



Academic Inquiries: Jinan University

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# JINAN UNIVERSITY

## Introduction to Philosophy

**Lecturer:** TBA

**Time:** Monday through Friday(July 1, 2019-August 2, 2019)

**Office hours:** 2 hours (according to the teaching schedule)

**Contact hours:** 60 (50 minutes each)

**Credits:** 4

**Location:** School of Tourism

**Office:** School of Tourism 210

**E-mail:** TBA

### Overview:

This course introduces the general nature of philosophical thought, and its basic methods and goals. The material covered includes selections by both current and historically important on such classic philosophical topics as the existence of God, the nature of right and wrong, and the possibility of knowledge. Through our readings and discussions we will also attempt to reach a clearer understanding of ourselves (personal identity), our relationship to other people (moral responsibility), and our relationship to the world around us (freedom of the will). Some of the general skills students will develop include the formulating and defending of theoretical positions and the ability to think critically about difficult and abstract issues.

### Required Book:

*Voices of Wisdom: A Multicultural Philosophy Reader*. 2016. by Gary Kessler. Cengage Learning

### Course Hours

The course has 25 sessions in total. Each class session is 120 minutes in length. The course meets from Monday to Friday.

## Grading Policy

**Exams:** There will be five exams over the five-week term. The exams together will be worth 80% of the final grade. We will do puzzles and paradoxes as class exercises/discussions throughout the term in addition to the assigned readings.

**Presentation:** Starting in week two, each student will be responsible for leading the discussion for an article assigned for that day. Students will choose articles on the first day of class. Students will do a five to ten-minute presentation of the article and guide the discussion following it. Students may use the study questions at the end of the reading to guide their discussion. (10% of grade)

**Attendance and Participation:** The remaining 10% of the student's grade will be determined by regular attendance and participation in class. You are **allowed 2 absences maximum** for the course before dropping a letter grade. Full and prepared participation is expected. Attendance is mandatory in the class. Respect towards the instructor and classmates is expected. Unjustified absences, disrespectful behavior in the classroom and lack of participation in class will have a negative impact on the final grade.

## Grading Scale

The instructor will use the grading system as applied by JNU:

Definition	Letter Grade	Score
Excellent	A	90-100
Good	B	80-89
Satisfactory	C	70-79
Poor	D	60-69
Failed	E	Below 60

## Course Schedule

**The schedule is tentative and will depend on class discussion.**

Week 1	July 1-5
Monday	Introduction to the course and Part One of video on "The Greeks"
Tuesday	Chapter One: What is Philosophy
Wednesday	Chapter 2: Thinking and Writing Philosophically
Thursday	Chapter 2 Continued: Practice in Logic
Friday	Review of materials

<b>Week 2</b>	<b>July 8-12</b>
Monday	Exam 1 Start Chapter Three How shall one live? Plato and Aristotle, see 9.3 also
Tuesday	Buddha
Wednesday	Confucius see 11.5 also,
Thursday	Bhagavad-Gita, Jesus, Dostoyevsky
Friday	Review of materials
<b>Week 3</b>	<b>July 15-19</b>
Monday	Exam 2 Start Chapter Four How can I know what is right? Kant, Mill, Nussbaum
Tuesday	Al-Ahshari, Hernandez,
Wednesday	Noddings, Pojman
Friday	Review of materials
<b>Week 4</b>	<b>July 22-26</b>
Monday	Exam 3: Start Chapter 5 What makes a society just? El Fadl,
Tuesday	Marx and Engels
Wednesday	Rawls, Plato
Thursday	King, Deloria
Friday	Review
<b>Week 5</b>	<b>July 29-August 2</b>
Monday	Exam 4 Start Chapter 6 Is Justice for all possible? West, Pharr, Williams, Singer
Tuesday	Mandela, Arendt, McKibbin, Regan and review
Wednesday	Presentations
Thursday	Exam 5 and photography presentations

### Academic Honesty

Jinan University defines academic misconduct as any act by a student that misrepresents the students' own academic work or that compromises the academic work of another scholastic misconduct includes (but is not limited to) cheating on assignments or examinations; plagiarizing, i.e. misrepresenting as one's own work any work done by another; submitting the same paper, or substantially similar papers, to meet the requirements of more than one course without the approval and consent of the instructors concerned; sabotaging another's work within these general definitions,

however, Instructors determine what constitutes academic misconduct in the courses they teach. Students found guilty of academic misconduct in any portion of the academic work face penalties ranging from lowering of their course grade to awarding a grade of E for the entire course.

### **Cheating**

Cheating is the use of inappropriate and unacknowledged materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise. The use of books, notes, calculators and conversation with others is restricted or forbidden in certain academic exercises. Their use in these cases constitutes cheating. Similarly, students must not request others (including commercial term paper companies) to conduct research or prepare any work for them, nor may they submit identical work or portions thereof for credit or honors more than once without prior approval of the instructor.

### **Fabrication**

Fabrication is the falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. “Invented” information may not be used in any laboratory experiment or other academic exercise without authorization from the instructor. It is improper, for example, to analyze one sample in an experiment and covertly “invent” data based on that single experiment for several more required analyses. The student must also acknowledge reliance upon the actual source from which cited information was obtained. A writer should not, for example, reproduce a quotation from a book review and indicate that the quotation was obtained from the book itself.

### **Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is the representation of the words or idea of another as one’s own in any academic exercise. To avoid plagiarism, every direct quotation must be identified by quotation marks or by appropriate indentation and must be properly cited in the text or in a footnote. Acknowledgment is required when material from another source stored in print, electronic or other medium is paraphrased or summarized in whole or in part in one’s own words. Information which is common knowledge such as names of leaders of prominent nations, basic scientific laws, etc. need not be footnoted; however, all facts or information obtained in reading or research that are not common knowledge among students in courses must be acknowledged.