

# PHILOSOPHY/RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Whatever the vocational goal, students benefit from completing courses in philosophy and religious studies. Nearly everyone is concerned with the kinds of questions and experiences studied in philosophy and religion. Both fields of study are concerned with the nature of reality, truth and value, the human response to death and suffering, and those perennial human questions: Who am I? Why am I here? Where am I going?

Philosophy and religious studies courses require critical analysis, clarity, and understanding. These skills are achieved through careful and close reading of texts, images, and symbols as well as through descriptive and analytic writing. These are invaluable skills transferable to most vocations. Philosophy and religion courses require the study of diverse and often competing belief systems. This challenging and exciting endeavor can help us make sense of the events taking place in the world around us.

Students planning to transfer to a baccalaureate institution and major in philosophy or religious studies should consult a counselor regarding the transfer process and lower division requirements.

## Contact Information

Division: Social Sciences, Human Development, and Physical Education (NH - 345)

Division Phone Number: (909) 384-8603

Faculty Chair: Adam Pave (apave@sbccd.edu), Ph.D.

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- Philosophy Associate of Arts Transfer Degree (<http://catalog.valleycollege.edu/degree-certificate-program-index/philosophy-religious-studies/philosophy-aat-degree/>)

### PHIL 101 3 Units

#### Introduction to Philosophy

**Lecture:** 54 contact hours

**Advisory:** READ 015 or eligibility for READ 100 as determined by the SBVC assessment process.

This course is a general introduction to the major problems in philosophy, with attention directed to both classical and modern philosophy as a basis for discussion of issues such as epistemology, metaphysics, ethics, and aesthetics.

**Associate Degree Applicable**

**Transfers to both UC/CSU**

**C-ID:** PHIL 100

### PHIL 101H 3 Units

#### Introduction to Philosophy - Honors

**Lecture:** 54 contact hours

**Advisory:** ENGL 015 or eligibility for ENGL 101 as determined by SBVC assessment process and READ 015.

This course is a general introduction to the major problems of philosophy, with attention directed to classical and modern philosophy as a basis for discussion of issues such as epistemology, metaphysics, ethics, and aesthetics. This course is intended for students in the Honors Program but is open to all students who desire more challenging coursework.

**Associate Degree Applicable**

**Transfers to both UC/CSU**

**C-ID:** PHIL 100

### PHIL 102 3 Units

#### Critical Thinking and Writing

**Lecture:** 54 contact hours

**Prerequisite:** ENGL 101 or ENGL 101H

This course is an introduction to critical thinking focusing on argument and evidence and the ability to write coherent argumentative essays. Topics include recognition of the structures of reasoning in natural language, the evaluation of such reasoning (including informal fallacies), the uses and abuses of language, and an investigation of the rhetorical devices common in our culture. Students practice critical thinking by writing substantive arguments and essays.

**Associate Degree Applicable**

**Transfers to both UC/CSU**

### PHIL 103 3 Units

#### Introduction to Logic: Argument and Evidence

**Lecture:** 54 contact hours

**Advisory:** READ 015 or eligibility for READ 100 as determined by the SBVC assessment process.

Introduction to the techniques of critical thought, including language analysis, inductive and deductive logic, symbolic logic, and the development of the scientific method.

**Associate Degree Applicable**

**Transfers to both UC/CSU**

**C-ID:** PHIL 110

### PHIL 105 3 Units

#### Introduction to Ethics

**Lecture:** 54 contact hours

**Advisory:** READ 015 or eligibility for READ 100 as determined by the SBVC assessment process.

This course is an introduction to ethics focusing on the analysis of the basic ideas and principles underlying moral conduct. Theories such as utilitarianism, deontology, virtue ethics, and many others will form the basis of the course. Specific ethical problems arising in disciplines such as business, health care, administration of justice, and politics, as well as specific ethical problems confronting individuals, will also be addressed in this course.

**Associate Degree Applicable**

**Transfers to both UC/CSU**

**C-ID:** PHIL 120

### PHIL 112 3 Units

#### Philosophy in Literature

**Lecture:** 54 contact hours

**Prerequisite:** ENGL 015 or eligibility for ENGL 101 as determined by SBVC assessment process.

This course addresses ethical and metaphysical themes as presented in literature from the classical to the modern period. Philosophical problems such as freedom and determinism, the nature of virtue, the meaning of death, and the individual's relationship to the state and the structure of reality are explored through the encounter with novels, plays, short stories, and film.

**Associate Degree Applicable**

**Transfers to both UC/CSU**

**PHIL 180 3 Units****Death and Dying****Lecture:** 54 contact hours**Advisory:** READ 015 or eligibility for READ 100 as determined by the SBVC assessment process.

This course is a study of dying, death, and bereavement. Medical, ethical, legal, philosophical, and religious considerations will be explored. (This course is also offered as RELIG 180).

**Associate Degree Applicable****Transfers to both UC/CSU****RELIG 100 3 Units****Introduction to Religious Studies****Lecture:** 54 contact hours**Advisory:** READ 015 or eligibility for READ 100 as determined by the SBVC assessment process.

This course is an introductory study of religion, with emphasis on religious experience, the origins and function of religion, and the various modes of religious expression. Necessarily broad in scope, this course will draw on Eastern, Western, ancient, and modern religious phenomena to help students understand various religious components, such as myth, ritual, scripture, art, doctrine, and mysticism.

**Associate Degree Applicable****Transfers to both UC/CSU****RELIG 100H 3 Units****Introduction to Religious Studies-Honors****Lecture:** 54 contact hours**Advisory:** ENGL 015 or eligibility for ENGL 101 or ENGL 101H as determined by SBVC assessment process.

This course is an introductory study of religion, with emphasis on religious experience, the origins and function of religion, and the various modes of religious expression. Necessarily broad in scope, this course will draw on Eastern, Western, ancient, and modern religious phenomena to help students understand various religious components, such as myth, ritual, scripture, art, doctrine, and mysticism. This course is intended for students in the Honors Program but is open to all students who desire more challenging coursework.

**Associate Degree Applicable****Transfers to both UC/CSU****RELIG 101 3 Units****Introduction to World Religions****Lecture:** 54 contact hours**Advisory:** READ 015 or eligibility for READ 100 as determined by the SBVC assessment process.

This course is an introduction to the major religious traditions of the world with an emphasis on the beliefs, practices, and histories of Buddhism, Christianity, Confucianism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, and Taoism.

**Associate Degree Applicable****Transfers to both UC/CSU****RELIG 110 3 Units****Magic, Witchcraft, and Religion****Lecture:** 54 contact hours**Advisory:** READ 015 or eligibility for READ 100 as determined by the SBVC assessment process.

This course is a comparative study of spiritual and religious practices, past and present, including magic, witchcraft, shamanism, and totemism. It entails study of syncretism, change, and the role of spiritual and religious practice in society. (This course is also offered as ANTHRO 110).

**Associate Degree Applicable****Transfers to both UC/CSU****RELIG 135 3 Units****Religion in America****Lecture:** 54 contact hours**Advisory:** READ 015 or eligibility for READ 100 as determined by the SBVC assessment process.

This course is an introduction to the diverse expression of religion in the United States. Although limited by the history and geography of one country, the course necessarily draws from religions around the globe to help students understand how religion has grown and developed in the U.S. So, this course deals with a wide variety of expressions of religion, including the Puritans, slave religion, the religious reform movements, the Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, and Muslim communities, the African American religious experience, Eastern religions in America, and contemporary syncretistic religious movements.

**Associate Degree Applicable****Transfers to both UC/CSU****RELIG 150 3 Units****Introduction to Mythology****Lecture:** 54 contact hours**Advisory:** READ 015 or eligibility for READ 100 as determined by the SBVC assessment process.

This course is an introduction to myth and its function in culture through an examination of creation stories, end-of-the world stories, hero stories, and trickster stories. Although focusing on the narrative expression of religion, this course necessarily draws from many traditions, including Native American, Greek, Roman, European, Islamic, Chinese, Hindu, and Japanese traditions of myth. In addition, this class will examine modern American myths.

**Associate Degree Applicable****Transfers to both UC/CSU****RELIG 175 3 Units****The Literature and Religion of the Bible****Lecture:** 54 contact hours**Prerequisite:** ENGL 101 or ENGL 101H

This course covers The English Bible as literature and as religion including an examination of the types of literature found in the Bible, the historical and religious context in which the literature was developed and an extensive reading of the two testaments. This course is also offered as ENGL 175. RELIG 175 is the transferable equivalent of ENGL 075. A student taking RELIG 175 may not earn credit for ENGL 075.

**Associate Degree Applicable****Transfers to both UC/CSU****RELIG 176 3 Units****Jesus and His Interpreters****Lecture:** 54 contact hours**Prerequisite:** ENGL 015 or eligible for ENGL 101 or ENGL 101H as determined by the SBVC assessment process.

This course is a study of images and interpretations of Jesus with three principle divisions: Jesus and the gospels or biblical tradition; Jesus and the historians, including the quest of historians and theologians for the Jesus of history; and Jesus and the arts (Jesus in art, music, film, and the literary arts, such as novels, poems, and plays.)

**Associate Degree Applicable****Transfers to both UC/CSU**

**RELIG 180 3 Units**

**Death and Dying**

**Lecture:** 54 contact hours

**Advisory:** READ 015 or eligibility for READ 100 as determined by the SBVC assessment process.

This course is a study of dying, death, and bereavement. Medical, ethical, legal, philosophical, and religious considerations will be explored. (This course is also offered as PHIL 180).

**Associate Degree Applicable**

**Transfers to both UC/CSU**