OHLONE COLLEGE
Ohlone Community College District
OFFICIAL COURSE OUTLINE

I. **Description of Course:**

1. **Department/Course:** PHIL - 100
2. **Title:** Introduction to Philosophy
3. **Cross Reference:**
4. **Units:** 3
   Lec Hrs: 3
   Lab Hrs:
5. **Repeatability:** No
6. **Grade Options:** Letter Grade, May Petition Credit/No Credit (GC)
7. **Degree/Applicability:** Credit, Degree Applicable, Transferable - CSU & UC (T)
8. **General Education:**
9. **Field Trips:** Not Required
10. **Requisites:**
    Advisory
    English 101A
12. **Catalog Description:**
    An Introduction to philosophy, examining various philosophers, and enduring questions such as "What is Reality?" "Who am I?" and "What can I know?".
13. **Class Schedule Description:**
    A survey of philosophical ideas and important philosophers.
14. **Counselor Information:**
    This class serves as an introductory course to philosophy. It would be recommended to students who are curious about the discipline, and should be recommended to students who are interested in taking PHIL 101 and 102.

II. **Student Learning Outcomes**

The student will:

1. Identify important philosophical figures and their ideas.
2. Distinguish different areas of philosophy.
3. Critically evaluate various responses to philosophical questions.
4. Engage in the methodology of philosophy through rational argumentation.
5. Write an argumentative/analytical paper.

III. **Course Outline:**

This is only one possible outline of a introduction to philosophy. Because the discipline of philosophy is incredibly broad, some instructors may wish to emphasize different subjects, and different philosophers.

A topical (as opposed to a historical) approach to the course may look like this:

A. What is philosophy?
   1. What characterizes the discipline of philosophy?
   2. How can we define philosophy?
B. Western Roots
   1. Ancient Greek philosophy
C. Eastern Roots

1. Buddhism

D. Philosophy and Religion
    1. Christianity
    2. Judaism
    3. Islam

E. Rational argumentation
    1. Aristotelian logic

F. Logic
    1. Computers
    2. Mathmatics
        a. alternative mathematics

G. Epistemology
    1. Definitions of truth
        a. Plato
        b. Descartes
        c. Gettier problems
    2. Theories of truth
        a. Correspondence
        b. Pragmatism
    3. Skepticism
        a. Cartesian skepticisim
        b. Humean skepticism

H. Metaphysics
    1. Ontology
        a. Souls
        b. External world
        c. God
            i. Theism
            ii. Deism
            iii. Agnosticism
            iv. Existententialism
        d. Objective truth
        e. Morality
        f. Numbers
    2. Properties/qualities
        a. Lockean analysis
            i. Idealist criticisms
        b. Idealism
        c. Realism
    3. Identity
        a. Personal identity
        b. Personhood
    4. Minds/consciousness
        a. Artificial intelligence

I. Practical philosophy
    1. Political philosophy
        a. Democracy
        b. Socialism

c. Communism
d. Tyranical rule
i. Machiavelli

2. Moral theory
a. Relativism
b. Egoism
c. Utilitarianism
d. Kantianism
e. Virtue theory
f. Ethics of Care

IV. **Course Assignments:**

A. Reading Assignments
1. A mixture of primary and secondary sources

B. Projects, Activities, and other Assignments

C. Writing Assignments
1. Argumentative/analytical paper
2. For example: Give a critical analysis of what it means to be the same person throughout your life, if this is at all possible. Be sure to include a critical evaluation of various identity theories that revolve around consciousness, materialism, and souls.
3. Rationally argue for the idea that computers can think. Include an analysis of what thinking is, and respond to typical objections such as the inability of thought being motion.

V. **Methods of Evaluation/Assessment:**

A. Multiple Choice Exams
B. Short answer exams
C. Argumentative/Analytical essays
D. Reading responses

VI. **Methods of Instruction:**

A. Lecture
B. Discussion
C. Seminar

VII. **Textbooks:**

Required

1. Theodore Schick and Lewis Vaughn *Doing Philosophy: An Introduction through Thought Experiments* 2nd Edition, McGraw Hill, 2002 ISBN: 0767420500

Optional

VIII. **Supplies:**

A. None