

Philosophy for Life

Andrew Brigham

2023-05-13

Contents

Course Description

Course Description

This course explores philosophy as a way of life accessible to all, in order to think more truthfully, act more justly, and live more faithfully. This course focuses on critical thinking as an invaluable ethical tool for interpreting current events. Students will learn to analyze and evaluate the claims of contemporary culture and religious faith.

Course Navigation

This course is organized into 3 units. Each unit of the course will provide you with the following information:

- A general overview of the topic that will be addressed during the unit.
- Specific learning outcomes and topics for the unit.
- Resources that you will need to address learning activities and assessments in the unit.
- Learning activities both formative and summative will be included in each unit.
- Assessments pages will provide you with information about assignments that you will need to complete each for each unit.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask. We are here to help and be your guide on this journey.

Course Learning Outcomes

This course will enhance leadership skills and facilitate learning whereby a student will:

1. Develop skills for living a life of wisdom and justice
2. Cultivate skills of logical argumentation.
3. Develop and enhance skills of written communication.
4. Practice the skills of wisdom and reason, such as humility, reflection, charity, rhetoric, and argumentation.
5. Write a journal that expresses the learned skills concisely and effectively.
6. Enhance skills of wisdom and reason to live life within the context of justice and faith.
7. Understand how to become a well-rounded person and citizen.

Texts and Reading Resources

Required - A variety of resources will be provided throughout each unit.

0.0.1 Course Evaluation

Assignment	Activity	Value	Due
Engagement	Camera, Class, Café	10%	Unit 1, 2, 3
Life Skills Video	Personal Reflection Video	30%	Unit 1
Arguments Quiz	Quiz	30%	Unit 2
Reflection Paper	750 word Reflection Essay/Reflective Questions	30%	Unit 3

For in-person students, check with your teacher about deadlines for assignments.

Please review the course syllabus to review full list of Course Activities/Requirements/Evaluation.

Note: **WC** = For students required to attend the Writing Centre, you must have a 1:1 writing coach session before you submit your assignment. You must include the writing coach report as page 2 when you submit your assignment.

Academic Integrity and Avoiding Plagiarism at TWU

As scholars pursuing higher education, academic integrity is a core value of the entire TWU community. Students are invited into this scholarly culture and required to abide by the principles of sound academic scholarship at TWU. This includes, but is not limited to, avoiding all forms of plagiarism and cheating in scholarly work. TWU has a strict policy on plagiarism (see [policy below]). Learning what constitutes plagiarism and avoiding it is the student's responsibility. Two resources describing plagiarism and how to avoid it have been prepared by TWU Librarian William Badke and are freely available for viewing here.

It will be assumed that you have read, understand, and agree to the information provided at the 'Academic Dishonesty Policy' button below. If you have any questions at all please contact your instructor.

[button url="https://www.twu.ca/student-handbook/university-policies/academic-misconduct/procedures-dealing-acts-academic-0" target="_blank" label="Academic Dishonesty Policy" type="danger" classes="external-link"]_

<https://www.twu.ca/about-us/policies-guidelines/university-policies/academic-misconduct-fraud>

0.0.2 Late Assignments Policy

Assignments should be submitted on the due date in order to receive full credit. The penalty for unexcused late assignments will be determined by the following scale:

1. For each day or part thereof late, the instructor will reduce the assigned grade by one- third of a letter; e.g., "A" to "A-," "B+" to "B."
2. Requests for extensions **must be communicated in advance** of the due date. Special circumstances may warrant additional consideration.

0.0.3 Writing Centre Sessions

Please note that you may be required to use the support of our writing center coaches for this course. Plan to book your appointments well in advance, so that the coaches have time to work with you on each of your assignments. The Writing Centre is available to assist all students with their academic writing assignments in any subject at any stage of the writing process. This is a free service. Online Writing Sessions are available, for more information visit www.create.twu.ca/learningcommons or contact writingcentre@twu.ca

0.0.4 Program Grade Submission Policy

ALL course work must be submitted for final grading within 14 days following the course end date. The instructor has to submit grades to the Registrar within 14 days of the course end date. In extenuating circumstances, a provision is made for an INC to be entered pending final assignment of a course mark.

Note: **WC** = For students required to attend the Writing Centre.

0.0.5 Online Learning Orientation

For information on how to navigate through this course on Moodle, see the **MOODLE GUIDE**. Also see the **STUDENT GUIDE TO ONLINE LEARNING** for some tips on how to be successful in the online learning environment.

Course Navigation

Course Units

This course is organized into 10 units. Each unit of the course will provide you with the following information:

- A general overview of the key concepts that will be addressed during the unit.
- Specific learning outcomes and topics for the unit.
- Learning activities to help you engage with the concepts. These often include key readings, videos, and reflective prompts.
- The Assessment section provides details on assignments you will need to complete throughout the course to demonstrate your understanding of the course learning outcomes.

Note that assessments, including assignments and discussion posts will be submitted in Moodle. See the Assessment tab in Moodle for the assignment dropboxes.

Course Activities

Below is some key information on features you will see throughout the course.

Learning Activity

This box will prompt you to engage in course concepts, often by viewing resources and reflecting on your experience and/or learning. Most learning activities are ungraded and are designed to help prepare you for the assessment in this course.

Assessment

This box will signify an assignment or discussion post you will submit in Moodle. Note that these demonstrate your understanding of the course learning outcomes. Be sure to review the grading rubrics for each assignment.

Checking Your Learning

This box is for checking your understanding, to make sure you are ready for what follows.

Media

This box is for displaying/linking to media, such as videos or songs, in order to help illustrate or communicate concepts.

Note

This box signifies key notes, such as where to submit assignments. It may also warn you of possible problems or pitfalls you may encounter!

Note

This box signifies ...another box! Instructors, feel free to add your own activity types, such as highlighting case studies, connections between topics/learners/instructors, etc.

Note

This box signifies Tips for Instructors. Please delete these before you share this course book with your students!

How To Navigate This Book

To move quickly to different portions of the book, click on the appropriate chapter or section in the table of contents on the left. The buttons at the top of the page allow you to show/hide the table of contents, search the book, change font settings, download a pdf or ebook copy of this book, or get hints on various



sections of the book.

The faint left and right arrows at the sides of each page (or bottom of the page if it's narrow enough) allow you to step to the next/previous section. Here's



what they look like:



Writing Standards

For this course, you are expected to follow the writing standards according to APA 7. Please consult the OWL Purdue website for guidance and seek assistance from the TWU Writing Center and writing coaches as needed. Assignments have rubrics that attribute some marks to APA formatting and cannot be graded as fully meeting expectations if there are APA errors. That said, your conceptual understanding remains of primary importance. It is your responsibility to ensure polished work to the highest standard of which you are capable. This demands meticulous attention to detail, which will become more 'natural' with practice. Please seek any necessary clarification from your instructor.

It will be assumed that you have read, understand, and agree to the information provided at the Academic Dishonesty Policy website. If you have any questions at all please contact your instructor.

Course Communities



Figure 1: image of a group of people walking

As you begin this course, how will you build community with your fellow learners?

In this course, we have the following tools available to help foster community in your course, including other students who have previously taken this course. Some of these tools will be prescribed and graded (e.g. Moodle Discussion Forums), others will be up to you to take advantage of.

Check with your course syllabus for which community tools will be used, and consider building your own Community of Practice with your classmates and external colleagues.

Communication Tools

Moodle Discussion Forums: In this course, we ask you to discuss ideas with your colleagues, challenging one another and analyzing key course resources. Refer to the course syllabus for assessment details, as well as the unit Assessment section for discussion questions. Submit your responses in Moodle.

Video Conferencing: We will have scheduled online meetings (Zoom or Teams). Take advantage of these face-to-face conferences! Come prepared with your questions and assigned activities. Refer to the course syllabus and unit activity instructions for details.

Optional:

Your cohort may want to engage in other informal discussions to build community and support each other. Consider using the following:

Learning Cafe: This discussion forum in Moodle is a place for you to interact about things going on, share resources, and generally get to know one another. Your posts don't have to be course related. Take this opportunity to connect with fellow learners and learn from one another!

Teams: Every TWU course has a Teams channel, mostly to manage videos. Feel free to use the messaging feature to connect with peers.

Twitter hashtag #CRSE###: You can tweet about this course using #CRSE###.

What's App: Feel free to use a platform that works for you!! What's App is a popular chat forum that learners use for discussions, class projects, etc.

A key takeaway...make these forums work for you! Interact with your peers, learn from each other, and make connections that will stay with you beyond this course.

With that, let's begin the journey together!