Metropolitan State University

PHIL 105 : Views of Human Nature

A. Course Description

Credits: 3

Lab Hours/ Weeks: 
Corequisites: None

Lecture Hours/ Week :

MnTC Goals: Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

This course introduces students to persistent questions concerning what it means to be human. Is there such a thing as human nature? If so, what is it? How have different cultures and different periods of history understood the nature of human nature? What are the moral and social consequences of accepting various answers to these questions? The course examines how these issues have been addressed within European, American, Asian, Indian and Middle Eastern philosophical traditions.

B. Course Effective Dates: 08/24/2002 - 08/15/2009 08/16/2009 - Present

C. Outline of Major Content Areas:

See Course Description for major content areas.

D. Learning Outcomes (General)

1. Develop a beginning understanding of critical analysis of work in philosophy.
2. Explore, through an investigation of writings in philosophy and the humanities, the concept of human nature.
3. Investigate the moral and social consequences of accepting these various understandings.
4. Understand the variation in understandings of this concept as emerging in different historical and social contexts.

E. Learning Outcomes (MN Transfer Curriculum)

Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

1. Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.
2. Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context.
3. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
4. Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.

G. Special Information

None