



Philosophy Program Review 2006-2007

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**PHILOSOPHY PROGRAM REVIEW
COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2006-2007**

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FACULTY

FULL-TIME FACULTY:

Dr. Jack Call
Dr. Robert Evans
Rudy Saldaña

ADJUNCT FACULTY:

Jennifer Malley
Michael Marzec

LIST OF DEGREES

Coursework applies to graduation requirements for the AA degree in categories A and C, and to transfer requirements in categories A and C (CSU) and Area III, Group B (IGETC).

SEQUENCE OF COURSES

	<u>UNITS</u>
GREAT RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD 101	3
INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY 106	3
INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY (HONORS) 106H	3
PHILOSOPHY/ETHICS 108	3
PHILOSOPHY/LOGIC 110	3

CLASSES NOT OFFERED IN LAST TWO YEARS

CRITICAL REASONING AND WRITING 109	3
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The **Philosophy** program has adopted the Institutional General Education Competencies of Citrus College. The General Education Competencies (as set forth in the Academic Senate minutes dated August 25, 2004) are as follows:

**Institutional General Education Competencies-
Part of Institutional Mission**

General education competencies serve as a common set of core curricular components identified and defined by faculty. Student learning outcomes are behaviors based on these competencies.

Any student transferring, completing a degree, or certificates from Citrus College must demonstrate effectively assessed awareness, understanding, knowledge, skills, and abilities in the selected competencies:

1. Communication (personal expression and information acquisition)

Examples

Reading analytically and critically	Speaking articulately
Writing with clarity and fluency	Listening actively

2. Computation

Examples

Technology	Computer proficiency Decision analysis (Synthesis and evaluation)
Math proficiency	
Analyzing and using numerical data	
Application	
Application of mathematical concepts and reasoning	

3. Creative, Critical, and Analytical Thinking

Examples

Curiosity	Research Learning Strategies Decision Making Aesthetic awareness
Analysis	
Synthesis	
Evaluation	
Creativity	

4. Community, Critical, and Analytical Thinking

Examples

Respect for other beings	Citizenship Interpersonal skills Lifelong learning Self-esteem Empathy
Cultural awareness	
Ethics	
Community service	
Integrity	

5. Technology/information competency

Examples

Basic computing and word processing

6. Discipline/subject Area Specific Content Material – Project Plan

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Philosophy Program offers courses in the history of philosophy, logic, ethics, and religions of the world. Philosophy courses provide an excellent foundation for an academic career in the humanities, the social sciences, the natural sciences, or education; or for a professional career in law, theology, or publishing. The Philosophy Program aims to enrich the lives of all students who complete its courses, and to prepare students who plan to transfer to four-year colleges or universities.

PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Communication (Personal Expression and Information Acquisition) Information Competency

- Demonstrate understanding of philosophical issues and vocabulary through classroom discussion/presentation, essays, and exams, using college level vocabulary and proper grammar, for purposes of successfully navigating a transferable level course.
- Demonstrate ability to read analytically and critically through classroom discussion, essays, and exams, using college level vocabulary and proper grammar, for purposes of successfully navigating a transferable level course.

Creative, Critical, and Analytical Thinking

- Discriminate between controversial and non-controversial claims, in class discussion/presentation and essays, using college level vocabulary and proper grammar, to show awareness of the need for a reasoned support of any controversial claim.
- Use the terminology of logical analysis or other argumentative skills to evaluate philosophical arguments, in class discussion/presentation, exercises, and essays, in order to formulate a well-reasoned philosophical thesis, and to demonstrate critical thinking skills.

Community/Global Consciousness and Responsibility

- Develop tolerance and respect for religious and philosophical views different from one's own through class discussions of controversial issues and by showing awareness of possible objections to one's own view, in class discussion and essays using college level vocabulary and proper grammar.

Discipline/Subject Area Specific Content Material

- Read original philosophical texts from a wide range of the history of philosophy, demonstrating comprehension in exams, class discussions and essays, to show understanding of major philosophical issues appropriate to a transferable course.
- State a philosophical thesis clearly, support it with arguments and examples, and anticipate and respond to reasonable objections, in essays, using college level vocabulary and proper grammar, in order to show the ability to formulate a well-reasoned philosophical thesis.

- Apply methods of formal logical analysis to test the validity of arguments, in exercises and exams, to show understanding of the value of formal methods appropriate to a transferable critical thinking course.
- Become acquainted with the rich variety of religious traditions and demonstrate knowledge of them through essays and exams, using college level vocabulary and proper grammar, to show ability to operate in a global environment of diverse traditions.

PROGRAM GOALS

The goals of the Philosophy Program are:

- to provide for the cultural enrichment of students of varying ages and backgrounds,
- to enhance the logical and critical thinking skills of students,
- to provide courses that help students complete the Associate in Arts or the Associate of Science degree,
- to provide courses that support and enhance courses offered in other curricular areas,
- to provide transfer credit to four-year colleges and universities,
- to provide courses that are accessible to students who are employed, have child care responsibilities, or who are disabled.
- to create an ambiance conducive to the study of philosophy.

SLO TIMELINE

The Philosophy Department will develop student learning outcomes for all philosophy classes offered at Citrus College based on the following schedule:

	Course Title	Projected date to develop course outline
Phil 101	Great Religions of the World	May 1, 2007
Phil 106	Introduction to Philosophy	May 1, 2007
Phil 106H	Introduction to Philosophy	completed
Phil 108	Philosophy/Ethics	May 1, 2007
Phil 110	Philosophy/Logic	May 1, 2007

Any new classes offered will have student learning outcomes developed when the class is offered.

The department will work with the curriculum development committee to ensure the course outlines are being developed according to standards developed by the committee.

MISSION

COMMENDATIONS

- a) The Philosophy Program helps to fulfill the mission of the District.
- b) The Philosophy Program conforms with the specific mission of the District to prepare students for transfer to four-year colleges and universities.
- c) The Philosophy Program promotes lifelong learning by instilling critical thinking skills and by celebrating intellectual curiosity as a cultural value.
- d) The Philosophy Program serves the community by helping students to become well-educated, aware citizens who can participate in democratic decision-making with a solid grounding in critical thinking and ethical theory.
- e) The Philosophy Program serves culturally diverse groups and includes philosophical issues involving cultural diversity in its curriculum.
- f) The Philosophy Program meets its stated objectives.
- g) The Philosophy Program uses technology to extend educational opportunities through online courses.
- h) The Philosophy Program includes courses that mutually enhance and reinforce each other in a coherent whole.

PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS (2001) COMPLETED

- a) The Philosophy Program has developed a seminar-style honors course, with a class-size limit of 20 students, in Introduction to Philosophy, and the class is being offered on a regular basis.
- b) All philosophy courses are articulated with four-year colleges and universities to ensure transferability of coursework.
- c) The Philosophy Program has supported and encouraged students who have gone on to major in philosophy at four-year institutions, including UC Berkeley, UCLA, UC Irvine, and UC Riverside.
- d) In Phil 106 Introduction to Philosophy and Phil 108 Philosophy/Ethics courses, assignments include Internet research, making students aware of the wealth of philosophy websites on the Internet.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- a) Drop Phil 109 Critical Reasoning and Writing from the course catalogue.
- b) Continue articulation with four-year colleges and universities to ensure transferability of coursework and to assist us in determining need for curricular changes.
- c) Continue to support and encourage students who are interested in majoring in philosophy at a four-year institution by providing information about upper division coursework and academic career opportunities, and by keeping students informed about philosophical conferences and talks in the local area.
- d) Continue to enhance student awareness of resources available to them, such as the wealth of philosophy websites on the Internet.

NEED

COMMENDATIONS

- a) Core courses are offered that meet transfer requirements to CSU and UC.
- b) Phil 106 Introduction to Philosophy is offered through distance education, in both regular semester and 9-week late start sections.
- c) Late afternoon and evening courses are offered to make courses accessible to students who work during the day.
- d) A full-time student who plans to major in philosophy at a four-year institution is able to complete lower division coursework in two years.
- e) Philosophy Program need has been established by enrollment.
- f) The Philosophy Program is already close to achieving the long-term goal of having 20% of course offerings taught via distance education.
- g) The decline in FTEs since 2004-05 has been less than the decline of the college as a whole over those years.

PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS COMPLETED

- a) The Program schedules course sections to maximize enrollment within class-size limits.
- b) The Program utilizes technology appropriate to philosophy courses.
- c) A reserve of well-qualified adjunct instructors enables the Program to schedule course offerings to maximize enrollment, without sacrificing quality, and within the state-mandated ratio of full-time to part-time instructors.
- d) The Program has recruited outstanding students who serve as philosophy and logic tutors through the Learning Center.
- e) The Program has purchased a set of the *Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, stored in faculty offices, and has made them available for students to use in research.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- a) Coordinate course offerings under the new academic calendar to ensure that students' needs are met, and to maximize enrollment within class-size limits in order to maintain instructional quality.
- b) Continue to review offerings in late afternoon and evening to ensure that students' needs are met.
- c) Continue to utilize technology appropriate to the Philosophy Program (videos, DVDs, websites, and other multimedia).
- d) Continue to maintain a reserve of qualified part-time instructors and monitor compliance with State-mandated ratio of full-time to part-time instructors.
- e) Continue to identify students who are qualified to tutor in Philosophy and Logic and encourage them to apply.
- f) Soundproof the wall between LB099 and LB100. Sounds passing through the wall are very distracting, particularly when students are taking an exam.
- g) Set up department bookshelves in Conference Room of new CFI Building when completed.

QUALITY

COMMENDATIONS

- a) All full-time and part-time faculty members in the Philosophy Program meet District qualifications.
- b) Current Philosophy Program course offerings are meeting the needs of both non-transfer and transfer students.
- c) Philosophy Program courses maintain District standards.
- d) Philosophy Program courses demand both writing and critical thinking skills.

PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS (2001) COMPLETED

- a) The Program has encouraged faculty involvement in the National Social Science Association, including attendance and presentations at conferences.
- b) The Program has created an ambiance conducive to the study of philosophy in LB099 by creating a gallery of portraits of great philosophers.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- a) Continue faculty involvement in the National Social Science Association and/or other professional organizations in order to stay informed about issues in the profession.
- b) Soundproof LB099 and LB101.
- c) Look for opportunities in the new academic calendar for more communication between full-time and part-time faculty members.

FEASIBILITY

COMMENDATIONS

- a) Instructors' use of the classroom video projection systems has enhanced the Program by making it possible to display web pages as well as videos of eminent philosophers at work.
- b) The addition of Philosophy 106H and the late-start classes has extended the reach of the program.
- c) Research sources on the internet are linked to the Philosophy 106 distance education websites.
- d) Full-time faculty members have access to e-mail and online resources through office computers.
- e) Purchases of videos in philosophy and religion have improved the capabilities of the program, by making it possible to present internationally renowned philosophers discussing topics included in Philosophy Program coursework.

PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS (2001) COMPLETED

- a) Philosophy students have been encouraged to form a Philosophers' Club where students have been meeting weekly every semester since the club's inception in 2001, to socialize and discuss philosophy.
- b) The Program has provided office space and equipment for adjunct faculty.
- c) The purchase of the Encyclopedia of Philosophy has facilitated research for faculty and students.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- a) Locate offices for Philosophy Program full-time faculty adjacent to each other on the north side of the third floor of the new Center for Innovation building.
- b) Continue supporting the Philosophers' Club.

COMPLIANCE

COMMENDATIONS

- a) Introduction to Philosophy (Honors) Phil 106H course outline has been created, incorporating Student Learning Outcomes, and approved by the Curriculum Committee.

PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS COMPLETED

There were no previous recommendations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- a) Incorporate Student Learning Outcomes into course outlines for Great Religions of the World 101, Introduction to Philosophy 106, Philosophy/Ethics 108, and Philosophy/Logic 110, by May 1, 2007.
- b) Review the course outline for Critical Reasoning and Writing 109 and make a decision as to whether to rewrite it as an Honors Course, with a class-size limit of 20 students, incorporating Student Learning Outcomes, to be offered on a regular basis.