

**PHILOSOPHY FOR HIGH SCHOOL
PHIL 400
SPRING 2020
BALL STATE UNIVERSITY**

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Sarah Vitale
(Email: sevitale@bsu.edu)

MEETING TIME AND LOCATION:
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 3:00 PM – 3:50 PM, NQ 141

OFFICE HOURS: I will hold scheduled office hours on *Wednesdays and Fridays from 2:00 PM to 2:50 PM in NQ 211*. You can stop by during those slots or make an appointment with my using Canvas, which is helpful during especially busy times of the semester. I am also available by appointment at other times of the week. Please email me and let me know your availability, and we will find a good time to meet! Office hours are a great opportunity to discuss the texts we are reading for class, and I appreciate the opportunity to get to know you better.

COURSE OVERVIEW: Philosophy, which encourages students to ask questions, look at familiar things in new ways, listen to one another, and examine their own beliefs and positions, is a fantastic way for high school students to learn about themselves and the world around them. It also helps them prepare for their futures in a complex, ever-changing world. Students in this immersive-learning class will divide and conquer to learn about best practices in philosophy education for high school students, run a high school philosophy club at Muncie Central, and plan and host an innovative philosophy conference for high school students across the state to be held at Ball State.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Our primary objectives are to

1. create resources for high school students and teachers,
2. host an annual conference
3. visit high schools across Indiana to engage with students in philosophical dialogue
4. maintain and develop the philosophy club at Muncie Central High School, and
5. maintain and develop a website and social media engagement with key stakeholders.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: By the end of the course, you will demonstrate

- an increased understanding of the field of precollege philosophy;
- a greater sensitivity to socio-economic inequality;
- recognition of the value of philosophy in the lives of young people;
- increased motivation to future service and activism;
- stronger collaboration skills;
- and greater willingness to take risks.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Assignments in this course will not be graded in the traditional fashion. Instead, they will all be graded pass/fail.

TOKENS: Each student will begin the semester with 5 tokens. You may exchange one or more of them throughout the semester. A token will allow you to resubmit an assignment that does not meet the specifications (does not pass) or receive an extension on an assignment.

END OF SEMESTER REFLECTION:	15%
DIVERSITY REFLECTION:	10%
MISC. HW:	10%
PRINCIPAL PITCH:	5%
SUMMER POSTS:	5%
ARTICLE PRÉCIS:	5%
WORK ON TEAMS TBD:	50% (INCLUDES WORK ON PACKET, PRESENTATIONS, MODULES, ETC.)

POLICIES AND RESOURCES:

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: You will be held to Ball State's standards of academic integrity without exception. The policy on academic integrity can be found in the Student Handbook. See the section on "Student Academic Ethics Policy": <http://cms.bsu.edu/about/administrative/offices/studentrights/policiesandprocedures/studentcode/viiethicspolicy>. You must document **ALL** sources you use, whether quoting them directly or paraphrasing. If you are ever in any doubt about what is acceptable, please ask. A breach of academic integrity may result in **failure for the course**, not just the assignment. Violations of the academic code may also result in suspension or expulsion from Ball State.

ATTENDANCE/ABSENCES:

The most important requirement of an immersive-learning class is participation. This is not possible if you do not attend class. Please try to be on time to class as well.

DISABILITIES: If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please contact me as soon as possible. Ball State's Disability Services office coordinates services for students with disabilities; documentation of a disability needs to be on file in that office before any accommodations can be provided. Disability Services can be contacted at 765-285-5293 or dsd@bsu.edu.

DIVERSITY: Ball State University aspires to be a university that attracts and retains a diverse faculty, staff, and student body. We are committed to ensuring that all members of the community are welcome, through valuing the various experiences and worldviews represented at Ball State and among those we serve. We promote a culture of respect and civil discourse as expressed in our [Beneficence Pledge](#) and through university resources found at <http://cms.bsu.edu/campuslife/multiculturalcenter>.

EMAILS: I will respond to emails during normal business hours. If you write me in the evening or on the weekend, I may not respond until the next business day.

GRADE DISPUTATION: If you are concerned with a grade you have received, please send me an email explaining why you think you should have received a different grade. Please do not approach me in person with such concerns. I will review your assignment again and then consider your comments. I will never lower your grade following such a review.

IMMERSIVE LEARNING: The creation of the conference and the other resources is the responsibility of students in PHIL 400. I am there to help you learn the content and skills necessary to do so, but the

success of POP will be the result of your joint efforts. It is extremely important that each member fulfills their responsibilities with excellence and in a timely manner.

Students will take on leadership roles, and responsibility-taking and volunteerism will be very important. Passivity (i.e., waiting to be individually directed to perform a specific task and doing nothing more than what one is explicitly told to do) may result in dismissal from the project.

LEARNING CENTER: The Learning Center offers free tutoring for many courses on campus, including science and humanities, modern languages, math and business, help with any writing task, and study strategies such as time management, test taking, note taking, and effective textbook reading. The Learning Center opens for Fall 2016 tutoring on Mon, August 29th, at 9am. Hours are Mon-Thursday, 9am-8pm, and Friday, 9am-12pm. Call 765-285-3780 or visit NQ 350 to make an appointment to meet with a tutor. Learn more by visiting www.bsu.edu/learningcenter.

WRITING CENTER: One key to improving your writing is getting feedback and revision suggestions on your text during the writing process. The Writing Center at Ball State offers free writing feedback sessions (online or face-to-face) to all students on essays, reports, reflections, research projects, web content, lesson plans, slideshows, poster presentations, resumes, and other digital or print texts. You can make an appointment by going to www.bsu.edu/writingcenter, stopping by Robert Bell 295, or by calling 765-285-8370.

Calendar (Dates and assignments will be filled in as semester advances)

MON, JAN 6	Reading Due: In-class Surveys	JANUARY GOALS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Announce date of conference • Announce travel awards • Make shared calendar/decide what program to use
WED, JAN 8	Reading Due: Lone and Burroughs, "Philosophy Beyond the University"	
FRI, JAN 10	Reading Due: <i>Philosophy in Education</i> , "Wonder, Questioning, and Reflection"	
MON, JAN 13	Reading Due: <i>Philosophy in Education</i> , "Learner-Centered Education"	
WED, JAN 15	Reading Due: <i>Philosophy in Education</i> , "Philosophical Sensitivities"	
FRI, JAN 17		
MON, JAN 20	NO CLASS – MLK DAY	
WED, JAN 22	Reading Due: <i>Philosophy in Education</i> , "The Community of Philosophical Inquiry"	
FRI, JAN 24		
MON, JAN 27	TEAM BUILDING	
WED, JAN 29	Reading Due: "Does Philosophy for Children Belong in School at All?"	
FRI, JAN 31	Reading Due: "A Different Education: Philosophy and High School"	FEBRUARY GOALS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete 4 site visits
MON, FEB 3	Reading Due: "Precollege Philosophy Education: What Can It Be? The IAPC Model"	
WED, FEB 5	Assignment Due: Précis	
FRI, FEB 7		

MON, FEB 10	Assignment Due: Principal Pitch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send out formal conference invitation and advertise for conference • Travel stipend applications due • Create Advisory Board • High school students pilot starter packs
WED, FEB 12		
FRI, FEB 14		
MON, FEB 17		
WED, FEB 19		
FRI, FEB 21		
MON, FEB 24		
WED, FEB 26		
FRI, FEB 28		
SPRING BREAK		
MON, MARCH 9		MARCH GOALS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete 4 site visits • Conference registration deadline • Award travel stipends • High school students pilot starter packs
WED, MARCH 11		
FRI, MARCH 13	Assignment Due: Summer social media posts	
MON, MARCH 16		
WED, MARCH 18		
FRI, MARCH 20		
MON, MARCH 23		
WED, MARCH 25	Updated packet must be finalized	
FRI, MARCH 27		
MON, MARCH 30	Assignment Due: Diversity Reflection Paper	
WED, APRIL 1		APRIL GOALS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete 3 site visits • Hold Conference for Pre-College Philosophical Engagement
FRI, APRIL 3		
MON, APRIL 6		
WED, APRIL 8	CONFERENCE DAY!!	
FRI, APRIL 10		
MON, APRIL 13		
WED, APRIL 15		
FRI, APRIL 17	Assignment Due: Reflection Papers	
MON, APRIL 20		
WED, APRIL 22		
FRI, APRIL 24		
MON, APRIL 27		
WED, APRIL 29	2:15 – 4:15 PM – FINAL EXAM PERIOD	