**Subject:** Philosophy  
**Course Number:** 101  
**Section Number:** All Sections  
**Name of Class:** Introduction to Philosophy  
**Instructor:** Dr. Michael McMahan  
**E-mail:** michael.mcmahan@canyons.edu  
**Semester:** Spring 2015  
**Class Starting Date:** February 9  
**Class Ending Date:** June 4

**Class Description:** Course Materials: Course Overview and Syllabus Philosophy 101, Introduction to Philosophy, Spring 2015, section 13690  
Dr. Michael McMahan  
* Intro to Philosophy  
**Objectives:**  
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.  
Additional benefits from this class include learning:  
- Key figures and issues of western and non-western philosophy  
- How to improve the depth of your understanding of key issues of human concern  
- How to present powerful arguments and how to better understand arguments you're presented with  
- How to improve your grades and understanding in other courses.  
- How to improve your thinking and become a more reasonable and reflective individual  

**REQUIRED TEXTS**  
1. Melchert - The Great Conversation, 7th edition  
2. GAARTEN, SOPHIES WORLD  
3. Online Sessions- Online assignments consist of Writing, Discussion, and Quizzes. Each assignment is posted in the Assignment area of the Course, from there you will use different Blackboard tools to complete your work.  
4. Online assignments are based on required Reading Assignments from the class text. These are listed in the Assignments area. These are listed by date. Assignments must be completed by their due date or they will not be accepted.  
4. Extra Credit - The only permissible extra credit for the class will be announced after the midpoint of the course.  
5. Exams - The class will have a required online final exam on the scheduled date, no midterm. There will be review material for the exam available online. Be certain to arrange ahead of time for reliable internet access and the needed internet access. The Final exam is given only at the designated time.  
6. Problems - If you have technical problems or questions about class procedures, you should consult the Student Guide. If you still have questions, use the Private Message link within the online class to contact, or if you are unable to do that, e-mail me at: michael.mcmahan@canyons.edu  

**Testing and Grading**  
Your grade will be based on your online work (writing assignments, quizzes, and discussion participation) and the final exam. The final exam is comprehensive and covers material provided on the course reviews which are posted online. The exam is done in-class at the provided time. Points are given for participating in the online discussions by your responding to the provided instructor questions and by your comments and remarks to other participating students.  

**Point Assignments**  
- Writing Assignments: 9 assignments, 400 pts total  
- Online Discussion and Quizzes: 300 pts total (Quizzes-150pts, Discussion Board-150 pts)  
- Final Exam: 400 pts

**Course Total**  
1100 pts (Approximate, May vary according to assignments)  
Course Grade A 1100-980  
B 979-950  
C 949-900  
D 899-700  
F 699-000
Assignments will each be open for an indicated time period. The closing time is always 11:30 pm. Writing assignments can be saved and completed by the expiration date. Once the expiration date is passed you will no longer be able to return to the assignment. The expiration time is when you need to have the assignment submitted not being worked upon. Quizzes are also open for the indicated time period and may be retaken up until the expiration date. Discussion topics are located in the 'Discussion Board' area and should be worked upon during the time period that they are assigned for. These assignments are kept open in case of the need to make late responses. The assignment will always indicate if you are being asked for just your response or also to respond to others. MISSED ASSIGNMENT: IF YOU FAIL TO MAKE THE DEADLINE FOR ONE OF THE WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS, YOU MAY SUBMIT ONE AND ONLY ONE ASSIGNMENT LATE BY NOTIFYING ME AND USING EMAIL TO TURN IN YOUR ASSIGNMENT. THIS OPPORTUNITY DOES NOT APPLY TO THE ORIENTATION ASSIGNMENT AND TO THE QUIZZES (QUIZZES ARE NOT REOPENED IF YOU MISS)

**Textbook and Access code information, including costs:** REQUIRED TEXTS- 1. Melchert - The Great Conversation, 7th edition; GAARTEN, SOPHIES WORLD SEE College Bookstore for current pricing

**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. 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.

**Testing regulations (included proctoring guidelines link):** Exam is online. Students must make arrangements to take the exam at its published time.

**Course Management System Information:** BB9

**Student Learning Outcomes:** See above

**Useful Links:**

**Other:**

**DSPS Information:**