

# Course Syllabus

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**SUMMER 2021**

## Instructor contact information:

Dr. Shelley Park

Department of Philosophy

PSY 239; 407-823-2273 (general office number)

E-mail: Please contact me via course mail at web courses.

Office Hours: Virtual: MW 11-noon

## Course Description:

In this course, we will examine a variety of philosophical concepts and themes, focusing on the nature of the good life (a classical philosophical concern). We will explore several theories of the good life as well as other philosophical issues in light of their interplay with popular culture and everyday life.

## Course Objectives:

- To provide students with an introductory survey of various trans-historical and cross-cultural philosophical conceptions of the good life
- To engage students in critical thinking, about diverse beliefs, values, and practices in relation to diverse philosophical values
- To foster students' ability to engage in philosophical discussions about self, community, and culture
- To encourage self-reflection about academic and other life choices

## Required texts:

You do not need to purchase any texts for this class. There are, however, a number of required readings (both classical and contemporary philosophical texts and relevant videos) that I will make available online. Please

use the links provided on the relevant course pages.

## Course requirements:

Philosophy happens through dialogue and critical self-reflection informed by diverse thinkers. Thus your grade in the class will reflect the following components:

### Quizzes: 30%

Quizzes are designed to ensure you understand the reading and viewing material assigned. There will be 5 quizzes during the semester worth 6% each. Each will consist of 5-10 objective questions (MC, T/F, fill in the blank, etc.). Quizzes will be timed. They are open-book but you should read and view the material carefully prior to taking the quiz as there will not be time to read as you take a quiz. See deadlines on calendar.

### Discussions: 30%

Philosophy requires dialogue about what you are learning. Thus 30% of your course grade will reflect the quantity and quality of your efforts to engage with your peers in philosophical discussions about the good life. Deadlines are on the course schedule. Each discussion forum will be worth 5% and you will be evaluated on the quantity and quality of your participation, as well as your professionalism (i.e., your ability to meet deadlines, proofread your work, etc.).

### Surveys: 15%

You will take 6 surveys during the semester. Questions are designed to have you engage in self-reflection regarding your own conceptions of the good life and how these beliefs are (or are not) embodied in your choices and actions. You will not be evaluated on the content of your answers but simply on your efforts to take the time to reflect each week. Surveys are untimed to give you as much time as you like to think about the questions. However, you must complete the survey by deadline. Deadlines are on the calendar. Each survey is worth 2.5% and you will receive full marks for each one you complete.

### Final exam: 25%

A final exam will consist of both objective and open-ended (e.g. short answer and/or essay) questions. It will be a comprehensive exam designed to assess your ability to understand, compare and contrast, and synthesize course material. See course schedule for date. As with quizzes, your final exam will be timed and open book.

## Grading Policies:

I use a plus/minus scale for grading as follows:

A (Exceptional, Outstanding, Wow!)	93% or better	C (Satisfactory, Meets expectations)	73-76%
A-	90-92%	C-	70-72%
B+	87-89%	D+	67-69%

B (Very good, exceeds expectations)	83-86%	D (Below satisfactory, fails to meet basic expectations)	63-66%
B-	80-82%	D-	60-62%
C+	77-79%	F (Fail)	Less than 60%

### **Academic Integrity:**

There is a zero tolerance policy for cheating and plagiarism. Cheating occurs when someone else does your work for you or gives you test answers, etc. Plagiarism occurs when you quote or paraphrase someone else's words or borrow their ideas and fail to cite your source. It is a form of cheating because this failure (whether intentional or unintentional) represents someone else's work as your own. It is an infraction of the student code of conduct and will result in a referral to the Office of Student conduct and an automatic "F" on that assignment. If you have questions regarding when or how to cite something, please consult the MLA style guide, the University Writing Center, or your professor.

### **Disability and other accommodations:**

If you need accommodations due to a learning or physical disability, please contact the Student Accessibility Services who will inform me how to best provide individualized accommodations consistent with your documented disability. If you need accommodations due to Covid-19 or other unforeseen circumstances, please contact me as soon as possible so we can work something out.

### **Late Submissions:**

Late submissions will not be given full credit unless you have an excuse recognized by UCF policy or other unavoidable circumstance. As long as the module remains open (1 week) you may submit late work for partial credit.

### **Extra-credit:**

Do not ask for extra-credit. Do your best throughout the class and you will not need it. If I decide a substantial portion of the class would benefit from an additional opportunity, it will be offered to everyone. If you have accommodation needs, please see "Disability and other accommodations" above. Learning accommodations are different from extra-credit opportunities.

### **Federal Financial Aid Regulation:**

All faculty members are required to document students' engagement in the course based on their academic activity at the beginning of each semester. In order to document that you have begun this course, the introductory discussion forum assignment included in this module must be completed within the first week of classes (or, if adding the course late, as soon as you have access to the course). Failure to complete this assignment prior to the deadline may result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid.

## **Course Schedule:**

Specific topics and assignments are below: Note that I have set the course up with regular deadlines, as follows:

**Mondays:** A new module opens

**Thursdays:** Reading quizzes are due


**Fridays:** Your first discussion posting is due

**Sundays:** Deadline for the remainder of your discussion postings. Your self-reflection survey is also due.

**Note:** You can *always* complete required tasks in advance of the deadline and I encourage this. When you wait until the last minute, crises arise and technology may fail you. Please avoid last minute crises by starting your work earlier in the week!

## Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Mon May 17, 2021	 <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307313&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">Module 1 Opens: Introductions and Choices</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307313&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307313&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090</a> )	12am
	 <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307310&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">Summer A begins</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307310&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307310&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090</a> )	12am
Thu May 20, 2021	 <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077867">Quiz 1: Syllabus, Student Protocols and Chang</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077867">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077867</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Fri May 21, 2021	 <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307312&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">Drop/Swap deadline</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307312&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307312&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090</a> )	12am
	 <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077873">Introductions</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077873">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077873</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Sun May 23, 2021	 <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307306&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">Module 1 closes</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307306&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307306&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090</a> )	12am
	 <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077865">What I Value 1</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077865">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077865</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Mon May 24, 2021	 <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307302&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">Module 2 Opens: What is the Good Life?</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307302&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307302&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090</a> )	12am
Thu May 27, 2021	 <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077863">Quiz 2: What is the Good Life?</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077863">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077863</a> )	due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	Due
Fri May 28, 2021	 <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077874">Aristotle's Values and Our Own</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077874">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077874</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Sun May 30, 2021	 <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307307&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">Module 2 closes</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307307&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307307&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090</a> )	12am
	 <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077869">What I Value 2</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077869">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077869</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Mon May 31, 2021	 <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2315846&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">Memorial day</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2315846&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2315846&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090</a> )	12am
	 <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307301&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">Module 3 opens: Maintaining the Good Life</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307301&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307301&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090</a> )	12am
Thu Jun 3, 2021	 <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077871">Quiz 3: Maintaining a Good Life</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077871">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077871</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Fri Jun 4, 2021	 <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077875">Education and the Good Life: Confucius</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077875">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077875</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Sun Jun 6, 2021	 <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307305&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">Module 3 closes</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307305&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307305&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090</a> )	12am
	 <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077868">What I Value 3</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077868">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077868</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Mon Jun 7, 2021	 <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307300&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">Module 4: Sharing the Good Life</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307300&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307300&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090</a> )	12am
Thu Jun 10, 2021	 <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307309&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">Withdrawal deadline</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307309&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307309&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090</a> )	12am
	 <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077866">Quiz 4: Sharing a Good Life</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077866">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077866</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Fri Jun 11, 2021	 <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077876">Love and the Good Life</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077876">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077876</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Sun Jun 13, 2021	 <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307314&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">Module 4 closes</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307314&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307314&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090</a> )	12am

Date	Details	Due
	 <a href="#">What I Value 4</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077872">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077872</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Mon Jun 14, 2021	 <a href="#">Module 5 opens: Fighting for the Good Life</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307299&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307299&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090</a> )	12am
Thu Jun 17, 2021	 <a href="#">Quiz 5: Fighting for the Good Life</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077864">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077864</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Fri Jun 18, 2021	 <a href="#">Social Justice Struggles and the Good Life</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077877">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077877</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Sun Jun 20, 2021	 <a href="#">Module 5 closes</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307315&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307315&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090</a> )	12am
	 <a href="#">What I Value 5</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077870">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077870</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Mon Jun 21, 2021	 <a href="#">Module 6 opens: Wrapping Up</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307298&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307298&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090</a> )	12am
Wed Jun 23, 2021	 <a href="#">Final exam opens</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307316&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307316&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090</a> )	12am
	 <a href="#">Module 6 closes</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307304&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307304&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090</a> )	12am
Fri Jun 25, 2021	 <a href="#">Farewells</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077878">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077878</a> )	due by 11:59pm
	 <a href="#">Final Exam</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077861">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077861</a> )	due by 11:59pm
	 <a href="#">What I Value 6</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077862">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1380090/assignments/7077862</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Wed Jun 30, 2021	 <a href="#">Grades due to Registrar</a> ( <a href="https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307303&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090">https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2307303&amp;include_contexts=course_1380090</a> )	12am