

ARIZONA WESTERN COLLEGE

SYLLABUS

PHI 240 ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY/GE

Credit Hours: 3 Lec 3

General Education Course: WI (Critical Inquiry, Writing Intensive)
H (Historical Awareness), C (Cultural Awareness)

PREREQUISITE: ENG 101 or 107

THIS COURSE IS DESIGNATED AS WRITING INTENSIVE: Arizona Western College believes writing provides a unique opportunity to learn disciplinary content while mastering writing skills. Writing-Intensive (WI) courses at Arizona Western College integrate writing assignments in ways that help students learn both the subject matter of the courses and discipline-specific ways of thinking and writing. Writing Intensive courses help develop students' identities as good writers by linking their writing proficiency with their desire to know more about the field of study, to engage in questions in the discipline, and to become a participant in academic discourse.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Examines the contributions made by ancient Greek and Roman thinkers to the western philosophical and scientific tradition. A broad range of topics will be covered including: the universe, law, justice, knowledge, virtue, happiness, death, and god. Emphasis will be placed on the writings and thought of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle.

1. COURSE GOALS

- 1.1 Elucidate the foundational principles, methods, virtues, and purposes of philosophical speculation and inquiry
- 1.2 Articulate the major ideas, figures, philosophical schools, and intellectual traditions that emerge during the classical period
- 1.3 Describe the role the ancient philosophical tradition played in shaping and sculpting the distinctive topics and issues addressed throughout the history of philosophy, but also the impact it had and continues to have on other domains of inquiry (e.g., law, politics, science, religion, etc.)
- 1.4 Fine-tune strategies for reading, analyzing, and evaluating complex ideas and issues contained within the classical philosophical literature
- 1.5 Provide tools and opportunities for critical reflection, discussion, and development of one's own views on the course content

2. OUTCOMES

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

- 2.1 recognize and explain conventional terminology and vocabulary used within the discipline
- 2.2 analyze and evaluate an argument using principles of logic and critical reasoning
- 2.3 interpret relevant primary and secondary source texts as well as extract crucial information (e.g., main thesis, premises, assumptions, etc.) central to the claims being made in those texts
- 2.4 employ the Socratic method of questioning as one engages in dialogue and debate, upholding the “interrogative attitude” as one participates in discussion
- 2.5 describe how the use of reason and systematic observation were first utilized in the study of nature by the pre-Socratic thinkers, as well as how this approach either stood in contrast to or was integrated with the mythical worldview of the ancient world
- 2.6 identify the unique contributions made to the major branches of philosophical study (e.g., epistemology, ontology, metaphysics, and value theory) as they appear in the classics of the Greco-Roman world
- 2.7 explain the major ideas, arguments, and values defended by the seminal figures of the period (i.e., Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle) or schools (e.g., the pluralists, monists, skeptics, sophists, etc.), showing additionally how the views of later thinkers can be seen as either extensions of or departures from earlier thinkers
- 2.8 articulate the distinctive contributions of ancient thinkers to the development of jurisprudence, the role of government, and the nature of justice
- 2.9 compare and contrast the broad worldview features of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers of the Hellenistic period
- 2.10 generate appropriate writing discourse according to the AWC Writing Intensive Courses: General Education guidelines.

WI OUTCOMES

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

- 2.11 Demonstrate critical inquiry through the gathering, interpretation, and evaluation of evidence in writing.
- 2.12 Develop flexible strategies for generating ideas, revising, editing, and proofreading, using instructor and peer feedback on written discourse to guide improvement through revision.
- 2.13 Effectively compose discipline-specific writing, which includes overall organization, analysis, grammar, mechanics, punctuation, and style.
- 2.14 Develop strategies for composing both in class and out of class compositions.
- 2.15 Demonstrate through written discourse a sequence of increasing complexity/skill in knowledge of content as well as discipline specific discourse form.

3. AWC GENERAL EDUCATION (GE) OUTCOMES

3.1 DIGITAL LITERACY

- Access the needed information effectively and efficiently
- Evaluate information and its sources critically
- Incorporate selected information into one’s knowledge base
- Use information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- Use information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose

3.2 COMMUNICATION

- Write effectively and intelligently for a range of purposes and audiences in the English language (e.g., informing, persuading, advancing an argument, expressing, creating, etc.)
- Read a wide range of texts across the curriculum, demonstrating comprehension through written and oral summary and analysis
- Utilize proper citations, evaluate critically, and use effectively relevant information for problem-solving and presentation of ideas, issues, and arguments
- Demonstrate skill in using electronic media generally appropriate to contemporary academic and professional workplaces
- Produce scholarly or creative works that effectively employ the communication conventions and means of the major field
- Provide writing that presents a clear, specific thesis and awareness of audience
- Fully develops examples to support thesis in logical, coherent manner demonstrates original thinking, depth of analysis, and comprehension of material used and that shows high proficiency in standard English grammar, spelling, and punctuation

3.3 CIVIC DISCOURSE

- Describe historical, cultural, and political issues relevant in contemporary local, national, and global communities
- Analyze how such issues affect various local, national, and global regions, communities, and individuals

4. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- 4.1 Class discussions
- 4.2 Teacher lectures
- 4.3 Multimedia
- 4.4 Handouts
- 4.5 Text analysis

5. LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- 5.1 Note Taking
- 5.2 Classroom discussion
- 5.3 Written summaries on assigned readings
- 5.4 Classroom presentations
- 5.5 Writing assignments totaling a minimum of 3000 words that include in-class essays, out of class assignments, and revisions based on instructor feedback

6. EVALUATION

- 6.1 Grading will be earned by an assortment of learning activities, exams, assignments, and participation
- 6.2 Please see the class schedule and assignment sheet for more information
- 6.3 At least 33% of the student's grade in the course will be based on written discourse

7. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- 7.1 Under AWC Policy, students are expected to attend every session of class in which they are enrolled.
- 7.2 If a student is unable to attend the course or must drop the course for any reason, it will be the responsibility of the student to withdraw from the course. Students who are not attending as of the 45th day of the course will be withdrawn by the instructor. If the student does not withdraw from the course and fails to complete the requirements of the course, the student will receive a failing grade.
- 7.3 Americans with Disabilities Act Accommodations: Arizona Western College provides academic accommodations to students with disabilities through AccessABILITY Resource Services (ARS). ARS provides reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students who have documented disabilities. It is the responsibility of the student to make the ARS Coordinator aware of the need for accommodations in the classroom prior to the beginning of the semester. Students should follow up with their instructors once the semester begins. To make an appointment call the ARS front desk at (928) 344-7674 or ARS Coordinator at (928) 344-7629, in the College Community Center (3C) building, next to Advising.
- 7.4 Academic Integrity: Any student participating in acts of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, copying the work of other students, using unauthorized “crib notes”, plagiarism, stealing tests, or forging an instructor’s signature—will be subject to the procedures and consequences outlined in AWC’s Student Code of Conduct.
- 7.5 Texts and Notebooks: Students are required to obtain the class materials for the course