

**UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO
OFFICE OF EXTENDED STUDIES
COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**TENTATIVE SYLLABUS
Summer 2012**

PHIL 100: Introduction to Philosophy

*Faculty: Professor Mark Reinholz
Will meet by appointment*

mark.reinholz@unco.edu

Syllabus subject to change without notice

Required Readings:

Mark Reinholz, *Liber Omnia*, available at the UNC Barnes and Noble bookstore.

Course Description:

This course introduces significant human questions and emphasizes understanding the meaning and methods of philosophy. Includes human condition, knowledge, freedom, history, ethics, the future, and religion.

Competencies View:

- I. Identify and distinguish the major questions in philosophy.
- II. Identify and distinguish some of the major schools of philosophy.
- III. Demonstrate an understanding of the methods of philosophical thinking.
- IV. Critically evaluate primary philosophical sources.
- V. Communicate philosophical questions and positions to others.
- V. Read, analyze and apply written material to new situations.
- VI. Write clearly and logically.
- VII. Demonstrate the ability to select and apply contemporary forms of technology to solve problems or compile information.

This course is a Statewide Guaranteed Transfer Course. GT-AH3

This course is based on educated scholarship and is in no way meant to encourage an ideology or religious world view. All opinions are respected. I reserve the right to challenge your opinions to further your educational experience.

Course Requirements:

1. Please complete all assigned readings.
2. Please participate in online class discussions. Active engagement of the material is the only way to master it.
3. I may be reached via email: mark.reinholz@unco.edu, or if necessary, by phone at (970) 412-3528.
4. Plagiarizing, cheating, or engaging in any other form of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Students engaging in such behavior will be subject to disciplinary action and will fail the course.
5. Because this class is completely online, it is important that you be able to engage with it at least twice a week on separate days.

Course Content:

Week 1 – Read Chapters 1 through 4 and do Writing Assignment 1.

Week 2 – Read Chapters 5 through 8 and do Writing Assignment 2.

Week 3 – Read Chapters 9 through 12 and do Writing Assignment 3.

Week 4 – Read Chapters 13 through 16 and do Writing Assignment 4.

Week 5 – Read Chapters 16 through 20 and do Writing Assignment 5.

Week 6 – Cumulative Review and do Writing Assignment 6.

Evaluation and Grading:

You will have six writing assignments on the corresponding chapters listed under Course Content.

Assignments may be turned in at any point during the week they are due, though I recommend taking sufficient time to utilize the discussion board and ask questions prior to turning one in. Each assignment will be worth 100 points, and I will discard your lowest score. Thus, there are 500 total points in the course. Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

90-100% = A

80-89% = B

70-79% = C

60-69% = D

Below 60% = F

Grading Rubric:

Each writing assignment should be between 600 and 1,200 words and will be graded in light of the following criteria:

Clarity –

- Is your argument clearly articulated?
- Is your argument organized in a logical manner?

Accuracy/Precision –

- Do you accurately state the position you are addressing?
- Are you leaving out important details?

Relevance –

- Is each point related to the argument?
- Is each argument related to your overall objective?

Depth –

- Do you demonstrate an understanding of the complexities of the issue?

Logic –

- Do your arguments actually support your overall objective?
- Do your points actually support your arguments?

Breadth/Fairness –

- Do you anticipate likely objections to your position?
- Do you address objections fairly?

Originality

- Have you done more than simply summarize the readings or class discussions?
- Have you contributed something new to the debate?

Late Work:

Late work will not be accepted. No exceptions. Remember that if you miss an assignment, you can still pass, as your lowest assignment score is not counted.

Discussion Board Guidelines:

Weekly discussions are not required in my course, but they are highly recommended. Keep in mind that discussion posts must be professional and appropriate. Attacking an idea is okay, but it must be done respectfully. Attacking a person is never okay.

Students with disabilities:

Any student requesting disability accommodation for this class must inform the instructor giving appropriate notice. Students are encouraged to contact Disability Support Services at (970) 351-2289 to certify documentation of disability and to ensure appropriate accommodations are implemented in a timely manner.

Library Services for Distance Education and Off-Campus Students: Obtaining Materials from UNC Libraries

Off-campus students residing within 50 miles of the UNC campus are required to come to the library and borrow materials in person. Students residing more than 50 miles from campus may request that materials be delivered to them. All requests must include complete citations. We will supply materials from the UNC Libraries, as well as materials from other libraries obtained via Interlibrary Loan. Articles will be delivered via email. Books will be mailed first class. Delivery time by U.S. postal service is approximately 1 week. It is the responsibility of the student to return books by the date due. UNC does not pay return postage on books. For information on document delivery, call (970) 351-1446.

Requests for materials may be made through the following methods:

Online: <http://www.unco.edu/library/forms/distancerequest.htm>

By email: library.ocp@unco.edu

By fax: (970) 351-2540

Honor Code

All members of the University of Northern Colorado community are entrusted with the responsibility to uphold

and promote five fundamental values: *Honesty, Trust, Respect, Fairness, and Responsibility*. These core elements foster an atmosphere, inside and outside of the classroom, which serves as a foundation and guides the UNC community's academic, professional, and personal growth. Endorsement of these core elements by students, faculty, staff, administration, and trustees strengthens the integrity and value of our academic climate.

UNC's Policies

UNC's policies and recommendations for academic misconduct will be followed. For additional information, please see the Dean of Student's website, Student Handbook link <http://www.unco.edu/dos/handbook/index.html>

Notice

The Office of Extended Studies reserves the right to cancel or reschedule courses based upon enrollment. Enrolled students will be contacted with information of any change.

Student Satisfaction Evaluation

Participants will be asked to evaluate the workshop for instructors' knowledge, interest and enthusiasm as well as providing additional information on classes or topics which you would like to see developed as a future offering from UNC.