesday      Plato's Republic Book I  
Rulebook for Arguments Chapters 6, 8

Thursday      Plato's Republic Book I  
*First response paper due*

### **Week 3**

Tuesday      Plato's Republic Book 2

Thursday      Plato's Republic Book 2  
*Argument analysis due*

### **Week 4**

Tuesday      Plato's Republic Book 4

Thursday Plato's Republic Book 4  
*Second response paper due*

**Week 5**  
 Tuesday Plato's Republic Book 5

Thursday Plato's Republic Book 5  
*Midterm exam in class*

**Week 6**  
 Tuesday Plato's Republic Book 6

Thursday Plato's Republic Book 6  
*Third response paper due*

**Week 7**  
 Tuesday Plato's Republic Book 7

Thursday Abstract Objects: Guest lecture by Dr. Gideon Rosen

**Week 8**  
 Tuesday Plato's Republic Book 8

Thursday Plato's Republic Book 8  
*Fourth response due*

**Week 9**  
 Tuesday Plato's Republic Book 9

Thursday Plato's Republic Book 9  
 Discussion: analogical arguments

**Week 10**  
 Tuesday Plato's Republic concluded

Thursday Review and preparation for final exam  
*Fifth response paper due*

**Week 11**  
 Tuesday *Final exam in class*

Thursday Guest Lecture by Dr. Cornell West  
 Final exam returned