Honolulu Community College
General Education – DIVERSIFICATION DESIGNATION
Certification and Recertification
Application Form
Fall 2012

APPLICANT: Judy Y. Sokei

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COURSE ALPHA and NUMBER: Phil 202

COURSE TITLE: Introduction to Philosophy: Asian Tradition

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF SECTIONS:
Fall: 1
Spring: 1

APPLICATION IS FOR:
☐ New Course ☐ Modified Course ☐ Existing Course ☐ Re-designation

☐ Certification ☑ Re-Certification. Date of last certification:

DIVERSIFICATION AREA DESIGNATION SOUGHT:
☐ DA (Arts) ☐ DP (Physical Sciences)
☐ DB (Biological Sciences) ☐ DS (Social Sciences)
X DH (Humanities) ☐ DY (Laboratory)
☐ DL (Literature and Language)

What percentage of the CONTENT of this course focuses on this diversification area? 100%

What percentage of CLASS MEETINGS focuses on this diversification area? 100%
1. **Hallmarks and SLOs.** Please explain how course-specific SLOs align with the diversification area’s hallmarks.

   The following are DH (Humanities) Hallmarks:

   **DH.1 uses the terminology of historical, philosophical, language or religious studies.**

   Philosophy 202 explores Asian philosophies and attempts to compare them with Western philosophies in regards to the “self.” The course begins with the Bhagavad Gita and Arjuna’s personal dilemma. The course takes the students through different views or definitions of the “self,” and how it strives to live the best possible life. For example, both Socrates and the Buddha encourage individuals to remove desires; however, Socrates’ motto to “Know Thyself” does not lead to an egoless self found in Buddhism. Because this course is about the individuals, as portrayed in various philosophies, the terminologies used in metaphysics, ontology, and epistemology, will be referred to constantly.

   Philosophy 202 SLOs that address DH.1: #1, #2, #3, #6, #7

   **DH.2 involves texts, artifacts, concepts, processes, theories or issues of concern in these studies.**

   In Philosophy 202, students will read excerpts from primary sources (e.g., the Gita, the Analects, the Tao te Ching, the Symposium) and use secondary sources to supplement our understanding of the philosophies. Through film clips and documentaries, that depict modern day individuals who embrace these ancient philosophies, students will be able to see how such philosophies of the past influence their thinking today.

   Philosophy 202 SLOs that address DH.2: #1, #2, #3, #4

   **DH.3 demonstrates inquiry that involves the methods of study, reflection, evidence-gathering, and argumentation that are employed in these studies.**

   The course will begin by providing students with a brief introduction to logic, both inductive and deductive, as well as a brief introduction to common fallacies. In addition, alternative ways of knowing, such as instinct, feelings, and intuition will be discussed. By establishing these epistemological tools at the outset and using the Socratic method in daily discussions, the instructor aims to equip students with the skills to critically examine each philosophies encountered throughout the semester. Through class discussions and reflection papers, students will develop their critical thinking skills. Papers will require arguments complete with premises and conclusions, and devoid of fallacies learned.

   Philosophy 202 SLOs that address DH.3: #5, #6, #7
Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) for Phil 202. Students will be able to:
1. identify and discuss the ideas of some of the most important Eastern philosophers such as Lao Tzu, Confucius, and the Buddha and how the “self” lives the best possible life
2. identify and discuss some of the most important ideas found on the “self” in the Upanishads and the Bhagavad Gita.
3. compare and contrast Asian philosophies with Western thoughts.
4. demonstrate knowledge of reasoning used to support these philosophies as well as the flaws inherent in them.
5. learn and apply philosophical tools to develop critical thinking, reading, writing, and speaking skills to help test beliefs.
6. engage and discuss basic concepts in primary areas of philosophy: metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, social and political philosophy.
7. gain experience in the presentation and critical evaluation of ideas with peers through journals and discussions.

The SLOs for Phil 202 focuses on Asian philosophy, and its major historical figures. Through paper assignments as well as quizzes and exams, students will demonstrate, among other things, a basic understanding of Asian epistemology. Written assignments will require citations from texts, and the use of particular terminology and concepts discussed in class. A student will be able to demonstrate a way of understanding his or her world in terms of feelings or intuition rather than logic alone. In this process, DH.1, DH.2, and DH.3 will be met.

2. **Assessment strategies.** Explain assessment strategies you have used (or plan to use) to measure the degree to which students exit the course with the course-specific SLOs. If there are multiple sections of the course taught by different instructors, please discuss how assessment is (or will be) carried out across instructors.

Multiple quizzes, journal assignments, and a major exam will be administered throughout the semester. Class participation and oral discussions of papers will be part of their grade. The student’s final grade will be one way to measure the degree to which he or she has met the course-specific SLOs. In addition, student evaluations will be conducted at the end of the semester, which will indicate to the instructor how effectively the SLOs were implemented.

3. **Assessment of assessment.** How have you used (or plan to use) the assessment findings to modify or improve this course? If there are multiple sections of the course taught by different instructors, please discuss how review of assessment results is (or will be) carried out across instructors.

Student exams and surveys will be read for pedagogical effectiveness, and suggestions for course improvement will be carefully considered to revise course syllabus. Assessment of assessment will be completed once a semester.
DIVERSIFICATION BOARD DECISION:

☐ Approved
   Re-Certification Due: ________________

☐ Not approved
   If not approved, reasons for disapproval:

Diversification Board Chair Signature: ________________________________

Date: ________________
INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY
Asian Tradition
Philosophy 202
FALL 2013

Instructor: Judy Y. Sokei
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Phone: 845-9425 (and voice mail)
Office hours: TR 10:30-11:30
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Recommended Preparation: Reading and writing skills at the college level.
Required Text: Course packet, available for pick up at the HCC Book Store.

Course Description & Purpose: The purpose is to enable students to understand, appreciate, and above all, to feel that there are cultures totally different from ours in the West. Through the study of Eastern and Western philosophies, the bridge between these two worlds and their belief systems can become a reality. The course is based on the assumption that Eastern and Western philosophies may be regarded as the study of man in his inner and outer aspects. These two aspects of man can be delineated by: the way of intuition (Eastern), and the way of rationalism (Western). This course focuses on the combination of the two, or a third way. “This course fulfills a humanities diversification (DH) requirement for AA degrees at HCC and UHM.”

Student Learning Outcomes. Students will be able to:

- identify and discuss the ideas of some of the most important Eastern philosophers such as Lao Tzu, Confucius, and the Buddha and how the “self” lives the best possible life.
- identify and discuss some of the most important ideas found on the “self” in the Upanishads and the Bhagavad Gita.
- compare and contrast Asian philosophies with Western thoughts in regards to the “self.”
- demonstrate knowledge of reasoning used to support these philosophies as well as the flaws inherent in them.
- learn and apply philosophical tools to develop critical thinking, reading, writing, and speaking skills to help test beliefs.
- engage and discuss basic concepts in primary areas of philosophy: metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, social and political philosophy.
- gain experience in the presentation and critical evaluation of ideas with peers through journals and discussions.

Course Requirements:
- Readings. You are expected to complete all assigned readings by their due date and be prepared for class discussions. All readings will be taken from the required text.
- Reflection journals. You will be required to write three short journals (1 page, typewritten, 1.5 spaced, Times New Roman, font size 12) answering a philosophical question assigned in class. Your journal should reflect the philosophical theory being discussed in class as well as your own reasoning on the topic based on experiences or values. You will be given a week to complete this assignment. NO LATE journals will be accepted. Do not email your journal unless you clear it with me first. If for any reason you cannot attend a class, you are responsible for what is due, finding out what went on and what the assignment is. Email me or ask a classmate. Plagiarism Policy: Plagiarism, or stealing another person’s
written work, will not be tolerated and can lead to expulsion from the U.H. system. If you decide to use someone else's writing, put it in quotation marks, and acknowledge the author in a footnote or bibliography. See me if you have questions.

- **Quizzes.** There will be 5 quizzes about every two-three weeks covering material presented the previous weeks. These quizzes will include fill in the blanks, multiple-choice questions, or short essays. There will be **NO MAKE-UPS OF QUIZZES.** Occasional pop quizzes will be given. The points accrued from the pop quizzes may go toward your final grade if your final average is a “C” or below.

- **Final Examination.** There will be a final exam given at the end of the semester. This exam will include all material covered throughout the course. Many of the questions on this exam will be taken from your quizzes and essays, so use them as study guides.

- **Class Participation.** Class discussion is a significant part of this course. We will all have a chance to share our thoughts in class. Because speaking in class may be difficult for some of us, we will practice intellectual safety and show respect for one another. **Class attendance is very important,** and will be part of your final grade.

- **Use of Email (Executive Policy E2.213).** The Office of the Vice President of Student Affairs has instated a policy wherein: “Students are responsible for checking their email account frequently and consistently to remain current with University communications. They are expected to monitor and manage their email storage quota to ensure that their mailboxes are not saturated and are able to receive new messages.” For this course, you are required to check your e-mail DAILY to keep up with important correspondences. I will be posting important messages through Laulima.

- **No Cell Phone Usage allowed during class,** unless you clear it with me for educational purposes. All cell phone ringers must be turned off while in class and there is **ABSOLUTELY NO TEXTING** allowed. If you are caught texting, you will be marked absent for the day. If your cell phone goes off, there will be punishment, though not one that infringes on your eighth amendment rights.

**Evaluation:**

Your final grade will be based on five quizzes (20 pts. each = 100 pts.), three short journals (10 pts each = 30 points), a final exam (100 pts.), and class attendance (30 pts.). If your final grade is a “C” or below, you will have a chance to bring it up one letter grade through extra credit assignments and pop quizzes.

90-100%—A  
80-89%—B  
70-79%—C  
60-69%—D  
59% and below—F, N or Inc.

Note: the “N” and “Inc.” grades are given only for special circumstances, and you need to speak to me beforehand.

Qualified students with disabilities will receive appropriate accommodations in this course. Please speak with me after class or in my office. Students with disabilities may obtain information on available services online at [http://honolulu.hawaii.edu/disability](http://honolulu.hawaii.edu/disability). Specific inquiries may be made by contacting Student ACCESS at (808) 844-2392 voice/text, by e-mail at access@hcc.hawaii.edu, or simply stopping by Student ACCESS located in Bldg. 5, Rm. 107B.
Tentative Course Schedule (weekly)

Week 1: Introduction to Asian Philosophy
   1. Why Study Asian Philosophy
   2. The Good Thinker's Toolkit (i.e., WRAITEC)

Week 2: Introduction to Fallacies, and Adequate Reasoning Skills
   1. Bad Reasoning (i.e., fallacies)
   2. Good Reasoning (i.e., inductive and deductive)

Week 3: Other Ways of Knowing
   1. Intuitionism, feelings, dreams
   2. Epistemology

Week 4: Indian Philosophy: Vedic
   1. The Upanishads
   2. The Upanishads

Week 5: Indian Philosophy: Hinduism
   1. The Bhagavad Gita: Arjuna's dilemma
   2. The Bhagavad Gita: Krishna's teachings

Week 6: Joseph Campbell (Film) & discussion
   1. The Mask of Eternity
   2. Authentic self

Week 7: Socrates: Know Thyself
   1. The Symposium
   2. The Symposium

Week 8: Lao Tzu and the Dao de Ching
   1. Dao de Ching
   2. Wu Wei

Week 9: Confucius and the Analects
   1. The Analects
   2. The Self in Society

Week 10: The Buddha: Egolessness
   1. Three Realities: Egolessness
   2. Four Noble Truths

Week 11: Film: "The Little Buddha"

Week 12: Aristotle: on Purpose and Happiness.
   1. The Nichomachean Ethics
   2. Purpose and Happiness

Week 13: The Existentialist: Kierkegaard & Sartre
   1. The inauthentic self
   2. The authentic self

Week 14: Tibetan Philosophy: Kundun (Film)

Week 15: Japanese Philosophy: Zen Buddhism