Welcome to class. Here is some basic information on the course:

**Class Starting Date:** 8/25  
**Class Ending Date:** 12/13  
**Class Description:** Topical introduction to the problems of philosophy including practical applications of philosophical views towards everyday life. The course will investigate the theory of knowledge, ethics and morality, the nature of reality, and the problems of free will and determinism, amongst other concerns.

**Textbook and Access code information, including costs:**  
1. Norman Melchert, *The Great Conversation*, 7th Edition- cost varies; **Note This is a new edition**  
2. Gaarder –*Sophie’s World*; any paperback edition- cost varies .  
Texts are absolutely necessary for the course. Students are expected to have the texts by the first day that the course begins .

**Other Course Materials Required:** None

**Initial instructions for beginning of class:** Students are required to sign on within the first three days of classes and to complete requested orientation work. Students who do not sign in will be dropped and students from the wait list will be allowed to replace dropped students. If you are a first time user of Blackboard, read the Distance Learning Help material for assistance. Make sure you provide currently used email address as advisories will be sent to students using email .  
Note that if there is a block on your registration or a problems with your registration , you will not be able to sign on for the course until you are cleared. This must be done through admissions and records.

We will move quickly through the reading and assignments. It is very important that students allocate sufficient time to keep up with the reading and assignments.  
As assignments are time-sensitive, it is essential that students are aware of assignment deadlines and work in a timely manner. I strongly advise that students plan to turn in their assignments before the deadline. When the assignment deadline is past, the link automatically closes and late assignments are not accepted.  
Reliable access to a internet connected computer is necessary. In case of personal computer malfunction, it will be expected that the student will gain access to another computer such as available in campus computing labs and public libraries.

If you are travelling outside of the area or outside the country, you want to be certain that you will be able to have reliable computer access .

Students who are enrolled after the second week of the class will receive a W on their transcript if they withdraw or are administratively withdrawn. See the college policy regarding the limit of ‘W’ grades available. Prolonged lack of activity, failure to
participate in the class on a regular basis, may count for non-attendance and lead to a drop or withdrawal.

**Testing regulations (included proctoring guidelines link):** All work is online. Regular writing and discussion sessions. Final exam is comprehensive and will be taken online. More specifics will be provided at the beginning of the course.

**Course Management System Information:** Entirely Blackboard

**Student Learning Outcomes:** The presentation and assignments in this course are designed so that a student who expends reasonable effort should be able to: Explain the core problems (or questions) in philosophy and why they matter. Critically evaluate competing viewpoints in relation to the philosophical questions that are being investigated. Synthesize and justify their own viewpoints on philosophical problems and questions studied.

**Useful Links:*** Useful Links: - Blackboard log in:  

**Other:**

**DSPS Information:** DSPS information relating to testing and timing should be provided at the beginning of the course.