

Instructor Information	
Instructor	Steven Zani
Email	zanisj@lamarpa.edu
Phone	(409) 984-6431
Office	Educational I - Room: 133
Office Hours	M-W 9-5 in the Education-1 GEDS office. Room 133.
Additional Contact Information	
Course Information	
Description	A study of major issues in philosophy and/or the work of major philosophical figures in philosophy. Topics in philosophy may include theories of reality, theories of knowledge, theories of value, and their practical applications.
Required Textbooks	<i>Textbook Purchasing Statement: A student attending Lamar State College Port Arthur is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.</i>
	None. Course is OER.
Additional Materials/Resources	None.
Corequisites/Prerequisites	None
Learning Outcomes	1) Read, analyze, and critique philosophical texts. 2) Demonstrate knowledge of key concepts, major arguments, problems, and terminology in philosophy. 3) Present logically persuasive arguments both orally and in writing. 4) Demonstrate critical thinking skills in evaluation and application of philosophical concepts to various aspects of life. 5) Evaluate the personal and social responsibilities of living in a diverse world.
Core Objectives	Communication skills: Students will demonstrate effective written, oral and/or visual communication. Critical Thinking Skills: Students will engage in creative and/or innovative thinking, and/or inquiry, analysis, evaluation, synthesis of information, organizing concepts and constructing solutions. Personal Responsibility: Students will demonstrate the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making.
Lecture Topics Outline	Introduction Discussion of Theories of Self Epistemology/ Knowledge / Senses “99 Problems” Essay- Discussion of Law and Ethics Laws/Conscience / Ethics Free Will and Determinism Internal and Unconscious Philosophy / Easter Philosophy Freud/Marx Etiology, and Theories of Life History and New Historical Approaches Hagakure selections Japanese and Samurai Ideology Death/Immortality
Major Assignments Schedule	From handouts and OER sources: Introduction (The World Riddle / The Spirit of Inquiry) Pages 3-29 Predicament / Self Pages 77-105

Knowledge / Senses Pages 163-185
 “99 Problems” Essay
 Laws/Conscience / Ethics Pages 318-327 and 374-391
 Lifestyles / Freedom Pages 333-345 and 257-265
 Psyche Pages 221-229
 Midterm Exam
 Freud/Marx TWO HAND OUTS
 Life Pages 401-423
 History Pages 291-311
 Hagakure selections HAND OUT
 Death/Immortality Pages 621-635
 Final Exam

Final Exam Date May 3, 2026 - 11:59 PM Through May 10, 2026 - 11:59 PM

Grading Scale

Determination of Final Grade
 Response Papers: 30%
 Discussion Boards- 30%
 Midterm Exam – 20%
 Final Exam – 20%

Course Policies

Instructor Policies I will not discuss your grades over the phone. If you want to discuss your grades, you must come to my office, in person, or send an e-mail using your official lamarpa e-mail account (not using the Blackboard internal e-mail, which I cannot respond to).

Attendance Policy Research has shown a cause and effect relationship between attendance and college success. Students in face-to-face classes with more than three absences from the course will receive an academic penalty. Students in the online section of this course must be logging in and participating at least twice per week in order to have the possibility of passing the class.

Additional Information "There is a great difference between *still* believing something and believing it *again*. *Still* to believe that the moon affects the plants reveals stupidity and superstition, but to believe it *again* is a sign of philosophy and reflection." - Lichtenberg

Institutional Policies

MyLSCPA Be sure to check your campus email and Course Homepage using MyLSCPA campus web portal. You can also access your grades, transcripts, academic advisors, degree progress, and other services through [MyLSCPA](#).

Academic Honesty Academic honesty is expected from all students, and dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. Please consult the LSCPA policies (Academic Dishonesty section in the Student Handbook) for consequences of academic dishonesty.

ADA Considerations The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights 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 believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the [Disability Services Coordinator](#), Room 117, in the Student Success Center. The phone number is (409) 984-6241.

COVID 19 Information The Lamar State College Port Arthur (LSCPA) Student Code of Conduct COVID 19 Policy requires students who have been diagnosed with COVID 19 to report their condition directly to their local health department. Students should also contact their course faculty to report their quarantine status. In addition, this policy requires all students to wear face coverings when directly exposed to COVID 19 in compliance with the criteria included in the policy. For more information please refer to the COVID 19 link on the LSCPA website.

Facility Policies No food or tobacco products are allowed in the classroom. Only students enrolled in the course are allowed in the classroom, except by special instructor permission. Use of electronic devices is prohibited.

HB 2504 This syllabus is part of LSCPA's efforts to comply with Texas House Bill 2504.

Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect As per Texas law and LSCPA policy, all LSCPA employees, including faculty, are required to report allegations or disclosures of child abuse or neglect to the designated authorities, which may include a local or state law enforcement agency or the Texas Department of Family Protective Services. For more information about mandatory reporting requirements, see [LSCPA's Policy and Procedure Manual](#).

Title IX and Sexual Misconduct LSCPA is committed to establishing and maintaining an environment that is free from all forms of sex discrimination, including sexual harassment, sexual violence, and other forms of sexual misconduct. All LSCPA employees, including faculty, have the responsibility to report disclosures of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, sexual assault (including rape and acquaintance rape), domestic violence, dating violence, relationship violence, or stalking, to LSCPA's Title IX Coordinator, whose role is to coordinate the college's response to sexual misconduct. For more information about Title IX protections, faculty reporting responsibilities, options for confidential reporting, and the resources available for support visit [LSCPA's Title IX website](#).

Clery Act Crime Reporting For more information about the Clery Act and crime reporting, see the [Annual Security & Fire Safety Report](#) and the [Campus Security website](#).

Grievance / Complaint / Concern If you have a grievance, complaint, or concern about this course that has not been resolved through discussion with the Instructor, please consult the Department Chair.

Department Information General Education and Developmental Studies

Chair: [Dr. Steven Zani](#)
 Email: zanisj@lamarpa.edu

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