

Bemidji State University

PHIL 1100: Introduction to Philosophy

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: *.*

Lab Hours/Week: *.*

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

Introduction to a variety of philosophical issues and the philosophers, past and present, who have tried to resolve them. Selection of readings and approach vary with instructor. Liberal Education Goal Area 6.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/22/1997 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Plato and his classic works
2. Lach's "The Vague Hope of Immortality"
3. "Darwin's God"
4. "River Out of Eden: A Darwinian View of Life"
5. "Better and Better Off: Moral Progress amid Continuing Carnage"
6. "Famine, Affluence, and Morality"
7. "What Libertarianism Is"
8. "A Moral Case for Socialism"
9. "Five Lectures in Psycho-Analysis"
10. Existentialism is a Humanism"
11. "Hot, Flat, Crowded"

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. examine why it is important to be moral.
2. analyze whether our character, who we are, is completely determined in childhood or whether we are free to choose who we are.
3. apply skills in argumentation and analysis to pressing contemporary issues, such as globalization and climate change.
4. decide whether we are morally better now than any other generation in history.
5. assess arguments as to whether life is simply a result of natural processes of evolution or whether there is also a spiritual, non-physical, side of life.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

1. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
2. Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context.
3. Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted