COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

NOTE: ANY CHANGES TO A CSD MUST GO THROUGH ALL OF THE RELEVANT APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING LTPC.

Academic School/Department:	Communications, Arts and Social Sciences
Programme:	Combined Studies
FHEQ **Level:**	4
Course Title:	Introduction to Philosophy
Course Code:	PHL 4100
Course Leader:	James Earl

Student Engagement Hours:	**120**
Lectures:	22.5
Seminar / Tutorials:	22.5
Independent / Guided Learning :	75

Semester:	Fall or Spring or Summer
Credits:	12 UK CATS credits
	6 ECTS credits
	3 US credits

Course Description:

This course introduces students to discipline of philosophy. It examines various branches of philosophy including logic, epistemolgy, ontology, ethics, political and religious philosophy. It takes a topic-based rather than historical approach, and looks at set of problems such as the mind-body problem, empiricism versus rationalism, and subjectivism versus naturalism. To this end, various important Western philosophers will be considered including Aristotle, Descartes, Locke, Hume, Kant & Russell.

Prerequisites: None

Aims and Objectives:

- to acquire a knowledge of the way in which philosophy as a discipline is structured into various areas;
- to feel confident in using the terminology of the discipline;
- to acquire a knowledge of traditional philosophical problems;
- to acquire a knowledge of some key figures in the history of Western philosophy;
- to develop an understanding of the processes of philosophical analysis;
- to develop their ability to think in an analytic and critical way, and be able to apply this approach to both philosophical and social questions.

Programme Outcomes :

4A(i,); 4B(iii); 4C(i,iii); 4D(i,iii)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification. This is located at the Departmental/Schools page of the portal.

Learning Outcomes:
Students should be able to:
- reflect on philosophical problems presented and be able to suggest possible strategies for tackling them.
- have developed a broad understanding of some of the basic concepts found in Western philosophy
- use some of the basic conceptual vocabulary of philosophy appropriately.
- to write clearly using appropriate levels of academic presentation including proper referencing.

Indicative Content:

- Logic
- Epistemology
- Ontology
- Political philosophy
- Religious philosophy
- Non western philosophical frameworks

Assessment:
This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Council on 28 June 2012.

Teaching Methodology:

Course meetings consist of highly interactive converstaions about philosophical topics, where the tutor presents a problem and guides the class discussion. In-class exercises are combined with small homework tasks around specific philosophical problems so students feel a constant engagement with the process of philosophical analysis.

Bibliography:

IndicativeText(s):

Hospers,J. (1997). _An Introduction to Philosophical Analysis_. London:Routledge,

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

Change Log for this CSD:

Major or Minor Change?	Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or LTPC)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry