

Course Syllabus  
Philosophy 1050 – Introduction to Philosophy  
Summer 2007  
10:00-11:50 Monday thru Thursday

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Office Hours: after class, and by appointment

**Course Description:**

The Introduction to Philosophy class is the most general discussion in philosophy offered. In this course we will examine some of the fundamental questions, ideas, concepts, and arguments that have been central to the history of philosophical thought from the ancients to the present. Our objective will be to gain as thorough of an understanding as possible (given the amount of time), of as many philosophers as possible. This class will not be easy, and requires a lot of reading. However, philosophy, like many things in life, is something in which you get out what you put in. This class has the opportunity of being extremely rewarding, and can even be a life-changing event. The Teaching Fellow you see before you is here today because of his Intro to Philosophy class.

**Texts**

1. Douglas J. Soccio, *Archetypes of Wisdom: An Introduction to philosophy* (six edition), Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thompson Learning
2. Numerous handouts will be given out, by me, and I will specify what parts are to be read. Expect handouts to come your way almost daily. The handouts are just as important as the text, and will provide invaluable supplemental information.

**Grading:**

Participation: 15%. Your participation grade will be based on two things. Attendance, and in-class participation. Not only is it imperative that you attend class every day, but you must also contribute to conversation. This does not mean, however, that you can dominate classroom discussion. You will neither say too much, nor too little. Walking in and disappearing is just as bad as saying too much.

Reading Quizzes: 15% Twice a week you will have a reading quiz. The quiz will be relatively easy if you have read the material. They will be short answer questions, mostly with a one or two word answer. The reading quizzes can be on ANY days of the week, and does not have to be on the same days of the week from week to week.

Tests:70%. You will have three tests throughout the summer. The last one will count as the final exam. All three of them are weighted evenly.

Extra Credit:

**Schedule:**

Week 1 – Ancient Greek Philosophy

Week 2 - Ancient cont'd and Medieval Philosophy

Week 3 – Modern Philosophy

Week 4 – Eastern Philosophy

Week 5 – Pragmatism, Existentialism, and Post-Modernism, Phenomenology,,etc..etc