PHL 110  Introduction to Philosophy  3 credits

I. **Catalog Description:** This course is a survey of concerns, systems, and thinkers of world philosophy from ancient times to the present. Among other concerns, examines ideas of justice, knowledge, reality, truth, beauty, and artificial intelligence.

II. **Prerequisites, pre-/co-requisites, and co-requisites, recommended:** There are no official pre or co-requisites.

III. **Rationale for Course Level:** This course aims at being an introduction to philosophical thinking in general rather than to provide a full survey of philosophical disciplines, their methods, doctrines and leading ideas. Instead of trying to give a comprehensive account of all possible forms philosophy has assumed throughout its long history we shall zero in on several characteristic examples illustrating how classical and modern thinkers formulate their questions and how they grapple with their issues in contrast to ordinary, religious and scientific consciousness.

IV. **Suggested Textbooks:**
THINK (3RD ED) Author: JUDITH A BOSS

V. **Other Requirements and/or Materials for the Course:**
A spiral notebook for journal writing which will be part of the final exam

VI. **Student Learning Course Objectives:**

**Institutional Learning Goals:**

1. Demonstrate competency in reading, writing, oral communication, and numerical literacy
2. Be able to evaluate information
3. Consider multiple perspectives from the diversity of human experience

**Student learning outcomes:**

1. Recognize and articulate major philosophical problems and the methods of dealing them
2. Interpret philosophical texts (rightly considered as belonging to the category of the most complex intellectual products)
3. Demonstrate a proficiency of philosophical language.
4. Demonstrate what it means to adopt "philosophical attitude" as an elevated form of human curiosity and resistance to any kind of dogmatism.
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SYLLABUS OF RECORD

VII. Suggested Course Outline:
I. What is philosophy and what is an argument?
Reading(s):
Lecture 1: Introduction to philosophy and arguments (on my Website under Lecture Notes)
Lecture 1 Handout: Skill Sheets 1 and 2 (on my Website)

II. Fallacious Reasoning
Reading(s):
Lecture 2: Fallacious Reasoning (on my Website)
Dave Yount, The Importance of Philosophy or Why Should I Take Philosophy? (On my Website)

III. God and Religion
Reading(s):
VI.8 Soren Kierkegaard, "Faith and Subjectivity," 376-382.

IV. Knowledge and Certainty
Reading(s):
I.1 Plato, "Innate Knowledge," pp. 3-12.

V. Being and Reality
Reading(s):

VI. Mind and Body
Reading(s):

VII. Freedom
Reading(s):

VIII. Science and Method
Reading(s):

IX. Morality and the Good Life
Reading(s):

X. Authority & the State
Reading(s):

XI. Beauty and Art
Reading(s):

VIII. Suggested Course Evaluation
Final Grades will be based on 2 Exams (200 pts.), 8 quizzes (160 pts.), 1 completed tutorial booklet (300 pts.), and 1 student project (100 pts.) for a total of 760 points.

Grading Scale: Grades will be given as letter grades. Letter grades and numerical equivalents are given below. To determine your final percentage (%) and letter grade, divide points earned by total possible points and multiply by 100. (_______ Points earned/ 760 points x 100)

93 – 100% = A
90 – 92.9% = A-
87 – 89.9% = B+
83-86.9% = B
80-82.9% = B-
77-79.9% = C+
73-76.9% = C
70-72.9% = C-
67-69.9% = D+
63-66.9% = D
60-62.9% = D-
59% or Lower = F

VIII. Bibliography
THINK (3RD ED) Author: JUDITH A BOSS