

Education

Course Information

Semester & Year: Fall 2021

Course ID & Section #: PHIL 10 – D2375 (052375)

Instructor's name: Sam Zahn

[if synchronous] Day/Time of required meetings: n/a

[if in-person] Location: n/a

[if needed] Number of proctored exams: n/a

Course units: 3 CEUs

Instructor Contact Information

Office location or *Online: Correspondence

Office hours: n/a

Phone number: 858-401-3220

Email address: Sam-Zahn@Redwoods.edu

Catalog Description

An introduction to the central and enduring philosophical problems and the arguments historical and contemporary philosophers have made about them. Topics to be addressed include epistemology; metaphysics; the relation between the mind and the body; the nature of free will; the existence of God; the foundations of morality; aesthetics; and justice. Emphasis is on using methods of philosophic inquiry to develop and defend individual responses to perennial questions. Course

Student Learning Outcomes *(from course outline of record)*

1. Apply the methods of philosophical inquiry to philosophical questions.
2. Evaluate the theories and arguments of major philosophers in response to central and enduring philosophic questions.

Prerequisites/co-requisites/ recommended preparation

n/a

Accessibility

Students will have access to online course materials that comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and College of the Redwoods policies. Students who discover access issues with this class should contact the instructor.

College of the Redwoods is also committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability-related services and accommodations, please contact your instructor or [Disability Services and Programs for Students](#) (DSPS). Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS based on their campus location:

- Eureka: 707-476-4280, student services building, 1st floor
- Del Norte: 707-465-2324, main building near library
- Klamath-Trinity: 530-625-4821 Ext 103

During COVID19, approved accommodations for distance education classes will be emailed to the instructor by DSPS. In the case of face to face instruction, please present your written accommodation request to your instructor at least one week before the first test so that necessary arrangements can be made. Last-minute arrangements or post-test adjustments cannot usually be accommodated.

****Other verbiage you can include if you want:***

Support for online learners during COVID-19

In response to COVID-19, College of the Redwoods moved the majority of its courses online to protect health and safety. As the faculty and students adjust to this change, clear communication about student needs will help everyone be successful. Please let me know about any specific challenges or technology limitations that might affect your participation in class. I want every student to thrive.

Evaluation & Grading Policy

[Should include info such as final grade calculations, rubrics, late assignment policy, and other grading practices]

Admissions deadlines & enrollment policies

Fall 2021 Dates

- *Classes begin: 8/22/21*
- *Last day to add a class: 8/28/21*
- *Last day to drop without a W and receive a refund: 9/4/21*
- *Labor Day (all-college holiday): 9/7/21*
- *Census date: 9/8/21 or 20% into class*
- *Last day to petition to file P/NP option: 9/18/21*
- *Last day to petition to graduate or apply for certificate: 10/29/21*
- *Last day for student-initiated W (no refund): 10/30/21*
- *Last day for faculty initiated W (no refund): 10/30/21*
- *Veteran's Day (all-college holiday): 11/11/21*
- *Fall break (no classes): 11/23/20-11/28/21*
- *Thanksgiving (all-college holiday): 11/25/21-11/27/21*
- *Final examinations: 12/12/21-12/18/21*
- *Semester ends: 12/18/21*
- *Grades available for transcript release: approximately 1/8/22*

Students who have experienced extenuating circumstances can complete & submit the ***Excused Withdrawal Petition*** to request an Excused Withdrawal (EW) grade instead of the current Withdrawal (W) or non-passing (D, F & NP) grades. The EW Petition is available from the Admissions and Records Forms Webpage. Supporting documentation is required.

Academic dishonesty

In the academic community, the high value placed on truth implies a corresponding intolerance of scholastic dishonesty. In cases involving academic dishonesty, determination of the grade and of the student's status in the course is left primarily to the discretion of the faculty member. In such cases, where the instructor determines that a student has demonstrated academic dishonesty, the student may receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or exam and may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the

College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [College Catalog](#) and on the [College of the Redwoods website](#).

Disruptive behavior

Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include, but is not limited to: unwarranted interruptions; failure to adhere to instructor's directions; vulgar or obscene language; slurs or other forms of intimidation; and physically or verbally abusive behavior. In such cases where the instructor determines that a student has disrupted the educational process, a disruptive student may be temporarily removed from class. In addition, the student may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [College Catalog](#) and on the [College of the Redwoods website](#).

Inclusive Language in the Classroom

College of the Redwoods aspires to create a learning environment in which all people feel comfortable in contributing their perspectives to classroom discussions. It therefore encourages instructors and students to use language that is inclusive and respectful.

Setting Your Preferred Name in Canvas

Students have the ability to have an alternate first name and pronouns to appear in Canvas. Contact [Admissions & Records](#) to request a change to your preferred first name and pronoun. Your Preferred Name will only be listed in Canvas. It does not change your legal name in our records. See the [Student Information Update form](#).

Canvas Information

If using Canvas, include navigation instructions, tech support information, what Canvas is used for, and your expectation for how regularly students should check Canvas for your class.

Log into Canvas at <https://redwoods.instructure.com>

Password is your 8 digit birth date

For tech help, email its@redwoods.edu or call 707-476-4160

Canvas Help for students: <https://www.redwoods.edu/online/Help-Student>

Canvas online orientation workshop: <https://www.redwoods.edu/online/Home/Student-Resources/Canvas-Resources>

Community College Student Health and Wellness

Resources, tools, and trainings regarding health, mental health, wellness, basic needs and more designed for California community college students, faculty and staff are available on the California Community Colleges [Health & Wellness website](#).

[Wellness Central](#) is a free online health and wellness resource that is available 24/7 in your space at your pace.

Students seeking to request a counseling appointment for academic advising or general counseling can email counseling@redwoods.edu.

Emergency procedures / Everbridge

College of the Redwoods has implemented an emergency alert system called Everbridge. In the event of an emergency on campus you will receive an alert through your personal email and/or phones. Registration is not necessary in order to receive emergency alerts. Check to make sure your contact information is up-to-date by logging into WebAdvisor <https://webadvisor.redwoods.edu> and selecting 'Students' then 'Academic Profile' then 'Current Information Update.'

Please contact Public Safety at 707-476-4112 or security@redwoods.edu if you have any questions. For more information see the [Redwoods Public Safety Page](#).

In an emergency that requires an evacuation of the building anywhere in the District:

- Be aware of all marked exits from your area and building
- Once outside, move to the nearest evacuation point outside your building
- Keep streets and walkways clear for emergency vehicles and personnel

Do not leave campus, unless it has been deemed safe by the campus authorities.

Del Norte Campus Emergency Procedures

Please review the [Crescent City campus emergency map](#) for campus evacuation sites, including the closest site to this classroom (posted by the exit of each room). For more information see the [Redwoods Public Safety Page](#).

Eureka Campus Emergency Procedures

Please review the [campus emergency map](#) for evacuation sites, including the closest site to this classroom (posted by the exit of each room). For more information on Public Safety go to the [Redwoods Public Safety Page](#). It is the responsibility of College of the Redwoods to protect life and property from the effects of emergency situations within its own jurisdiction.

In the event of an emergency:

1. Evaluate the impact the emergency has on your activity/operation and take appropriate action.
2. Dial 911, to notify local agency support such as law enforcement or fire services.
3. Notify Public Safety 707-476-4111 and inform them of the situation, with as much relevant information as possible.
4. Public Safety shall relay threat information, warnings, and alerts through the Everbridge emergency alert system, Public address system, and when possible, updates on the college website, to ensure the school community is notified.
5. Follow established procedures for the specific emergency as outlined in the College of the Redwoods Emergency Procedure Booklet, (evacuation to a safe zone, shelter in place, lockdown, assist others if possible, cooperate with First Responders, etc.).
6. If safe to do so, notify key administrators, departments, and personnel.
7. Do not leave campus, unless it is necessary to preserve life and/or has been deemed safe by the person in command.

Klamath Trinity Campus Emergency Procedures

Please review the responsibilities of, and procedures used by, the College of the Redwoods, Klamath-Trinity Instructional Site (KTIS) to communicate to faculty, staff, students and the general public during an emergency. It is the responsibility of College of the Redwoods, Klamath-Trinity Instructional Site (KTIS) to protect life and property from the effects of emergency situations within its own jurisdiction.

1. In the event of an emergency, communication shall be the responsibility of the district employees on scene.
 - a. Dial 911, to notify local agency support such as law enforcement or fire services.
 - b. If safe to do so, notify key administrators, departments, and personnel.
 - c. If safe to do so, personnel shall relay threat information, warnings, to ensure the school community is notified.
 - d. Contact Jolene Gates 530-625-4821 to notify of situation.
 - e. Contact Hoopa Tribal Education Administration office 530-625-4413
 - f. Notify Public Safety 707-476-4111.
2. In the event of an emergency, the responsible district employee on scene will:
 - a. Follow established procedures for the specific emergency as outlined in the College of the Redwoods Emergency Procedure Booklet.
 - b. Lock all doors and turn off lights if in lockdown due to an active shooter or similar emergency.

- c. Close all window curtains.
- d. Get all inside to safe location Kitchen area is best internal location.
- e. If a police officer or higher official arrives, they will assume command.
- f. Wait until notice of all is clear before unlocking doors.
- g. If safe to do so, move to the nearest evacuation point outside building (Pooky's Park), directly behind the Hoopa Tribal Education Building.
- h. Do not leave site, unless it has been deemed safe by the person in command. Student Support Services (required for online classes)

Student Support Services

The following online resources are available to support your success as a student:

- [CR-Online](#) (Comprehensive information for online students)
- [Library Articles & Databases](#)
- [Canvas help and tutorials](#)
- [Online Student Handbook](#)

[Counseling](#) offers assistance to students in need of professional counseling services such as crisis counseling.

Learning Resource Center includes the following resources for students

- [Academic Support Center](#) for instructional support, tutoring, learning resources, and proctored exams. Includes the Math Lab & Drop-in Writing Center
- [Library Services](#) to promote information literacy and provide organized information resources.
- [Multicultural & Diversity Center](#)

Special programs are also available for eligible students include

- [Extended Opportunity Programs & Services \(EOPS\)](#) provides financial assistance, support and encouragement for eligible income disadvantaged students at all CR locations.
- The TRiO Student Success Program provides eligible students with a variety of services including trips to 4-year universities, career assessments, and peer mentoring. Students can apply for the program in [Eureka](#) or in [Del Norte](#)
- The [Veteran's Resource Center](#) supports and facilitates academic success for Active Duty Military, Veterans and Dependents attending CR through relational advising, mentorship, transitional assistance, and coordination of military and Veteran-specific resources.
- Klamath-Trinity students can contact the CR KT Office for specific information about student support services at 530-625-4821

Philosophy 10: Introduction to Philosophy

College of the Redwoods – Pelican Bay – Fall 2021

Some years ago I was struck by the large number of falsehoods that I had accepted as true in my childhood, and by the highly doubtful nature of the whole edifice that I had subsequently based on them. I realized that it was necessary, once in the course of my life, to demolish everything completely and start again right...

- Descartes, *Meditations on First Philosophy*

INSTRUCTOR

Sam Zahn (you can call me Sam or Mr. Zahn)

COURSE SUMMARY

This is an introduction to western philosophy. In philosophy, we inquire into the nature of reality and the place of the human self within it. In this class, we will look at proposed answers to some of the big questions in philosophy from Plato on through contemporary philosophers. What can I know and how can I know it? Does God exist? How do I choose how to live a human life? What makes me the same person I was when I was five? Do I have free will?

READINGS

Most readings will be found in the course textbook: *The Elements of Philosophy*, ed. Cahn, Gendler, and Siegel. All other readings will be included in correspondence packets.

CORRESPONDENCE PACKETS – INSTRUCTOR TO STUDENT

All course materials besides textbook readings will be included in correspondence packets.

CORRESPONDENCE PACKETS –STUDENT TO INSTRUCTOR

You will be asked to submit assignments and other documents to the instructor. PLEASE USE THE COVER SHEETS PROVIDED IN PACKETS ON ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO THE INSTRUCTOR.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

See assignments checklist for due dates.

Four Discussion Question Responses – 10% each (40% of total grade)

Three Papers – 13% each (39% of total grade)

Final Project – 21% of total grade

PACKET CONTENTS

Introductory letter: this is where I will make announcements about the class.

To-do page: this important document lists the readings, assignments, and tasks to be completed in the near future (meaning the following two weeks, usually).

Assignments checklist (first packet only): this is a checklist for your records. It displays all assignments, their point worth, due date, and it allows you to keep track of your progress and grade in the class.

Lecture notes: these are the substitutes for in-person lecture. Their functions are to orient you in the topic, help you understand the readings, etc. Hopefully, you can use them to understand what is going on in the readings and why it matters. **Please feel free to give me feedback on these. For example, let me know if they are too hard to understand, too easy, boring (all-things-considered), too wordy, not enough examples, etc.** In an in-person lecture, I can see your face and take your questions, and use those to modify my lectures on the spot. Written feedback is the only way to this by correspondence.

Cover sheet templates: these are for you to use as the first page of each packet you send to me (even if that packet is just one page or even one sentence). It helps make sure that your communications to me do not get lost, and it makes the lives of the very hard-working staff a little bit easier.

Burning questions form: because mail pick-up/delivery is weekly, if you have a question for me it will take at least one week for me to respond. But, if you have an *important question related to an assignment*, you can fill out a “burning questions form” which will be picked up on Tuesday. That way, I can respond to you in that week’s packet (which you will receive Thursday or Friday). **Please only use this form for questions that prevent you from completing assignments.**

Example of appropriate burning question: “On the paper assignment, what did you mean by this sentence [INSERT UNCOMPREHENDED INSTRUCTION HERE]?”

Example of inappropriate burning question: “Why aren’t you married?”