

Instructor: Joey Tuminello  
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Phone: (541) 257-8613  
Office Hours: MW 2-3pm and by appt.

Class Time: MW 12:30-1:50pm  
Classroom: BC 244  
Office: BC 123

Course Description

This course introduces students to the major philosophers and issues of the past 2,500 years and the historical conditions that have affected, and been affected by, the development of philosophy. An attempt is made to embrace a study of significant thinkers from all cultures throughout the ages. The major emphasis of the course, however, is on the philosophies of the Western World.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Articulate the interplay between natural or social forces and the individual.
- Apply analytical skills to social phenomena to explain, evaluate or predict human behavior.
- Identify characteristics of a historical period the Axial Age when philosophy began and major changes that occurred throughout culture.
- Identify individuals who contributed significant ideas to philosophy and place them within their historical context.
- Identify major ideas which gave birth to the concept of philosophy and trace their evolution to the contemporary world.

Course Materials

All required readings will be made available through the course page on Canvas. These readings will also be made available in a shared folder on Google Drive. Students are required to bring either digital copies or printed copies of readings to class on the appropriate dates. (NOTE: If you are having trouble accessing the above links, try copying and pasting the URL into your browser.)

Course Requirements and Grading

**Participation (10%)**

Student participation is required in this class. This includes participation in class discussions as well as in-class group work. Failure to participate in class activities will result in a loss of participation points.

**Exams (40%)**

Over the course of the term, students will take both a midterm exam and a final exam. The midterm exam will take place during class on **Wednesday, May 8**, and the final exam will take place on **Monday, June 10 from 1-2:50pm**. Each exam is worth 20% of the total course grade. Exams will be comprehensive, and will consist of a combination of multiple choice, true/false, and essay questions.

**Argumentative Paper (30%)**

Students will write one argumentative paper on a topic relevant to any of the course themes. Students will select their own topics, and are encouraged to consult with the instructor (during office hours, via email, or during a scheduled appointment) when determining their topics. Detailed information on paper requirements and recommendations will be included in a "Paper Guidelines" document on Canvas, and will also be discussed in class. The first draft of the paper is due on **Wednesday, May 22 by 11:59 PM**, and this draft is worth 15% of the total course grade. The instructor will return these drafts with feedback for each student within one week of the due date. Students will then revise

their papers based on instructor feedback on their first drafts. The final draft of the paper is due on **Wednesday, June 5 by 11:59 PM**, and is also worth 15% of the total course grade.

### **Reading Quizzes (20%)**

Throughout the term, the instructor will administer 10 unannounced in-class reading quizzes. Each quiz is worth two points. Some quizzes will consist of one multiple choice, true/false, or short essay question. Other quizzes will consist of brief in-class group activities where students work together to examine and evaluate arguments from the assigned reading material.

### Grading Policy

This course is graded according to the requirements specified and weighted above. Final grades will be issued as follows:

- A = 90%+
- B = 80-89%
- C = 70-79%
- D = 60-69%
- F = 0-59%

### Course Policies

**Makeup/Late Assignment Policy:** The instructor may grant permission for makeup exams/quizzes and for extensions on argumentative paper drafts, but students must contact the instructor prior to the due date of the assignment in order to utilize this policy. If there is an emergency situation that prevents students from completing an assignment on time, please contact the instructor as soon as possible to make alternate arrangements.

**Classroom Behavior:** Respect must be shown for the instructor and fellow classmates at all times. This includes being on time for class, not leaving early (unless prior notice is given for exceptional situations), having your phone on silent (or off), refraining from disrespectful comments, and any other actions which may be distracting to the instructor or the class. Any disruptive, rude, or inappropriate behavior can and will result in the loss of participation points. **Electronic devices are only allowed for accessing course materials and taking notes during class.** If students abuse the use of electronic devices in class, all use of such devices in class will be prohibited.

**Class Cancellation:** In the event of class being cancelled (due to campus closure or for other reasons), students should assume that any readings, assignments, or exams due on the day class is cancelled will instead be due at the next scheduled class meeting. Any necessary adjustments to the schedule will be announced at the next class meeting and posted on Canvas.

**Academic Conduct:** Students are responsible for reading, understanding and knowing LBCC's Student Code of Conduct which can be found at: <https://www.linnbenton.edu/faculty-and-staff/administrative-information/policies/board-policies-and-administrative-rules/7000-series-student-services/administrative-rule-no-7030-01-student-rights-respon.php>. Academic dishonesty is of the utmost importance for maintaining the integrity of the course and ensuring fairness in each student's learning experience. All cases of academic dishonesty will result in the student receiving an F on that assignment. If a student commits more than one case of academic dishonesty, that student will receive an F as their final grade in the course. The instructor will also report all cases of academic dishonesty to the Associate Dean of Student Development and the Dean of Arts, Social Sciences & Humanities.

**Disability Accommodations Statement:** LBCC is committed to inclusiveness and equal access to higher education. If you have approved accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR) and would like to use your accommodations in this class, please talk to your instructor as soon as possible to discuss your needs. If you believe you may need accommodations, but are not yet registered with CFAR, please go to <http://linnbenton.edu/cfar> for steps on how to apply for services or call 541-917-4789.

**Drop/Withdrawal Information, and other Academic Dates:** Found here:  
<https://www.linnbenton.edu/academiccalendar>

### Class Schedule

This schedule is subject to change. Any changes will be announced in-class and on Canvas. It is your responsibility to obtain the amended schedule.

#### Course Introduction

**4/3/19** - Introduction to course and syllabus; Overview of philosophy, its historical periods and branches

**4/8/19** - Film: *The Examined Life*

### PART I: ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHY

#### Presocratic Philosophy

**4/10/19** - Norman Melchert, *Philosophical Conversations (PC)*, Ch. 2: "Philosophy Before Socrates," pp. 10-21

**4/15/19** - Melchert, *PC*, Ch. 2, pp. 26-34

#### Socrates, Plato, & Aristotle

**4/17/19** - Plato, "Apology" & "Crito"

**4/22/19** - Melchert, *PC*, Ch. 5: "Plato: Knowing the Real and the Good," pp. 98-112

**4/24/19** - Melchert, *PC*, Ch. 6: "Aristotle: The Reality of the World," pp. 142-150

#### Medieval Philosophy

**4/29/19** - Melchert, *PC*, Ch. 7: "Augustine: God and the Soul," pp. 191-203

**5/1/19** - Melchert, *PC*, Ch. 8: "Anselm and Aquinas: Arguing for the Existence of God," pp. 210-222

#### Midterm Exam & Review

**5/6/19** - Review for Midterm Exam

**5/8/19** - **Midterm Exam**

### PART II: MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY PHILOSOPHY

#### Modern Philosophy

**5/13/19** - René Descartes, *Meditations on First Philosophy* (excerpts)

**5/15/19** - David Hume, *An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding* (excerpts)

**5/20/19** - Melchert, *PC*, Ch. 12: "Immanuel Kant: Rehabilitating Reason (within Strict Limits)," pp. 323-334

Contemporary Philosophy

**5/22/19** - Melchert, *PC*, Ch. 16: "The Pragmatists: Thought and Action," pp. 452-460; **Argumentative Paper First Draft due by 11:59pm**

**5/27/19** - **Memorial Day (no class meeting)**

**5/29/19** - Melchert, *PC*, Ch. 19: "Postmodernism...: Jacques Derrida...," pp. 547-556

**6/3/19** - Alison Jaggar, "Love and Emotion in Feminist Epistemology"

Final Exam and Review

**6/5/19** - Review for Final Exam; **Argumentative Paper Final Draft due by 11:59pm**

**Final Exam: Monday, June 10 from 1-2:50pm**