

Spring 2026 Introduction to Philosophy Detailed Grading Sheet

Weekly Reflections (5% of final grade, 32 points total):

- Eight short reflections submitted via Canvas, due Monday at the beginning of week of regular meeting times.
- Format: Summarize an argument from the week's reading (3 short sentences) and provide a reflection (2 sentences).
- Grading: Each reflection is scored holistically out of 4 points based on the rubric criteria (considering thesis, premises, support, and student response). Excellent (4 points), Good (3 points), Needs Improvement (2 points), Unacceptable (1 point).
- The total for all reflections is 32 points.

Quiz 1 (25% of final grade, 160 points):

- A ~1,200-word comprehensive essay covering all course material, due Wed Feb 25, 2026.
- Grading: Evaluated using the rubric with 4 categories, each scored 5–20 points (max 40). See rubric below.

Critical Reflection 1 (12.5% of final grade, 80 points):

- A ~1,500-word essay covering material up to this point, due Mar 23, 2026.
- Grading: Evaluated using the rubric with 4 categories, each scored 5–20 points (max 80). See rubric below.

Presentation (15% of final grade, 96 points):

For this portion of the grade, we will conduct a series of dnd adventures modeled on hard to solve philosophical problems. For instance, in Plato's Republic, Plato uses the thought of a cave holding prisoners who've never seen the outside. All the things they think are objects in the world, really are just crude imitations projected onto a wall in front of them. One escapes and realizes everything he's been told is a lie. If he goes back, no one will believe him, what should he do?

Sunlight Revelation (Books VI-VII, Cave Allegory)	You reach the exit: Blinding sun! Puppets were lies. Return to free others? They mock you as mad.	- Question: “Forms vs. shadows—what’s real?” (Insight roll: 15+ → Vision quest boon; Low → Blinded retreat.) - Suggestion: “Descend as educators.” (Strength roll: Success → Convert prisoners; Fail → Stoned as heretic.) - Others: Resistance rolls → “Allegory boss”: High total → Party ascends enlightened.
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Dates: January 19; February 11; February 25; March 11; March 25

[Download the DND Addendum Here](#)

Critical Reflection 2 (25% of final grade, 160 points):

- A ~1,200-word essay analyzing the reading for that period.
- Grading: Evaluated using the rubric with 4 categories, each scored 10–40 points (max 160). See rubric below.

Quiz 2 (12.5% of final grade, 80 points):

- A ~1,500-word comprehensive essay covering all course material, taken in class on final day of class, either Apr 29 or Apr 30, 2026.
- Grading: Evaluated using the rubric with 4 categories, each scored 5–20 points (max 80). See rubric below.

Attendance (5% of final grade, 32 points):

- Based on unexcused absences throughout the semester.

Grading Scale (equal increments of 8 points):

0–1	unexcused absences:	32 points
2	unexcused absences:	24 points
3–4	unexcused absences:	16 points
5–6	unexcused absences:	8 points
6	unexcused absences:	0 points