



Dominican International School
台北市私立道明外僑學校
No. 76, Dazhi Street, Taipei (104042), Taiwan, R.O.C.
10464 臺北市中山區大直街 76 號



COURSE SYLLABUS

School Year	2025-2026
Subject	PHILOSOPHY OF THE HUMAN PERSON
Grade Level	GRADE 9
Teacher	JAYNO P JABONILLO
Email	jjabonillo@dishs.tp.edu.tw

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

“To one who has faith, no explanation is necessary. To one without faith, no explanation is possible.” - St. Thomas of Aquinas

The *Philosophy of the Human Person* course for grade 9 students is anchored on the three Pillars of the Campus Ministry Department namely: the “Word” for Doctrine, the “Witness” for the valuing and application of the concept learned, and the “Worship” for the celebration of faith. The harmony of these three pillars will help ensure holistic formation of the students.

This course will commence with the basic understanding of Philosophy exploring the richness of its origin and its significant impact to our civilization. This Philosophical background will lead the students to understand the concept of God. Further, students are expected to learn the wisdom and thoughts of the renowned philosophers from the ancient world down to contemporary thought. The students then will relate their valued learnings from these thoughts and relate them to their respective lives.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: By the end of the semester/school year, (SWBAT) Students will be able to:

WORD: To make sure that learners are able to understand and comprehend all the basic concepts of all philosophical landscapes and contents. This is to make them realize how significant and essential Philosophy is in our life, especially in our present time.

WITNESS: As learners are encouraged to understand the value of Philosophy, they are also encouraged to seek the truth as it is the primary goal of all philosophical endeavors. This is the truth that is humanitarian and universal. Learners should become bearers of truth that is motivated by love.



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WORSHIP: As learners aim for the truth and become bearers of truth, truth itself will lead and guide them to the real source of truth, who is God. And by the same truth, learners will become truthful and sincere to their beliefs in God who became man and saved us all from our sins.

PRIMARY TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER RESOURCES:

Aguas, Jove Jim (2014). *Person, Action and Love: The Philosophical Thoughts of Karol Wojtyla (John Paul II)*. University of Santo Tomas (UST).

Articulo, Archimedes (2004). *Moral Philosophy*. Great Books Publishing.

Aquinas, Thomas (1981). *Summa Theologica*. Trans. Fathers of the English Dominican Province. Notre Dame, IN: Christian Classics.

Co, Alfredo (2009). *Under the Bo-Tree... On the Lotus Flower: Philosophy of the Compassionate Buddha*. University of Santo Tomas (UST).

Lawhead, William F. (2013). *The Philosophical Journey: An Interactive Approach*. (6th Ed.). McGraw-Hill Education.

Magee, Bryan (1998). *The Story of Philosophy: A Concise Introduction to the World's Greatest Thinkers and their Ideas*. DK Publishing.

Martin, Matthew and Eric W. Cowan (2019). *Remembering Martin Buber and the I-Thou in counseling*. American Counseling Association.
<https://ct.counseling.org/2019/05/remembering-martin-buber-and-the-i-thou-in-counseling/>

Montana, Robert (2015). *Thomistic Ethics: A Beacon in the Contemporary Moral Landscape*. University of Santo Tomas (UST).

National Geographic Education. *Taoism*.
<https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/taoism/>

P.L.E. Thomas Aquinas, "The Five Ways" *Philosophy of Religion*.
<https://philosophy.lander.edu/intro/aquinas.shtml>

Russell, Bertrand (1912). *The Problem of Philosophy*. Oxford University Press.

St. Augustine of Hippo (400 CE). *The Confession of St. Augustine*. Trans. J.G. Pilkington M.A.
<https://ia800301.us.archive.org/1/items/confessionsofsta00augu/confessionsofsta00augu.pdf>



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Online References:

Aguas, Jove Jim Sanchez. (2020, May 11). *PhiloAnthro Man as Intersubjective p3* [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QcW4-zHicC4>

Cogito. (2021, May 4). *Buddhism Explained* [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=INdgT6VCuu0>

CrashCourse. (2016, February 9). *What is Philosophy? Crash Course Philosophy #1* [Video]. YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1A_CAKYt3GY

Forty Movie. (2022, March 30). *Spider-Man: No Way Home* [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mqX6roYTJd8>

Gregory, Jason. (2019, October 27). *The Taoist Natural Way vs. Confucian Social Control* [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Dz1FgcCbwk>

HinduismTodayVideos. (2013, June 14). *he History of Hindu India (English narration and English subtitles)* [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nB2toz5p5Mw>

Philosophy Overdose. (2022, May 28). *Sartre & Beauvoir on Feminism & Relationships* [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xll779nolHo>

RosenzweigBenjamin. (2009, September 12). *Monty Python Philosophy Football* [Video]. YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LfduUFF_i1A

TaiwanPlus News. (2022, December 15). *Taiwan's Poverty Line: How 1 Bill Could Help 600,000 People* [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OCwG9-zs90U>

GRADING SYSTEM/ASSESSMENT:

Part 1: Academic (50 %)

Section A: Homework, Seatwork, Projects.....16.66%

NOTE: Attendance will be included in the RS grading system.

Section B: Quizzes.....16.67%

Section C. Major Quarterly Exam.....16.67%

Part 2: Deportment/Behavior (50 %)

- Truthful.....19 points
- Organized.....19 points
- Reflective.....19 points
- Courageous.....19 points
- Helpful.....19 points

TOTAL.....95 points

Note: The highest possible grade students can get every quarter in Deportment is 95 points in conformity with the current grading system. Students are guided how to do deportment self-evaluation truthfully and reflectively.



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- *The Google Classroom code will be given to all students to access all the Religious Studies' learning guide and tasks.*
- *There will be NO Homework to be given during the weekend except during major exams or quizzes. It is to give students a chance to spend quality time with their family.*
- *The Project D (Detention) significantly affects the Department Grade of students.*
- *Please always check Google Classroom for homework and announcements.*

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Academic Dishonesty means employing a method or technique or engaging in conduct in an academic endeavor that contravenes the standards of ethical integrity expected at DIS. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to the following:

- Purposely incorporating the ideas, words of sentences, paragraphs, or parts thereof without appropriate acknowledgment and representing the product as one's work;
- Representing another's intellectual work, such as photographs, paintings, drawings, sculpture, research, or the like, as one's own, including failure to attribute content to an AI.
- Employing a tutor, using Artificial Intelligence without acknowledgment, getting a parent to write a paper or do an assignment, and paying for an essay to be written by someone else and presented as the student's work.
- Committing any act that a reasonable person would conclude, when informed of the evidence, to be a dishonest means of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work.

Any act of academic dishonesty will result in an automatic zero on the entire assignment/learning task.



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First Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week/Date	Topic/Projects/Assessments
Week 1 (August 12 to 15) 4 days of class 12-General Assembly at the Gymnasium 15-Opening Mass & Assumption of Our Lady	Welcome back to school, Dominicans! • Subject Course Orientation • Course contents and requirements • Grading system (See the syllabus.) • Rules and Regulations • Review: DIS Vision-Mission and Philosophy • D' TORCH values and Dominican Ethos • Basic Prayers • Students' Profile • Practice for the Mass • Review: Parts of the Mass
Week 2 (August 18 to 22) 18-St. Dominic de Guzman Feast Day Celebration) Integrated during the Monday Assembly 20- House Shirt & Blue Jeans Day Starts 22- Club Orientation and Club Sign-up	1ST QUARTER Foundations of Philosophy Topics: (1) Etymological and Academic definition of Philosophy Students' Engagement: Watch: <i>What is Philosophy?: Crash Course Philosophy #1</i> , What is Philosophy?: Crash Course Philosophy #1 Assessment: (1) About St. Dominic de Guzman (2) Activity (Symbol of Philosophy) (3) Summative Test
Week 3 (August 25 to 29) 27- High School Talk - "Kickstart Your Success: Winning Mindsets for a Great School Year" 29- First Club Meeting	Topics: (2) Significance in Studying Philosophy Students' Engagement: Read: <i>The Value of Philosophy</i> by Bertrand Russell, https://openeducationalberta.ca/saitintrophil/chapter/the-value-of-philosophy/



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	Pedagogy: Socratic Method Assessment: (1) Journal Writing (2) Summative Test
Week 4 (September 1 to 5) 1- Launching of the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation (During the Monday Assembly) 1-AP Registration 3- AEO Fall University Fair 5- House Ceremony	Topics: (3) Six (6) Branches of Philosophy Students' Engagement: Watch: Branches of Philosophy by Philosophy KUKPS Pedagogy: Socratic Method Assessment: (1) Homework (Branches of Philosophy) (2) Activity (On Care for Creation) (3) Summative Test
Week 5 (September 8 to 12) 8- Holy Mass: Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary & VIP Induction 10- House Mini Games Start	Topics: (4) Five (5) Theories on Truth Students' Engagement: What is the Truth? (Question and Answer) Pedagogy: Socratic Method Assessment: (1) Journal Writing
Week 6 (September 15 to 19) 15- Catholic Bridge Program for all New Students (After the Monday Assembly at the Gymnasium) 19- Athletics / Sports	Topics: (5) Six (6) Elements of Critical Thinking Students' Engagement: Case Analysis Pedagogy: Socratic Method Assessment:



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Orientation 19- PSAT/NMSQT Registration deadline	(1) Activity (Presentation on Case Analysis) (2) Summative Test (3) Self-Evaluation for Department Grade
Week 7 (September 22 to 26) 22- Celebration of the International Day of Peace-Peace Pole Ceremony (During the Monday Assembly) Teacher's Day Celebration & 26-Teachers' Appreciation 26- Grade 12 Career Educational Trip 24 to 26-Pre-Exam Days	Review of the Topics for the Quarterly Examination: (1) Etymological and academic definition of Philosophy (2) Significance in studying Philosophy (3) Branches of Philosophy (4) Theories on Truth (5) Elements of Critical Thinking Students' Engagement: Recitation (<i>Question and Answer</i>) Assessment: (1) Visit to the Peace Pole (2) One-on-one Conference (Department) (3) Bible Reflections
Week 8 (September 29 to October 3) 29- Launching of the Month of the Holy Rosary (During the Monday Assembly) Oct. 1-2- First Quarter Exam (half day)	1ST QUARTERLY EXAMINATION (Paper and Pen)
Oct. 3-DIS Teachers and Staff Recognition Day/ Record Day Recollection for Aunties and Uncles (no classes for students)	



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Second Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week/Date	Topic/Projects/Assessments
<i>6-Moon Festival (no classes)</i>	
<i>7-9 Teacher's Conference (no classes)</i>	
Week 1 (11) (October 13 to 17) 13- Second Quarter Begins 13- Start of New Applicant Enrollment for 2nd Semester 14- Visit of Mother Mary to Classrooms (During the morning prayer) 15- AP Exam Only Registration Deadline 15- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep 17- PSAT/NMSQT Digital Exam	PRELIMINARIES ● Rechecking of 1st Quarter Exam ● Showing of Grades ● Subject Course Orientation for 2nd Quarter ● Historical and Biblical Background of the Holy Rosary ● Marian Activities ● Other Matters/ Announcement
Week 2 (12) (October 20 to 24) 20- Jubilee: Marian Exhibit Opening (After the Monday Assembly) 20- Campus Safety Talk for Students 24- Book Fair (Senior Escape Room)	2ND QUARTER HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY Topics: (1) Basic similarities and dissimilarities of Western and Eastern/Oriental Philosophy Students' Engagement: Watch: Eastern Philosophy vs Western Philosophy: Key Differences Explained by Technology and Culture pcweb Pedagogy: Socratic Method Assessment: (1) Activity (Search for Women Philosophers)



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Week 3 (13) (October 27 to 31) 29- Grade 11 Career Educational Trip Oct. 31 to Nov. 1- Gr.6 SEL Camp	Topics: (2) Western Philosophy on Human Person (2.a) Ancient Greek (Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle) Students' Engagement: Read: Plato's <i>The Republic</i> Pedagogy: Socratic Method
Week 4 (14) (November 3 to 7) 3- Feast of St. Martin de Porres Mass (integrated during the Monday Assembly) 5- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep	Topics: CONTINUATION Students' Engagement: Read: Plato's <i>The Republic</i> Pedagogy: Socratic Method Assessment: (1) Seatwork (Compare and Contrast) (2) Journal Writing (3) Summative Test
Week 5 (15) (November 10 to 14) 14- Health Week 14- VIP-Parent Learning Community	Topics: (3) Western Philosophy on Human Person (3.a) Medieval (St. Augustine of Hippo and St. Thomas of Aquinas) Students' Engagement: Read: <i>The Confession of St. Augustine</i> , https://ia800301.us.archive.org/1/items/confessionsofsta00augu/confessionsofsta00augu.pdf Pedagogy: Socratic Method
Week 6 (16) (November 17 to 21) 17- Launching of Mental Health and Anti-Bullying Month 21- Young Shakespeare Play Writing and Performing Contest	Topics: CONTINUATION Students' Engagement: Read: <i>The Confession of St. Augustine</i> , https://ia800301.us.archive.org/1/items/confessionsofsta00augu/confessionsofsta00augu.pdf Pedagogy: Socratic Method



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	Assessment: (1) Journal Writing (2) Summative Test
Week 7 (17) (November 24 to 28) 24- Peace Pole Day (Monday Assembly) 24- Lighting of the Christmas Tree after school (Campus Min/ ECA/ D' Torch Orchestra/ Religious Studies) (Afternoon) 25-27- Pre-Exam Days 27- Thanksgiving Potluck after school for teachers and staff 27- Thanksgiving Family Day 28- Gr. 12 Second Quarter Exam	Topics: (4) Western Philosophy on Human Person (4.a) Modern (Rene Descartes) Students' Engagement: Recitation (<i>Question and Answer</i>) Pedagogy: Socratic Method Assessment: (1) Seatwork (Compare and Contrast) (2) Journal Writing (3) Summative Test
<i>Nov. 29 Invitation for All: The Jubilee Pilgrimage to Taipei (Saturday)</i>	
Week 8 (18) (December 1 to 5) 1- First Week of Advent: Lighting of First Advent Candle (During the Monday Assembly) 3- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep 5- Nativity Play (Collaboration with Campus Ministry) 5- Christmas Fair Whole Day	Topics: (5) Western Philosophy (5.a) Contemporary (Jean-Paul Sartre) Students' Engagement: Watch: <i>Sartre & Beauvoir on Feminism & Relationships</i> , https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xll779nolHo Assessment: (1) Journal Writing (2) Summative Test (3) Department Grade Self-Evaluation
Week 9 (19) (December 8 to 12) 8- Foundation Day	PROJECT-BASED ASSESSMENT



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Mass, cake ceremony,
and Class Party (half
day)
8- Solemnity of the
Immaculate
Conception
8- Second Week of
Advent
10- Gr. 12 Advent
Immersion
11 and 12- Second
Quarter Exam (half
day)

- (1) Similarities and Dissimilarities of Western and Eastern/Oriental Philosophy**
(2) Western Philosophy on Human Person
(2.a) Socrates, Plato & Aristotle
(2.b) St. Augustine of Hippo & St. Thomas of Aquinas
(2.c) Rene Descartes
(2.d) Jean-Paul Sartre

Assessment:

- (1) Checking of Notes
(2) Bible Reflections

December 13 Invitation for All: Advent Recollection @DIS (Saturday)

December 15 to January 2 Christmas Break

“Kindling the Light of Faith, Hope, and Love: The Legacy of St. Dominic de Guzmán”