

Course Expectations Letter

Subject: Philosophy, Introduction to Philosophy

E-Mail Contact Information:

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Catalog Course Description:

This course introduces the topics and questions of philosophy. Topics may include the nature of reality, the nature of knowledge, the nature of the self, the nature and existence of God, the foundations and application of ethics, and the role and justification of the State. Practical application and relevance will be emphasized. This course is appropriate for anyone seeking a broader program of philosophical study, or to fulfill general Humanities or Philosophy major requirements. Students will be taught the history of ideas, how to “do philosophy” themselves, and to appreciate the benefit of such activity

Student Learning Outcomes:

**Students will be assessed using two sets of learning objectives,

- A. Given prior instruction on a topic of philosophical interest, the student will demonstrate the ability to formulate and defend a philosophical position by clearly articulating a thesis statement, and providing supporting points.
- B. Given previous instruction in some theory of philosophical significance (e.g., determinism, utilitarianism, rationalism, etc.), the student will correctly identify and explain the basic elements of that theory

By logging into Canvas you affirm that you are the student who enrolled in the course(s) and are the person who will complete the assigned work. Furthermore, you agree to follow the regulations regarding academic integrity, personal identification and the use of student information as described in [BP 5500 \(Standards of Conduct\)](#) and [AP 5520 \(Student Conduct Procedures\)](#) which are the Rio Hondo College student conduct codes that govern student rights and responsibilities. You acknowledge that failure to abide by the regulations set forth in BP 5500 and AP 5520 may result in disciplinary action, including expulsion from the college.

This is **NOT** a self-paced course. There are firm deadlines in this class. There are assignments due on a regular basis. Please plan your time carefully!

Textbook: Please consult the Bookstore for information at (562) 463-7345 or go to [Rio Hondo College Online Bookstore](#)

This course will include regular instructor student contact. Methods of regular instructor student contact include:

This course includes video lectures released week to week, discussion questions found in the lecture, and a discussion forum. Students are also able to access the instructor via email and should expect a response within 12 hours during the week, and irregularly during the weekend.

Students will be required to complete four exams, a final project, and discussion questions. Students will be required to keep up with the reading schedule and complete assignments as they are due. This is not an adaptive course.

Other policies include, Online Course Access and Structure Acknowledgment for PHIL 101

This is also part of your Syllabus for the course.

Please read the following and acknowledge in the discussion thread, "Acknowledgement". Failure to do so will result in having NO work graded or counted towards your final grade until the public acknowledgement in the discussion forum is made. This ensures you understand the structure of the course.

- 1) You understand this is a 100% online course. You must have regular access to a computer to access the video lectures. In particular, on Wednesdays of exam weeks beginning at 12:00 a.m. until Saturday at 11:59 p.m., you need a computer---not your phone, not a tablet. This block of time is when your exams will open and close. Failure to take your exam during this window will result in failure for that exam. I don't reopen exams for any reason.

This regular access requires having an internet connection that is reliable. If you will be traveling, you must have a connection that will allow successful completion of the course. In the past, students traveling to China, the Middle East, and Mexico have had problems such that exams were not completed due to connectivity issues. I cannot and will not make exceptions for students who are out of the country and experience connection difficulties because the difficulties are not a problem on my end. Thus, I cannot solve them.

- 2) You understand that in addition to buying the reader, you must access some of the readings online and have a PDF reader, <http://get.adobe.com/reader/>.
- 3) You understand that after 4 p.m. on Friday and through 8 a.m. on Monday there is no technical support available. If you choose to take your exams during this time and you have a legitimate technical problem: you will not have help. Be sure that you take it early!
- 4) You understand that your exam(s) will not be reset except for system outages, which are documented on my end. Mistakes on your part do not justify resetting an exam. Common mistakes include using browsers other than those recommended, attempting the exam on your phone, becoming confused with multiple windows or programs open on your computer, and/or attempting to backtrack through the exam. I provide a practice exam, please do it and familiarize yourself with the instructions and the way they work.
- 5) After 4 p.m. on Friday and until Monday at 8 a.m., I am not available for email support, questions, or other matters with the course. An online course does not give students 24/7 access to their instructor. However, please contact me regarding ANY matters with the course first.
- 6) The structure of the class is straight-forward as laid out in the syllabus. Lectures and reading assignments are released before you have an exam over that material. These exams cover the readings, videos, and lectures.
- 7) You understand that the above sequence is done in order, released week-to-week, and failure to take exams when scheduled will result in receiving zero points for them. Previous lectures are closed, and new ones are made available. The course is not "adaptive", that is, you don't do it at your own pace. You must follow the pace of the course to be successful.

- 8) You understand that the other requirements listed in the syllabus are also binding on you for your final grade. Please read the syllabus before acknowledging so that you are completely informed about the course.
- 9) You understand that you must activate your Rio Hondo email account and use that account. I don't know who "BigPapi2013" is, nor do I know who "OneHotBabeinCali" is either.
- 10) You understand and will use one of the accepted browsers from this list:
<http://online.riohondo.edu/student/computerRequirements.htm#compatible>
There is also a Browser Diagnostic Test available on the main Online Education page under Student Links.
- 11) You understand that you need a working version of Quicktime to view files for this course.
<http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>

The instructor may drop you for non-participation.

There will be a one to three business day delay after an add code is used before a student may be able to log on to Canvas.

For students new to online classes, it is highly recommended that you take the Online Orientation through our Online Education website. This will help explain what online classes are like and familiarize you with how the class is laid out. The orientation can be found at: <http://www.riohondo.edu/canvas-orientation//>

Email Responses: Instructors will make every attempt to respond to students in a timely fashion. Responses can take up to 48 hours before a response is received, excluding weekends and holidays.

Disability: A Student with a verified disability may be entitled to appropriate academic accommodations. Please contact your instructor and/or the [Disabled Students & Programs](#) office at 562-908-3420 for more information.

Modifications and Disclaimer: The instructor reserves the right to modify the content of the course or any course procedure. It is the responsibility of the student to keep apprised of all changes. If the student wishes to drop the class he/she is responsible for initiating the drop. Do not take it for granted that you will be dropped. If you stop working and do not drop the course, you may get an undesirable grade.