

PALOMAR COLLEGE  
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD FOR  
DEGREE CREDIT COURSE

Transfer course     A.A. degree applicable course  
(check all that apply)

**COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE:** Philosophy 101  
Philosophical Theories - Knowledge and  
Reality

**UNIT VALUE:** 3

**MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS:** 48

**BASIC SKILLS REQUIREMENTS:**

Appropriate language skills

**ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS**

**PREREQUISITE:** None

**COREQUISITE:** None

**RECOMMENDED PREPARATION:** None

**SCOPE OF COURSE:**

An introductory course to philosophical problems emphasizing methodology and the fundamental problems of knowledge and reality. Detailed consideration is to be given to the empirical method and to rationalism. Readings are taken from both classical and contemporary sources.

**SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Upon completion of this course successful students will be able to:

1. Identify, explain and analyze the major ideas of the dominant Asian and Western philosophies.
2. Identify prominent thinkers.
3. Critically evaluate the major questions and solutions that have dominated philosophical thought.
4. Critically evaluate contemporary philosophical trends and conflicts.
5. Evaluate their own world view and value system and articulate them clearly in writing.

## CONTENT IN TERMS OF SPECIFIC BODY OF KNOWLEDGE:

- A typical course will include topics such as these:
- A. Ethical Theism
    - Judaic, Christian and Islamic World Views.
  - B. Materialism and Naturalism
    - Democritus, Lucritius and Scientific Naturalism
  - C. Idealism
    - Platonic, Subjective and Absolute Idealism
  - D. Realism
    - Aristotelian Realism
  - E. Emergent Evolution
    - 1. Organicism
    - 2. Dialectical Idealism
    - 3. Dialectical Materialism (Marxism)
    - 4. Social Darwinism
  - F. Existentialism and Phenomenology
    - 1. J.P. Sartre
    - 2. M. Heidegger
  - G. Asian Philosophies
    - 1. Hinduism
    - 2. Theravada Buddhism
    - 3. Mahayana Buddhism
    - 4. Taoism
    - 5. Confucianism
    - 6. Zen

## REQUIRED READING:

Typically required readings will include such works as:

Kessler, Gary. Voices of Wisdom. 2nd edition. Belmont: Wadsworth, 1995.

Jones, W.T. A History of Philosophy: The Classical Mind. 2nd edition. Harcourt, Brace Jovanovich, Inc., 1970.

Olson, R. An Introduction to Existentialism. New York: Dover, 1962.

Watts, A. The Way of Zen. New York: Random House, 1989.

Also, popular news sources, professional journals, and original philosophical works, in translation, as assigned.

## SUGGESTED READING:

Typical suggested readings will include such readings as:

Copleston, Frederick. History of Philosophy. 9 Vols. Mahwah, N.J.: Paulist Press.

Koller, John. Oriental Philosophies. 2nd edition. New York: Scribner's, 1985.

**REQUIRED WRITING:**

Each student will be required to write the equivalent of not less than two six page, typed, double spaced position papers which will critically evaluate a philosophical problem and some of its proposed solutions, or which articulate and analyze historical or philosophical problems or positions. The papers will be evaluated for their composition and style as well as for their demonstration of philosophical analysis and critical thinking techniques.

**OUTSIDE ASSIGNMENTS:**

Students are expected to spend a minimum of three hours per unit per week in class and on outside assignments, prorated for short term classes.

Studying class lecture notes  
Reading texts and articles  
Writing papers and relating the course content to current events of the day by surveying popular news sources and professional journals

**INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY:**

Check all that apply:

- lecture
- laboratory
- lecture-laboratory combination
- directed study

This course may be offered as a distance education course and meets Title 5 regulations 55370, 55372, 55374, 55376, 55378, and 55380.  
Yes  No

If yes, check all that apply. (See guidelines for preparation for definitions.)

- telecourse
- mediated instruction
- computer assisted instruction

**GRADING POLICY AND STANDARDS** (include methods of determining whether the stated objectives have been met by students):

Each of the two required papers or their equivalent, such as essay exams, comprises 50% of the course grade. Grading criteria may include language use and composition, skills of analysis, accuracy in presenting philosophical positions, and documentation.

**IS COURSE REPEATABLE FOR REASON(S) OTHER THAN DEFICIENT GRADE?**

Yes  No  Number of times course may be taken for credit: 1

If yes, identify specific provision of Title 5 Division 2 section(s) 55761-55763 and 58161 which qualifies course as repeatable:

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