INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY AS A WAY OF LIFE
PHIL 11 ONLINE (5 units)
Philosophy Department  |  University of California, Santa Cruz  |  Summer 2020

TEACHING TEAM:

Alexandra Grundler, Instructor
   Supplementary Lecture and Discussion: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 12-1 pm PST
   Zoom Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 1-2 pm PST and by appointment
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   Zoom Office Hours: by appointment

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   Zoom Office Hours: by appointment

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   Zoom Office Hours: by appointment

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   Zoom Office Hours: by appointment

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   Zoom Office Hours: by appointment

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   Zoom Office Hours: by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course provides an introductory historical survey of ancient approaches to central topics comprising philosophy as a way of life. We will consider issues connected to the nature of reality, knowledge, the human mind, the social and political realm, and morality that have a bearing on our capacity for a flourishing existence. This survey begins with Ancient Greek philosophy and concludes with Buddhism. Most importantly, this course aims to engender meaningful contemplation on our own assumptions about the nature of reality, knowledge, and values as they relate to our own pursuit of a good life.
Remote Teaching and Learning:

These are unusual, and unusually stressful, times. I recognize that some people would like to maintain as normal a schedule as possible, while other’s schedules will not allow for that. I will hold 3 zoom sessions per week; these Zoom sessions are for those that can make them. The course is designed so that you can get full credit even if you can only participate asynchronously (i.e., on your own time). Still, you are strongly encourage to participate synchronously (i.e., in real time) if you are able.

The lectures are all pre-recorded podcasts by a former UCSC grad student named David Donley. Each week’s live zoom class will be started with any important announcements and a mini-lecture to supplement the podcasts (which I will record). This will be followed by large and small group discussion of the material (which I will not record). I will also stay an hour after each lecture/discussion to discuss with individuals who might like to go more in-depth and/or get feedback on their writing process. I will also be happy to meet on zoom by appointment throughout the week with whoever cannot make live lectures and/or office hours.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Students will be able to describe and compare conceptions of the good life articulated by the major figures and schools in the history of ancient philosophy. In our exploration of ancient philosophy, we will encounter many similarities and differences among the conceptions of the good life we consider. Through describing and comparing these conceptions, we will obtain a sense of the diverse range of ways of life available to us.

2. Students will be able to formulate a cogent philosophical position concerning their own, individual conceptions of the good life, as informed by the various positions we will encounter over the course—which concepts we find would better our lives, which we feel would not, and why.

3. Hopefully, we can take from this class some new perspectives and practices that help us live our lives with more meaning, joy, and ease!

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Since there are several course objectives, your performance on several different measures will be assessed by the teaching team.

1. Lecture Quizzes (20% of final grade)
   - In each module, every lecture will be followed by a short quiz testing your basic comprehension of concepts and ideas presented in lecture; quizzes are intended as a low stakes assessment to ensure students are keeping up with course content.
   - Each quiz will consist of up to ten multiple choice, multiple answer, and true-and-false questions. Each quiz is worth 10 points.
Grading Policy: There will be 13 quizzes; the three lowest scores will be dropped. This results in 10 quizzes, each being worth 2% of the final grade. Missed quizzes cannot be made up.
Lateness Policy: Quizzes will only be open during the week of their corresponding lecture. For example, the first three quizzes can only be taken during week one.

2. Reading Response Journal Entries (40% of final grade)
• Every week there will be primary source readings consisting of selections from the works of philosophers discussed in the lecture. Upon completion of the readings, a 500-word reading response journal will need to be completed each week. Prompts with specific requirements and grading rubric can be found in the modules.
• Reading response journals provide opportunities to practice analysis and evaluation of conceptions of the good life we consider in the course.
• Grading Policy: There will be a total of 5 journal entries, each worth 20 points. Each journal entry is worth 8% of the final grade.
• Lateness Policy: If something comes up and you foresee having to turn in this assignment late, please notify your TA before the assignment is due.

3. Participation in Discussion Forum (40% of the final grade)
• Each week, upon completion of lecture and reading components of modules, students will contribute to an online discussion forum in Canvas.
• Students will craft an initial post of approximate 250 words and then reply to another post with an approximately 150-word response.
• Grading Policy: There will be a total of 10 posts for the course [(1 initial post + 1 reply) x 5 weeks]. The two posts for each week are worth 20 points or 8% of the final grade.
• Lateness Policy: If something comes up and you foresee having to turn in this assignment late, please notify your TA before the assignment is due.

GRADING SCALE:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>96.5% – 100%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>93.5% – 96.49%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>89.5% – 93.49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>86.5% – 89.49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B</td>
<td>83.5% – 86.49%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>79.5% – 83.49%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>76.5% – 79.49%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73.5%</td>
<td>76.49%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
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<td>69.5% – 73.49%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>66.5% – 69.49%</td>
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<td>D</td>
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<td>63.5% – 66.49%</td>
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<td>D-</td>
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<td>59.5% – 63.49%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fail</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0% – 59.49%</td>
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**SUMMER SESSION 1 (June 22- July 24th) KEY DATES:**

- **Add** - Thursday, June 25
- **Drop** - Monday, June 29 (tuition reversed)
- **Financial Aid Disbursement** - Monday, June 15 (if enrolled by June 1 priority deadline)
- **Request "W" Grade** - Friday, July 10 (no tuition reversal)
- **Change Grade Option** - Friday, July 10
- **Grades Due** - Thursday, July 30

Summer is unique. You will not be dropped for non-attendance or non-payment. You must drop yourself. Dropping before the deadline results in a full-tuition reversal/refund. Withdraw posts a W for the grade and full tuition is charged (no refund).

For all dates and deadlines, including change of grade option (P/NP) and grades due, here is the summer academic calendar: [https://summer.ucsc.edu/studentlife/index.html](https://summer.ucsc.edu/studentlife/index.html) For questions about dropping, requesting a W grade for a course, or withdrawing from the summer quarter, email summer@ucsc.edu.

**COURSE SCHEDULE:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>MODULES</th>
<th>ACTIVITIES</th>
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| Week 1               | Module 1: Course Orientation and Introduction to Philosophy | • Lecture: “What is Philosophy?”  
• Orientation & Lecture Quiz  
• Readings: Syllabus & Bertrand Russell’s “The Value of Philosophy” |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                     | Module 2: The Sophists & The Figure of Socrates           | • Lecture: “The Sophists & the Figure of Socrates”  
• Lecture Quiz |
|                     | Module 3: Plato’s Academy                                | • Lecture: “Plato’s Academy”  
• Lecture Quiz  
• Reading: Plato’s Symposium |
| Additional Components|                                                           | • Complete Reading Response Journal Entry  
• Post on Discussion Forum  
• All components must be completed by Sunday, June 28th at 11:59 PM |
| Week 2              | Module 4: Aristotle’s Lyceum                             | Lecture: “Aristotle’s Lyceum” and “Aristotle’s Six States of Character”  
• Lecture Quiz  
• Reading: Aristotle’s Nicomachean Ethics (selections) |
|                     | Module 5: Hellenistic Philosophy                          | • Lecture: “Hellenistic Schools: Introduction, Cynicism, & Skepticism”  
• Lecture Quiz |
|                     | Module 6: Hellenistic Philosophy (continued)             | • Lecture: “Hellenistic Schools: Epicureanism & Stoicism”  
• Lecture Quiz  
• Reading: Seneca’s Moral Letters to Lucilius (selections) |
| Additional Components|                                                           | • Complete Reading Response Journal Entry  
• Post on Discussion Forum  
All components must be completed by Sunday, July 5th at 11:59 PM |
| Week 3              | Module 7: Ancient Western Philosophical Practice         | • Lecture: “Spiritual Exercises & Concentration on the Self”  
• Lecture Quiz |
| Module 8: Ancient Western Philosophical Practice (continued) | Lecture: “Expansion of the Self”  
Lecture Quiz  
Reading: Aurelius’ Meditations (selections) |
| --- | --- |
| Module 9: The Figure of the Buddha | Lecture: “Introduction to Buddhism”  
Lecture Quiz  
Reading: Pali Canon (selections) |
| Additional Components | Complete Reading Response Journal Entry  
Post on Discussion Forum  
*All components must be completed by Sunday, July 12th at 11:59 PM* |

**Week 4**

| Module 10: Early Buddhism (continued) | Lecture: “Early Buddhism (continued)”  
Lecture Quiz  
Reading: Pali Canon (selections) |
| Module 11: Introduction to Zen Buddhism | Lecture: “Introduction to Zen Buddhism”  
Lecture Quiz  
Reading: Suzuki’s *Intro to Zen*, “What is Zen?”  
Reading Response Journal Entry |
| Additional Components | Post on Discussion Forum  
*All components must be completed by Sunday, July 19th at 11:59 PM* |

**Week 5**

| Module 12: Zen Buddhism (continued) | Lecture: “Zen Buddhism (continued)”  
Lecture Quiz  
Reading: Suzuki’s *Intro to Zen* chapter of your choice!(selections)  
Reading Response Journal Entry |
| Module 13: Philosophy as a Way of Life | Lecture: “Philosophy as a Way of Life”  
Lecture Quiz  
Reading: Nietzsche’s *The Gay Science* (selections)  
Reading Response Journal Entry |
| Additional Components | Post on Discussion Forum  
*All components must be completed by Sunday, July 26th at 11:59 PM* |
Policies and Resources:

- **Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course!** UC Santa Cruz is committed to creating an academic environment that supports its diverse student body. If you are a student with a disability who requires accommodations to achieve equal access in this course, please submit your Academic Access Letter from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) to me privately during my office hours or by appointment, as soon as possible in the academic quarter, preferably within 1 week. I also encourage you to discuss with me ways we can ensure your full participation in this course. I encourage all students who may benefit to learn about the DRC and the UCSC accommodation process. You can visit the DRC website at [drc.ucsc.edu](http://drc.ucsc.edu). You can make an appointment and meet remotely with a DRC staff member by emailing [drc@ucsc.edu](mailto:drc@ucsc.edu).

- **Small Group Tutoring (SGT)** supports students academically to advance educational equity by designing inclusive learning environments outside of the classroom. In SGT, you can expect the Tutor to facilitate cooperative group activities designed to have students work together on the course content and develop study skills for the course. SGT is offered at least three times each week for the entire quarter. The Tutor is an undergraduate student who took the class, did well, and is trained to facilitate group sessions to focus on students needs to succeed in the course. SGT is open to all students enrolled in the class and they must sign up on our online system: TutorTrac. When students sign up for SGT, they are committing to attend every week. For Summer 2020, students can begin signing up for tutoring on **Monday, June 22nd** and tutoring will begin **Wednesday, June 24th**. Students only have to sign up once for tutoring and their appointments will repeat weekly. Sign-ups will close on **Friday, August 14th** for all Summer Session Sign-Ups. This means that after **August 14th**, no new students can sign up for tutoring. Want SGT to be successful for you? Bring your books, lecture notes, questions, and be open to working collaboratively with your peers. You can sign up using this link: [https://ucsc.go-redrock.com/tracweb40/NoAccess.4sp?errText=insufficient%20credentials%20to%20view%20content](https://ucsc.go-redrock.com/tracweb40/NoAccess.4sp?errText=insufficient%20credentials%20to%20view%20content) You can also find the link on our website: [https://lss.ucsc.edu/index.html](https://lss.ucsc.edu/index.html)

- **Title IX** The university cherishes the free and open exchange of ideas and enlargement of knowledge. To maintain this freedom and openness requires objectivity, mutual trust, and confidence; it requires the absence of coercion, intimidation, or exploitation. The principal responsibility for maintaining these conditions must rest upon those members of the university community who exercise most authority and leadership: faculty, managers, and supervisors. The university has therefore instituted a number of measures designed to protect its community from sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual violence, and other related prohibited conduct. Information about the Title IX Office, the online reporting link, applicable campus resources, reporting responsibilities, the UC Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment, and the UC Santa Cruz Procedures for Reporting and Responding to Reports of Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment can be found at [titleix.ucsc.edu](http://titleix.ucsc.edu). The Title IX/Sexual Harassment Office is located at 105 Kerr Hall. In addition to the online reporting option, you can contact the Title IX Office by calling 831-459-2462.

- **Student Health Center** [https://healthcenter.ucsc.edu/services/index.html](https://healthcenter.ucsc.edu/services/index.html) In addition to providing medical and health care, the Student Health Center provides resources and
information for overall wellness and sexual health at Student Health Outreach and Promotion (SHOP). SHOP also provides a safe, confidential, and nonjudgmental space where you can talk about and get information about alcohol and other drugs. The COVE offers a space for sober students or students questioning their relationship to alcohol and other drugs. If you’re seeking more information, strategies, and opportunities to engage in honest dialogue about safer social and party experiences, visit Party Like a Slug.

- **CAPS (Counseling and Psychological Services)** [https://caps.ucsc.edu/](https://caps.ucsc.edu/) If you are in distress, managing heightened stress and anxiety, or want to get more support and a counselor’s perspective on something you’re going through, CAPS provides a variety of services for your needs—including immediate crisis support, scheduled individual appointments, group counseling, and workshops led by peer advisors.

- **Slug Support** [https://deanofstudents.ucsc.edu/slug-support/program/](https://deanofstudents.ucsc.edu/slug-support/program/) If you are facing financial challenges, food and housing insecurity, or other concerns, and you are not sure how to find the resources you need, contact Slug Support at (831) 459-4446. You can also contact Slug Support if you are concerned about a friend or peer and they will connect with that person to help them get access to the resources they need. I can also contact Slug Support on your behalf.

- **Basic Needs** [https://basicneeds.ucsc.edu](https://basicneeds.ucsc.edu) If you are experiencing challenges related to basic needs, such as food, housing, health & wellness, or financial security, visit the Basic Needs hub for information about food pantries, accessible housing, mental health support, and financial aid options.

- **Learning Resources:** [https://keeplearning.ucsc.edu/](https://keeplearning.ucsc.edu/)

- **Academic Integrity:** You are responsible for being familiar with UCSC’s policies on academic misconduct ([https://www.ue.ucsc.edu/academic_misconduct](https://www.ue.ucsc.edu/academic_misconduct)). Proper sourcing and good scholarship are expected. Plagiarism is a serious academic offense and will not be tolerated. Plagiarism will be handled on a case-by-case basis. If you have any questions or concerns about how to avoid plagiarism and ensure the originality of your work, please ask us.
  - UCSC’s library resource page: [https://guides.library.ucsc.edu/citesources](https://guides.library.ucsc.edu/citesources)
  - UCLA has helpful tips on avoiding plagiarism: [http://guides.library.ucla.edu/bruin-success/](http://guides.library.ucla.edu/bruin-success/)