

# Phil 100 SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: PHIL-100-Introduction to Philosophy: Classics

CLASS SECTION: 002A and 002B

TERM: 2024F

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): F2F Lectures and Seminars

Camosun College respectfully acknowledges that our campuses are situated on the territories of the Ləkʷəŋən (Songhees and Kosapsum) and WSÁNEĆ peoples. We honour their knowledge and welcome to all students who seek education here.

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## INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

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NAME: Sandra Bannikoff

EMAIL: [bannikof@camosun.ca](mailto:bannikof@camosun.ca)

OFFICE: Y232 (main floor of the Young Building, first door on the right)

HOURS: Tuesday and Thursday 11:30 to 1:30; also by appointment

*As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.*

## CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

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An introduction to classical philosophical works concerning central philosophical issues such as the nature and possibility of knowledge, the existence of God, the nature of morality and justice, and the mind/body relationship.

PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

C+ in English 12

C in Camosun Alternative

CO-REQUISITE(S):

EQUIVALENCIES:

## COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

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Upon completion of the course the student will be able to:

1. Identify and describe fundamental philosophical problems, along with the classical philosophical answers to these problems.
2. Distinguish among various philosophical theories.
3. Identify key periods and concepts in the (philosophical) history of ideas.
4. Critically analyze an argument philosophically by identifying its premise and conclusion and by assessing its strengths and weaknesses.

## REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

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Three books, available at the Landsdown Bookstore:

1. John Stuart Mill. On Liberty, Editor. Elizabeth Rapaport, Hackett Publishing Company, Inc. Indianapolis, 1978.
2. Descartes. Meditations & Other Metaphysical Writings, Translated by Desmond Clarke, Penguin Classics, London, 2003.
3. Plato. Five Dialogues: Euthypro, Apology, Crito, Meno, Phaedo 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, Translated by G.M.A. Grube, Revised by John Cooper, Hackett Publishing Company, Inc., Indianapolis, 2002.

## COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

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The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

DATE RANGE by week	Lecture Readings and Seminar Readings to be completed for each class (main topic noted in brackets)
Sept 3 - 6	Introduction
Sept 9 - 13	<u>John Stuart Mill's "On Liberty"</u>  Lecture a) Chapter One, pgs 1-9 (political history and the principle of liberty) b) Chapter One, pgs. 10-14 (the principle and the approach of the book)  *****  Seminar: on D2L, article by Umair Haque (on how Mill's principle is currently fairing)  Quote: "You live how you like – doesn't bother me. If it doesn't hurt anyone – go for it" (Haque, <i>Medium</i> , Feb 25, 2023).

DATE RANGE by week	Lecture Readings and Seminar Readings to be completed for each class (main topic noted in brackets)
Sept 16 -20	<p>Lecture:</p> <p>a) Chapter Two, pgs. 15-24 (the value of opinions that might be false)</p> <p>b) Chapter Two, pgs 33-39 (dead dogma vs living truth)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*****</p> <p>Seminar: Chapter Two, pgs. 50-52 (fair discussion)</p> <p>Quote: "This is the real morality of public discussion" (Mill pg.52). (Unless noted otherwise, the quotes are from this courses' required texts.)</p>
Sept 23 - 27	<p>Lecture</p> <p>a) Chapter Three, pgs. 53-61 (freedom to choose a way of life)</p> <p>b) Chapter Three, pgs. 61-71 (social value of diversity)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*****</p> <p>Seminar: Chapter Four, pgs. 73-79 (where to draw the line)</p> <p>Quote: "It makes a vast difference both in our feelings and in our conduct toward [them] whether [they] displease[] us in things in which we think we have a right to control [them] or in things in which we know that we have not" (Mill, pg. 77).</p>
Sept 30 – Oct 4	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>September 30<sup>th</sup>: Indigenous Peoples' Day: No Classes</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">*****</p> <p>Wednesday Oct. 2nd: <b>Mill Exam</b></p>
Oct 7 - 11	<p>Lecture</p> <p>a) Introduction to Descartes</p> <p>b) Meditation One, all pgs. 18-22 (epistemological method)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*****</p> <p>Seminar: Compare of Mill and Descartes</p>
Oct 14 - 18	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>October 14<sup>th</sup>: Thanksgiving Day: No Classes</b></p> <p>Seminar: a) Meditation Two, pgs 23-28 (thinking substance)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*****</p>

DATE RANGE by week	Lecture Readings and Seminar Readings to be completed for each class (main topic noted in brackets)
	<p>b) Objection/Reply: Gassendi (c) pg. 94-95; Descartes' reply (c) pg. 96-97</p> <p>Quote: "For it becomes clear that, far from having a clear and distinct idea of yourself, you seem to have none at all" (Gassendi, pg. 94)</p>
Oct 21 - 25	<p>Lecture:</p> <p>a) Meditation Two, pgs. 28-30 (thinking substance confirmed by a wax example)</p> <p>b) Meditation Three, pgs. 34-38 (argument that God exists)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*****</p> <p>Seminar: Objection/Reply: Mersenne, (C) pg. 78; Descartes' reply (c) pg. 81.</p> <p>Quote: "We are assuming a conviction that is so firm that it cannot be changed in any way, and such a conviction is evidently the same thing as the most perfect certainty" (Descartes, pg. 81).</p>
Oct 28 – Nov 1	<p>Lecture:</p> <p>a) Meditations Five, all pgs. 51-56 (the certainty of pure mathematics)</p> <p>b) Meditation Six, pgs. 57-63 (real distinctions; the existence of bodies); pgs. 69-70 (defeat of the Dream Hypothesis)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*****</p> <p>Seminar: Letters. From the Princess of Bavaria, May 16, 1643 (pg. 148); Descartes' reply, May 21, 1643 (pg.148-150).</p> <p>Quote: "I entertain these thoughts as if they were friends whom I do not believe I can keep" (Princess Elizabeth, to Descartes, June 20 1643 (pg.151).</p>
Nov 4 – 8	<p><b>Monday November 4<sup>th</sup> : Descartes Exam</b></p> <p>Lecture a) Introduction to Plato</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*****</p> <p>Quote: "In the eleventh century of our era a bishop of the Byzantine Church made a prayer: "If, Lord, thou art willing in they grace to save any Pagans from the wrath of God, I pray thee humbly to save Plato and Plutarch" (Edith Hamilton, "Introduction", in <u>Plutarch selected Lives and Essays</u>, Walter J. Black, Inc. 1951, pg. Vii)</p>

DATE RANGE by week	Lecture Readings and Seminar Readings to be completed for each class (main topic noted in brackets)
Nov 11 - 15	<p><b>November 11<sup>th</sup>: Remembrance Day: No Classes</b></p> <p>Seminar: Plato's <i>Euthyphro</i>, read the whole dialogue</p> <p style="text-align: center;">***</p> <p>Seminar: <i>Euthyphro</i> 10d</p> <p>Quote: "Do not regard me as unworthy: give your whole mind to the question, and this time tell me the truth" (<i>Euthyphro</i>, 15d).</p> <p>(Note: Plato quotes in this document are from: <u>Ancient Philosophy 5<sup>th</sup> Edition</u>, Ed. Forrest E. Baird and Walter Kaufmann, Pearson Prentice Hall, New Jersey, 2008.)</p>
Nov 18 - 22	<p>Lecture: Plato's <i>Apology</i>, read the whole text</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*****</p> <p>Seminar: Socratic Method, Socratic Wisdom, and 33a</p> <p>Quote: "For if you think that you will restrain men from reproaching you for not living as you should, by putting them to death, you are very much mistaken" (<i>Apology</i>, 39d).</p>
Nov 25 - 29	<p>Lecture:</p> <p>a) Plato's <i>Meno</i>, sections 70a-79e;</p> <p>b) Plato's <i>Meno</i>, sections 80a to 86c</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*****</p> <p>Seminar: 80a and 86b-c</p> <p>Quote: "I shouldn't like to take my oath on the whole story, but one thing I am ready to fight for as long as I can, in word and act: that is, that we shall be better, braver, and more active [persons] if we believe it right to look for what we don't know" (<i>Meno</i>, 86b).</p>
Dec 2 - 6	<p>Lecture</p> <p>a) Plato's <i>Meno</i> (86d to 100b)</p> <p>b) Review for Final Exam.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*****</p> <p>Seminar: Final Discussion</p> <p>Quote: "...unless [they] be the kind of statesman who can create another like [themselves]" (<i>Meno</i>, 99e).</p>

DATE RANGE by week	Lecture Readings and Seminar Readings to be completed for each class (main topic noted in brackets)
	<u>Note:</u> The final exam schedule will be posted by the College on October 18 <sup>th</sup> .

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced notice is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams).  
<https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams>

### EVALUATION OF LEARNING

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NOTE: If you know you will miss a test or have missed a test, contact me as soon as possible so we can set the date for a makeup.

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
<b>Three Tests</b>	90%
1. Mill	30%
2. Descartes	30%
3. Plato	30%
Seminar Work	10%
	<b>TOTAL</b>
	100%

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](#) policy for more information.

### COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

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1. There are two lectures each week that everyone attends. Each student also attends one seminar, which takes place during the hour after the lecture. Please check your registration to find out which seminar is yours.
2. The schedule above shows what readings are required for each class and seminar. Please note that philosophy needs to be read more than once, and some passages need to be read many times to be understood. Plan to spend about two hours doing all the readings for the week before the weeks' classes.

On the schedule above I have included a quote for your consideration with the weekly readings.

3. The first two tests are written in person during regular lecture time. The last test will be written during the final exam period. If you know you will miss a test or have missed a test, contact me as soon as possible to set a date for a makeup.
4. The tests in this course will be open text book. This means that students may bring their own text book and use it in the test. Students may underline, box, and highlight text; however, no more than 6 to 10 words written on no more than 10 to 12 pages. The texts must be the particular editions that are required for this course (see above).
5. The best plan for success in Philosophy 100 is to keep up with reading and attend lectures and seminars. Reading is really important intellectual work, so please do put in the time. If you get stuck on a chapter, don't let that stop you from continuing on with the book. If you miss a lecture or a seminar (or a few), don't let that stop you from showing up when you can.
6. Students do not have my permission to record lectures. Students do not have my permission to take any photos in the classroom. If digital aids are necessary for you, please see me in advance of their use. I will make arrangements to accommodate real needs.

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

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Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

## SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

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Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit [camosun.ca/services](https://camosun.ca/services).

Support Service	Website
Academic Advising	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/academic-advising">camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/academic-advising</a>
Accessible Learning	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-">camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-</a>

Support Service	Website
	<a href="#">learning</a>
Counselling	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/health-and-wellness/counselling-centre">camosun.ca/services/health-and-wellness/counselling-centre</a>
Career Services	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/co-operative-education-and-career-services">camosun.ca/services/co-operative-education-and-career-services</a>
Financial Aid and Awards	<a href="https://camosun.ca/registration-records/financial-aid-awards">camosun.ca/registration-records/financial-aid-awards</a>
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres">camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres</a>
Indigenous Student Support	<a href="https://camosun.ca/programs-courses/iecc/indigenous-student-services">camosun.ca/programs-courses/iecc/indigenous-student-services</a>
International Student Support	<a href="https://camosun.ca/international">camosun.ca/international</a>
Learning Skills	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills">camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills</a>
Library	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/library">camosun.ca/services/library</a>
Office of Student Support	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/office-student-support">camosun.ca/services/office-student-support</a>
Ombudsperson	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/ombudsperson">camosun.ca/services/ombudsperson</a>
Registration	<a href="https://camosun.ca/registration-records/registration">camosun.ca/registration-records/registration</a>
Technology Support	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/its">camosun.ca/services/its</a>
Writing Centre	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills">camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills</a>

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

## COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

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### Academic Integrity

Students are expected to comply with all College policy regarding academic integrity; which is about honest and ethical behaviour in your education journey. The following guide is designed to help you understand your responsibilities:

<https://camosun.libguides.com/academicintegrity/welcome>

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.13.pdf> for Camosun's Academic Integrity policy and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

### Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Camosun College is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging appropriate academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a documented disability and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) and register as early as possible. Please visit the CAL website for more information about the process of registering with CAL, including important deadlines: <https://camosun.ca/cal>

### Academic Progress

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2023-02/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

### Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <https://camosun.ca/registration-records/tuition-fees#deadlines>.

### Grading Policy

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

### Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

### Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal (see [Medical/Compassionate Withdrawals policy](#)). Please visit <https://camosun.ca/services/forms#medical> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

### Sexual Violence

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized Violence Policy: <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.9.pdf> and [camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence-support-and-education](https://camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence-support-and-education).

To contact the Office of Student Support: [oss@camosun.ca](mailto:oss@camosun.ca) or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-370-3841

### Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

### Looking for other policies?

The full suite of College policies and directives can be found here: <https://camosun.ca/about/camosun-college-policies-and-directives>

**Changes to this Syllabus:** Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.