

PHIL 101: Introduction to Philosophy: Values and Society

Winter 2023 - MWF 10:00-10:50 am

Instructor: Richard Kover

Course Description

This course is an introduction to ethics, values, and social and political thought. Beginning with a historical survey of key philosophers and positions in the western tradition, we will go on to explore their continued relevance to contemporary ethical issues. Some questions we will look at are: What is the Good? What are moral values and principles and how do we know them? Is morality inherently culturally relative or are there ethical principles and claims universal to all cultures? Are humans inherently individualistic or social? What is the nature of the best type of human society and organization? Do we have certain inherent obligations to other humans or even non-human animals, if so what are they?

There are no prerequisites for this course - just a curious, open mind interested in learning about and discussing these questions with others.