

9th Annual PLATO-WA Conference April 8-9, 2022 (Yakima Valley College)

Host Jason Gooch over at YVCC:

All covid restrictions have been lifted on campus for the spring quarter, so a health screening will not be required. Masks are optional. I think I may have already sent this, but just in case a reminder is needed, a campus map can be found here:

<https://www.yvcc.edu/wp-content/uploads/YVC-Yakima-Campus-Map.pdf>

We'll be in room 103 of building 20 (Palmer-Martin Hall) on the corner of Nob Hill Blvd and S 16th Ave. Parking is available directly to the south of building 20. Parking permits are not required. Campus is exactly 8 blocks from the hotel.

Here is the schedule for our upcoming conference, April 8 to 9, at Yakima Valley Community College:

Session 1. Friday, April 8, 3:30 to 4:30 pm

Rebeka Ferreira (she|they)
Green River College

["Assigning Readings By & About Religious Womxn in ANY Philosophy / Religion Course"](#)

Rebeka will be urging the adoption of readings by and about religious woman (and/or nonbinary individuals) in any Philosophy and/or Religion course. Emphasis will be placed on how the incorporation of such material, perhaps at the exclusion of more canonical works,

helps students to achieve course learning outcomes and draws a more diverse student demographic to engage critically with the discipline.

Session 2. Friday, April 8, 4:40 to 5:40 pm

Andrew Jeffery, Pierce College

Pedagogy for Bearers of Bad News

Session 3. Saturday, April 9, 8:45 am to 9: 40 am

Geoffrey Bagwell, Spokane Community College

There are problems in various domains. There are scientific, sociological, psychological, economic, theological problems, etc. In addition, there is a set of problems that are often described as “philosophical”, both in ordinary discourse as well as discourse among philosophers. What makes a problem “philosophical”? Do putatively “philosophical” problems overlap with other fields? Can a scientific problem also be a philosophical problem? Can a political problem also be a philosophical problem? Answers to these questions and, most especially, an answer to the question of what makes a problem “philosophical” depends on what philosophy is and how its boundaries are demarcated. I argue that the best explanation of the domain of philosophy is given by Socrates in Plato’s dialogues. Socrates, I believe, proposes that a problem is philosophical just in case it is an apparent or real inconsistency in a person’s sincerely held beliefs. Upon discovering what appears to be two or more sincerely held beliefs, a person necessarily confronts a philosophical problem. A consequence, I argue, of this definition of a philosophy is that it explains--in an intuitive way--why the boundaries of philosophy sometimes overlap with other domains and why they sometimes do not.

Session 4. Saturday, April 9, 9:45 am to 10:40 am

Russ Payne, Bellevue College

[A New Approach to Critical Thinking.](#)

Session 5. Saturday, April 9, 10: 45 to 11: 40 pm

Anthony Ferrucci, Green River College

A short demo on teaching logic using a system put together by Ian Schnee at UW.

Session 6. Saturday, April 9, 11:45 to 12: 40 pm

Dennis Knepp, Big Bend Community College

Let's talk about diversity! I've always taught PHIL& 101 historically with big names from the Western canon. This year, in an effort to include some diversity, I included Hackett Publishing's [*Women Philosophers of the Early Modern Period*](#) which is an affordable paperback (\$13.50) explicitly designed as a follow up to Ren