Philosophy
| American River College

Philosophy is the critical, rational examination of fundamental questions that people have pondered for more than 2500 years. These include, but are not limited to, questions such as: What is reality? What is the nature of the self? Does God exist? What is good and just? What ought I to do? Philosophy courses are directed towards an understanding of these and other fundamental questions, often through reading and studying philosophers who have addressed these questions in the past, with appreciation of the historical and cultural contexts in which these questions are raised and answered. Philosophy courses help students to develop good logical and critical reasoning skills, expose hidden preconceptions, encourage open debate and independent thought, and provide opportunity to apply valuable insights gained to contemporary life.

Associate Degree for Transfer

A.A.-T. in Philosophy

This program provides lower-division preparation for students interested in transferring into baccalaureate philosophy programs.

The Associate in Arts degree in Philosophy for Transfer provides students with a major that fulfills the general requirements of the California State University for transfer. Students with this degree will receive priority admission with junior status to the California State University system. The Associate in Arts degree in Philosophy for Transfer (AA-T) may be obtained by the completion of 60 transferable, semester units with a minimum 2.0 GPA, including (a) the major or area of emphasis described in the Required Program outlined below (earning a C or better in these courses) and (b) either the Inter-segmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) or the California State University General Education Breadth Requirements.

**Catalog Date:** June 1, 2019

### Degree Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE CODE</th>
<th>COURSE TITLE</th>
<th>UNITS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 300</td>
<td>Introduction to Philosophy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 310</td>
<td>Introduction to Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 320</td>
<td>Logic and Critical Reasoning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 324</td>
<td>Symbolic Logic (3)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>or MATH 320 Symbolic Logic (3)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A minimum of 6 units from the following: 

Select 3 units from Philosophy Electives and 3 units from either Philosophy Electives or Humanities Electives.

**Philosophy Electives**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE CODE</th>
<th>COURSE TITLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 315</td>
<td>Contemporary Moral Issues (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COURSE CODE</td>
<td>COURSE TITLE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 330</td>
<td>History of Classical Philosophy (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 331</td>
<td>History of Modern Philosophy (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 350</td>
<td>Philosophy of Religion (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 360</td>
<td>Social/Political Philosophy (3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Humanities Electives**

| ENGLT 310   | English Literature I (3)                         |       |
| ENGLT 311   | English Literature II (3)                        |       |
| ENGLT 320   | American Literature I (3)                        |       |
| ENGLT 321   | American Literature II (3)                       |       |
| ENGLT 340   | World Literature I (3)                           |       |
| ENGLT 341   | World Literature II (3)                          |       |
| HIST 300    | History of Western Civilization (3)              |       |
| HIST 302    | History of Western Civilization (3)              |       |
| HIST 305    | Women in Western Civilization (3)                |       |
| HIST 307    | History of World Civilizations to 1500 (3)       |       |
| HIST 308    | History of World Civilizations, 1500 to Present (3) |       |
| HIST 340    | History of California through 1879 (3)           |       |
| HIST 341    | History of California: 1879 to Present (3)       |       |
| HIST 364    | Asian Civilization (3)                           |       |
| HIST 365    | Asian Civilization (3)                           |       |
| HIST 367    | History of Russia (3)                            |       |
| HIST 373    | History of Mexico (3)                            |       |
| HIST 480    | History of Western Civilization - Honors (3)     |       |
| HIST 481    | History of Western Civilization - Honors (3)     |       |
| HUM 301     | Introduction to the Humanities (3)               |       |
| HUM 302     | Global Humanities: Atheism in Creativity, Thought, and Inspiration Traditions (3) |       |
| HUM 310     | Modern Humanities (3)                            |       |
| HUM 320     | Asian Humanities (3)                             |       |
| HUM 326     | Middle Eastern Humanities (3)                    |       |
| HUM 330     | Humanities of the Americas (3)                   |       |
| HUM 355     | Introduction to World Religions (3)              |       |
| HUM 360     | Introduction to the Old Testament (The Hebrew Bible) (3) |       |
| HUM 365     | Introduction to the New Testament (3)            |       |

Total Units: 18

The Associate in Arts in Philosophy for Transfer (AA-T) degree may be obtained by completion of 60 transferable, semester units with a minimum 2.0 GPA, including (a) the major or area of emphasis described in the Required Program, and (b) either the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) or the California State University General Education-Breadth Requirements.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of this program, the student will be able to:
Philosophy (PHIL)
PHIL 300 Introduction to Philosophy

This course examines some of the perennial questions that have been addressed in the history of philosophy. Some of these include: Do we have free will? Is there a God? What is knowledge? What is the fundamental nature of reality? What makes actions right or wrong? This examination includes a critical analysis of fundamental concepts involved in the issues addressed by these questions, as well as an evaluation of reasoning used to defend various answers to them.

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- critically evaluate views concerning free will, the existence of God, the fundamental nature of reality, or other ideas addressed in the course.
- compare and contrast differing theories concerning free will, the existence of God, the fundamental nature of reality, or other ideas addressed in the course.
- analyze and evaluate arguments from primary sources concerning free will, the existence of God, the fundamental nature of reality, or other ideas addressed in the course.
- assess presuppositions underlying various views concerning free will, the existence of God, the fundamental nature of reality, or other ideas addressed in the course.
- formulate reasons to justify one’s beliefs concerning free will, the existence of God, the fundamental nature of reality, or other ideas addressed in the course.

Career Information
Because of continuing social and technological changes, today's graduates are more likely to change their jobs/careers than ever before. Job skills learned today for a specific career may be too specific to transfer to other jobs or simply become outdated. The technical skills and knowledge required by many fields are also changing, requiring constant updating to stay current. One advantage to studying philosophy is that it focuses on broader issues such as the nature of knowledge, values, the use of language, and the application of logic and critical reasoning: content that transfers across specific jobs/careers. The analytic skills developed in the study of philosophy are valuable in problem solving and effectively communicating ideas clearly and precisely. Finally, philosophy provides an excellent pre-law preparation, as philosophy majors generally score amongst the highest on the LSAT (Law School Admission Test).
PHIL 310 Introduction to Ethics

This course is an introduction to ethics and moral philosophy. It includes a survey of various normative ethical theories including Aristotle’s Virtue Ethics, Utilitarianism, and Kant’s Deontological Ethics. It may also cover various meta-ethical issues such as ethical relativism vs. ethical objectivism, as well as questions of knowledge and justification of moral claims. It may also include the application of normative ethical theories to contemporary moral issues.

Student Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- define and critically analyze arguments from primary sources in defense of various normative ethical theories such as Aristotle’s Virtue Ethics, Kant’s Deontological Ethics, and Utilitarianism.
- compare and contrast differing ethical theories concerning good, evil, right, and wrong.
- identify and analyze the reasoning underlying moral arguments and their components.
- determine and critically assess presuppositions underlying various views about moral right and wrong.

PHIL 315 Contemporary Moral Issues

This is an investigation into some of the moral issues our society presently faces. These issues may include abortion, euthanasia, genetic engineering, individual liberty and the collective good, sexuality/gender and society, war and terrorism, capital punishment, hunger/poverty and moral obligation, discrimination, and affirmative action.

Student Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- critically evaluate views concerning abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment, or other topics addressed in the course.
- compare and contrast differing theories concerning abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment, or other topics addressed in the course.
- analyze and evaluate arguments from primary sources concerning abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment, or other topics addressed in the course.
- assess presuppositions underlying various views concerning abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment, or other topics addressed in the course.
- formulate reasons to justify one’s beliefs concerning abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment, or other topics addressed in the course.
PHIL 320 Logic and Critical Reasoning

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- identify arguments in everyday contexts.
- analyze arguments into their constituent premises and conclusions.
- distinguish between good and poor reasoning.
- identify and explain a minimum of six common fallacies in reasoning.
- explain the nature of deductive reasoning, including the difference between deductively valid and invalid arguments.
- explain common types of inductive reasoning, including the difference between inductively strong and weak arguments.
- identify various ways the use of language affects reasoning.

PHIL 324 Symbolic Logic

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- represent statements of English in well-formed sentences of predicate logic.
- prove the validity of statements and arguments in predicate logic using formal proof techniques.
• apply truth table or truth tree methods to determine semantic properties such as invalidity and consistency.

• construct interpretations that satisfy statements and sets of statements.

• distinguish classical first order logical systems from other logical systems.

PHIL 330 History of Classical Philosophy

3
54 hours LEC
None.
Eligible for ENGRD 310 or ENGRD 312 AND ENGWR 300; OR ESLR 340 AND ESLW 340.
CSU; UC
AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B
C-ID PHIL 130
June 1, 2019

This course is a survey of classical Greek philosophy. Through a careful examination of primary sources, it begins with an overview of Pre-Socratic thought and focuses primarily on the philosophical ideas of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle. An overview of Hellenistic and Roman philosophy may be included.

Student Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

• compare and contrast differing views expressed by ancient Greek philosophers--especially Plato and Aristotle--concerning the fundamental nature of reality, knowledge, and ethics.

• critically evaluate views expressed by ancient Greek philosophers concerning the fundamental nature of reality, knowledge, and ethics.

• analyze and evaluate arguments from ancient Greek primary sources concerning the fundamental nature of reality, knowledge, and ethics.

• formulate reasons to justify the student's beliefs about the theories expressed by Plato and Aristotle concerning the fundamental nature of reality, knowledge, and ethics.

PHIL 331 History of Modern Philosophy

3
54 hours LEC
None.
Eligible for ENGRD 310 or ENGRD 312 AND ENGWR 300; OR ESLR 340 AND ESLW 340.
CSU; UC
AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B
C-ID PHIL 140
June 1, 2019

This course is an overview of important themes in the history of Western Philosophical thought from the Early Modern era to the turn of the nineteenth century. These themes may include the fundamental nature of reality, knowledge, values, society, God, and human nature.

Student Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

• critically evaluate views concerning the fundamental nature of reality, knowledge, mind, ethics, language and meaning, logic and mathematics, or...
PHIL 350 Philosophy of Religion

PHIL 360 Social/Political Philosophy
This course is a historical and topical survey of significant themes of social/political philosophy from Plato to the present. Topics may include freedom, government, justice, law, rights, punishment, war, authority, and the state.

Student Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- critically examine personal views concerning justice, the nature of the state, or other ideas central to social/political thought.
- compare and contrast differing theories of freedom, justice, or other ideas central to social/political thought.
- distinguish between subjective certainty of a belief and justification for that belief.
- determine presuppositions underlying various views concerning society and politics.
- analyze and evaluate arguments from primary sources concerning social/political issues.

PHIL 495 Independent Studies in Philosophy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Units:</th>
<th>1 - 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prerequisite:</td>
<td>None.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transferable:</td>
<td>CSU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catalog Date:</td>
<td>June 1, 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Faculty

David Denman
Adjunct Faculty

- Office: ARC Main
- Email: DenmanD@arc.losrios.edu

Jacqueline DiClementine
Adjunct Faculty

- Office: ARC Main
- Email: DiclemJ@arc.losrios.edu
- Phone: (916) 286-3691 ext. 12176
- Web: Jacqueline DiClementine's Profile Page (/about-us/contact-us/faculty-and-staff-directory/jacqueline-diclementine)

Edward Haven
Adjunct Professor

- Office: ARC Main
- Email: HavenE@scc.losrios.edu
- Phone: (916) 286-3691 ext. 15114
- Web: Edward Haven's Profile Page (/about-us/contact-us/faculty-and-staff-directory/edward-haven)

Dennis Holden
Professor

- Office: ARC Main, Davies Hall, D338
- Email: HoldenD@arc.losrios.edu
- Phone: (916) 484-8327
- Web: Dennis Holden's Profile Page (/about-us/contact-us/faculty-and-staff-directory/dennis-holden)

David Lopez
Professor

- Office: ARC Main

Andy Rogers
Adjunct Faculty

- Office: ARC Main
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Office Location</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Profile Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David Lopez</td>
<td>Adjunct Professor</td>
<td>ARC Main, Davies Hall, D332</td>
<td><a href="mailto:LopezD@arc.losrios.edu">LopezD@arc.losrios.edu</a> (<a href="mailto:LopezD@arc.losrios.edu">mailto:LopezD@arc.losrios.edu</a>)</td>
<td>(916) 484-8994</td>
<td><a href="/about-us/contact-us/faculty-and-staff-directory/david-lopez">David Lopez's Profile Page</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andy Rogers</td>
<td>Adjunct Professor</td>
<td>ARC Main</td>
<td><a href="mailto:RogersA@arc.losrios.edu">RogersA@arc.losrios.edu</a> (<a href="mailto:RogersA@arc.losrios.edu">mailto:RogersA@arc.losrios.edu</a>)</td>
<td>(916) 484-8653</td>
<td><a href="/about-us/contact-us/faculty-and-staff-directory/andy-rogers">Andy Rogers's Profile Page</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathias Warnes</td>
<td>Adjunct Professor</td>
<td>ARC Main</td>
<td><a href="mailto:WarnesM@scc.losrios.edu">WarnesM@scc.losrios.edu</a> (<a href="mailto:WarnesM@scc.losrios.edu">mailto:WarnesM@scc.losrios.edu</a>)</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="/about-us/contact-us/faculty-and-staff-directory/mathias-warnes">Mathias Warnes's Profile Page</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cookies Disclaimer**

The American River College website uses cookies to enhance user experience and analyze site usage. By continuing to use this site, you are giving us consent to do this. Review our [Privacy Policy](/about-us/our-values/privacy-policy) to learn more.