



# PHIL 1301: Introduction to Philosophy Online

Course Syllabus: Summer II 2020

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*“Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide personal, dynamic learning experiences empowering students to succeed.”*

**Instructor: Tyler Young**

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Office	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Online
Hours	By Appt.	By Appt.	By Appt.	By Appt.	By Appt.	By Appt.

***This syllabus serves as the documentation for all course policies and requirements, assignments, and instructor/student responsibilities.***

*Information relative to the delivery of the content contained in this syllabus is subject to change. Should that happen, the student will be notified.*

**Course Description:** 3 credit hours.

Lecture/Lab/Clinical: Three hours of class each week

A study of major issues in philosophy and/or the work of major philosophical figures in philosophy. Topics in philosophy may include theories of reality, theories of knowledge, theories of value, and their practical applications.

**Prerequisite(s):** None

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Read, analyze, and critique philosophical texts.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of key concepts, major arguments, problems, and terminology in philosophy.
3. Present logically persuasive arguments both orally and in writing.
4. Demonstrate critical thinking skills in evaluation and application of philosophical concepts to various aspects of life.
5. Evaluate the personal and social responsibilities of living in a diverse world.

**Evaluation/Grading Policy:**

90 - 100% = A

80 - 89% = B

70 - 79% = C

60 - 69% = D

0 - 59% = F

**Explanation of Grading Scale:**

A = The letter grade of A represents that, in all areas of evaluation, the student has demonstrated an excellent understanding of the course subject matter and an exemplary ability to effectively communicate it. The student has also excelled in the ability to educate himself/herself. Through all assignments and discussions, the student has consistently demonstrated accurate factual

knowledge, analytical skill, interdisciplinary association, and practical application of the subject matter to daily living habits and problems.

B = The letter grade of B represents that, in some areas of evaluation, the student has demonstrated competency of the subject matter. The student could improve in one or all of the following areas: the accuracy of factual recollection, the aptitude to critically analyze a text, an awareness of the association of the subject matter, the communication and consistent application of his/her knowledge.

C = The letter grade of C represents that the student has demonstrated an average knowledge of the basic facts of the subject matter and has demonstrated a rudimentary ability to gain knowledge through his own study. The student requires further education and practice of critical thinking skills. The student also needs to strengthen his/her ability to explain the subject matter clearly and effectively.

D = The letter grade of D represents that the student requires further educational instruction in basic content, application, and communication of the subject matter. The student's factual knowledge and skills in communication and application are adequate for the attainment of a degree at NTCC, but further education is necessary for the mastery of the subject.

F = The letter grade of F represents that the student has not demonstrated an elementary level of knowledge of the subject matter. The student also has not demonstrated the skills or discipline necessary to learn the subject matter.

Grading and Evaluation: A student's grade will be based upon performance in five areas (including the tests):

1. Orientation Quiz - 2%

The student should print the syllabus to assist them with the questions contained within the Orientation Quiz.

2. Introduction Discussion - 3%

Create a thread where you introduce yourself to the class and post a picture. In your introduction you can include what your academic goals are (what you want to be) and address the reason why it is important to have a class on ethics for people in that profession. You also need to respond to a classmate's post. This is worth 3% of your overall grade (1 point for post, 1 for picture and 1 for response).

3. Mindtap/Aplia/Chapter Quizzes Assignments - 35%

Students need to complete all required assignments within Mindtap by the listed due dates. This is worth 35% of your overall grade. Notice: please do not wait until the deadline to begin working on these assignments. You are given weeks to complete them and it is the assumption of the professor that you will begin working on them right away. It is not his practice to accept late work and it is the student's responsibility to stay ahead of schedule to avoid being late on the assignments.

4. Discussion Boards - 20%

The discussion boards are another opportunity to practice critical thinking. Do not merely give your opinion regarding the topic or the statements made in the discussion posts. Do not simply agree with a classmate's position. Critically analyze the article and the posts and explain your opinion by providing well-reasoned arguments for your position.

Each discussion post is due on a certain day. Late posts will not be accepted for credit. A student must contribute at least two substantive posts to each discussion forum for a total of 12

posts during the course. A substantive post consists of analytical questions, intelligent comments, illustrations of pertinent personal experiences, etc. Simple written agreement concerning an issue or repetition of ideas does not count as a substantive post. Please note the following points:

1. The first substantive post must be your original response to the forum topic, questions, and article.

2. The second and third posts are responses to your classmates' original posts.

To receive full credit, all posts must be respectful in tone, thorough (at least 100 words in length), substantive, and written according to the rules of proper English grammar and spelling. No late posts, for any reason, will be accepted for credit.

The discussion forum will be graded based on the tone, thoroughness, substantive nature, grammatical quality, and quantity of the student's posts. Each discussion forum is worth 100 points and all four Unit discussions will comprise a total of 20% of the overall course grade.

#### 5. Tests - 40%

Each Unit will culminate with an online test. The questions may be multiple choice, matching, fill-in-the-blank, true/false or short answer. It is anticipated that each test will be 50 questions and students will have one hour to complete. Students need to have a thorough understanding of the material before taking the test. While you may use your textbook, you will simply not have enough time to look for all the answers.

There are four tests this semester and the lowest score will be dropped. Students need to have reliable internet access as a test will not be restarted because of technical error. It is also recommended that students not wait until the very last moment to take a test as this can cause a great deal of traffic on the server and could slow things down or lead to technical malfunctions. The instructor understands that things can happen, and this is why the lowest score will be dropped. The dropping of the lowest score is a response to technical difficulties and not personal issues. Each test is worth 100 points and with the lowest score dropped this section is worth 40% of the student's overall class score.

All work will be graded within 72 hours of the when it was due.

#### **Required Instructional Materials:**

Soccio, Archetypes of Wisdom Digital Text w/ Mindtap, 9<sup>th</sup> Ed

*Note:* You have already paid for this item with your tuition and fees. Please see announcements in the course to get started.

**Publisher:** Cengage

**ISBN Number:** 1305106031

**Optional Instructional Materials:** None

**Minimum Technology Requirements:** Computer and High Speed Internet

**Required Computer Literacy Skills:** Basic skills and familiarity with Blackboard

#### **Course Structure and Overview:**

I have divided the semester into four units; each unit is broken down to 3-4 chapters. Begin every chapter by reading it, then review the PPT lecture notes, complete the required Mindtap/Aplia assignments, the discussion board and take the unit test.

#### **Communications:**

NTCC email is the method of contact for this course and students can expect a response within 24 hours during weekdays and by noon on Monday for anything sent after noon on Friday.

**Institutional/Course Policy:****Assignment Requirements:**

Students are expected to complete all assignments by the due date and time stated in the Lectures and Discussion Schedule and Syllabus. Analytical Questions, Discussion Forum posts, Quizzes, the Special Assignment, and the Final Exam are due by 11:59 pm on their scheduled date. No late work will be accepted for credit and no make-up work will be permitted except for medical emergencies, official college activities, or personal emergency situations. A medical emergency is defined as sickness requiring hospitalization or isolation. All medical emergencies must be verified by a doctor's note. An official college activity is any activity that the college has mandated for students. A personal emergency is limited to death of a relative or unforeseeable and immediate hardship. All excuses for make-up work must be verified by the instructor. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor to schedule make-up work due to a medical or personal emergency. The instructor may permit or deny make-up work.

**Attendance Policy:**

Since this course is an online course, the attendance policy is the following: a student must log in at least once a week (7 day period) for the duration of the course. If a student does not sign in for a week (7 day period), the instructor may begin drop procedures for a student. The instructor will keep records of attendance. If the attendance policy is broken, the instructor will examine the reasons for the student's absences, the student's work in the class, and determine whether it is in the student's best interest to remain in the class. If the student breaks the attendance policy, the instructor may begin withdrawal procedures (up to the college's withdrawal deadline) or may fail the student for the course (after the college's withdrawal deadline has passed).

**NTCC Academic Honesty/Ethics Statement:**

NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. The college expects all students to engage in their academic pursuits in an honest manner that is beyond reproach using their intellect and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty and Academic Ethics policies stated in the Student Handbook. Refer to the student handbook for more information on these subjects.

**ADA Statement:**

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodations. An appointment can be made with the Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in Student Services and can be reached at 903-434-8264. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the special populations page on the NTCC website.

**Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory

information” may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student’s name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

**Tentative Course Timeline (\*note\* instructor reserves the right to make adjustments to this timeline at any point in the term):**

<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Unit and Chapters</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
7/14	Syllabus	Orientation Quiz
7/16		Introduction Discussion
7/22	Unit 1: Chapters 1-4	Chapter Mindtap Exercises, Unit 1 Discussion, Unit 1 Test
7/29	Unit 2: Chapters 5-8	Chapter Mindtap Exercises, Unit 2 Discussion, Unit 2 Test
8/5	Unit 3: Chapters 9-13	Chapter Mindtap Exercises, Unit 3 Discussion, Unit 3 Test
8/12	Unit 4: Chapters 14-18	Chapter Mindtap Exercises, Unit 4 Discussion, Unit 4 Test