



**SED 528.41E**  
**Philosophy of Education**  
**Course Syllabus: Summer II 2014**

**Instructor:** Dr. Gil Naizer  
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### **COURSE INFORMATION**

**Course Description:** This course provides a study of the educational implications of Idealism, Realism, Pragmatism, Behaviorism, and other philosophical schools of thought. The course will stress the applications of these philosophies to the practice and implementation of curriculum, instruction, and student learning. Study of philosophical theories will assist in understanding the source of many popular opinions and perceptions regarding education including: the anxiety that education is adrift, the concern that educational aims are vague or conflicting, uncertainty about the role of education in a democratic society, and concerns regarding the relationship between theory and practice.

*Required Texts:* Noddings, Nel ((2012). *Philosophy of Education*, (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition). Boulder, CO: Westview Press.

See: <http://www.westviewpress.com/book.php?isbn=9780813345314#>

### **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

1. Define and discuss the philosophical schools of thought including: idealism, realism, eastern philosophy, pragmatism, reconstructionism, behaviorism, existentialism, Marxism, analytical philosophy, and postmodernism.
2. Discuss the historical context and leading philosophers of the schools of thought.
3. Discuss each of the philosophies as they relate to the aims of education, teaching methods, curriculum, educational policy, and learning.
4. Develop and identify a personal teaching philosophy and the implications of the philosophy for classroom.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments

The following requirements will constitute the grade for this course. More specific details about each assignment will be included on eCollege.

1. Personal, disciplinary philosophy exploratory essay – 15%
2. Online discussions – 25%
3. Philosophical reflections on readings – 25%
4. Philosophy project – 35%

Total = 100%

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

### ***Course Evaluation:***

Based on total possible points, grades will be earned according to the following percentages:

- A = 90 – 100%
- B = 80 – 89%
- C = 70 – 79%
- D = 60 – 69%
- F = 59 or lower

The instructor reserves the right to change course assignments throughout the semester. Each assignment/project must be completed and turned in by the due date given. **All assignments are due by the dates indicated on the calendar. All assignments are submitted electronically on eCollege.**

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Due the nature of the course, students are required to have continuous on-line access. All students must have access to email and adequately functioning computer equipment. To use the university's online resources, students need a computer and an Internet service provider (ISP). Students also need an Internet browser, an email program, and a word processing program. A working familiarity with hardware and software is advantageous before entering the program.

Hardware Both Macintosh and Windows systems are acceptable. Students do not need to purchase a new system to begin online learning at the university.

Windows 98/NT/2000/ME/XP Pentium (2 GHz or greater) 128 megabytes (MB) random access memory (RAM) 2 GB or greater hard drive.

Macintosh OS 9.1 to OS X; G3, G4, or higher 128 megabytes (MB) random access memory (RAM) 2 GB or greater hard drive

Software Word Processor Microsoft Word is preferred.

Connectivity Reliable Internet access through an established Internet service provider (ISP) is key to the online learning experience. Students should choose a DSL or cable-modem service where high-speed internet is available. If you have dial-up, you may experience problems.

Web Browser Internet Explorer (version 6.0 or greater) or Netscape (version 7.0 or greater) is required. These browsers are available for free in the download areas at [www.microsoft.com](http://www.microsoft.com) and [www.netscape.com](http://www.netscape.com), respectively.

Note: Browsers that are part of the MSN and AOL software are not acceptable, because they include proprietary modifications that may not work correctly with resources. Students may continue to use AOL or MSN as their Internet service provider, but once connected to the Internet, they should minimize the AOL or MSN window and launch Internet Explorer or Netscape.

Adobe Acrobat Reader Available at [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com), this free program (Adobe Reader 8) allows you to view and print many forms and some full-text documents from online library databases.

Adobe Flash Player 9.0 Available at [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com). This allows you to view any content delivered in Flash.

Video Players/Plugins: It is available for free download Quicktime, [www.apple.com/quicktime](http://www.apple.com/quicktime). RealPlayer, available at [www.real.com](http://www.real.com), and Windows MediaPlayer 11.0, available at [www.microsoft.com/windows/windowsmedia/download](http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windowsmedia/download).

## **ACCESS AND NAVIGATION**

The course requires the use of eCollege accessible through students' My Leo accounts. To login, students will need their valid student ID number and password.

eCollege Technical Concerns: Please contact the eCollege HelpDesk, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, by sending an email directly to [helpdesk@online.tamuc.org](mailto:helpdesk@online.tamuc.org). You may also reach the HelpDesk by calling (toll-free) 1-866-656-5511. If you have a dial-up connect, you may experience problems uploading and downloading. If you feel your connection is not adequate, please use the lab at your site to upload documents.

## **COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

Email Access to a reliable email service through an established Internet service provider (ISP) is critical to the online learning experience.

Course Concerns: If you have questions pertaining to the content of this course (e.g., questions about an exam, about course due dates, etc.), please contact via email.

Other Questions/Concerns: Contact the appropriate TAMU-C department relating to your

questions/concern. If you are unable to reach the appropriate department with questions regarding your course enrollment, billing, advising, or financial aid, please call 903-886-5511 between the hours of 8:00a.m.-5:00p.m. Monday through Friday.

## UNIVERSITY SPECIFIC PROCEDURES

**Academic Honesty Policy:** Texas A&M University-Commerce does not tolerate **plagiarism** and other forms of academic **dishonesty**. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material.

Suggested sites for reference regarding what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it:

<http://www.plagiarism.org/> or

<http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/plagiarism.html> or

<http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml>

### *ADA Statement*

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

#### **Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

**Texas A&M University-Commerce**

**Gee Library 132**

**Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835**

**Fax (903) 468-8148**

[StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu)

[Student Disability Resources & Services](#)

### *Student Conduct*

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook*).

## COURSE OUTLINE/CALENDAR

<u>Calendar:</u>	<u>Topic:</u>	<u>Readings:</u>	<u>Assignment Deadlines:</u>
Week 1	What is educational philosophy?	Chs. 1, 2.	Personal philosophy essay due - TBA. Reflection #1 due - TBA. Participate in online discussion - TBA.
Week 2	Analytical, Continental, Logic	Chs. 3, 4, 5.	Reflection #2 due - TBA. Participate in online discussion - TBA.
Week 3	Epistemology, Research	Chs. 6, 7.	Reflection #3 due - TBA. Participate in online discussion - TBA.
Week 4	Ethics, Politics, Reform	Chs. 8, 9, 10.	Reflection #4 due - TBA. Participate in online discussion - TBA.
Week 5	Multiculturalism, Feminism	Chs. 11, 12.	Reflection #5 due - TBA. Participate in online discussion - TBA. <b>Philosophy project due - TBA.</b>