

PHIL 10, “Introduction to Philosophy”  
Reality and Knowing  
\*\*ONLINE\*\*  
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What is the reality? How do I know that I know anything? These basic questions have an ancient and compelling history that dates back to approximately 500 BCE. This course will survey the history of these two core questions in philosophy. From the ancient Greeks to *The Matrix* and postmodern thinkers, this course will explore various approaches to understanding our place in the cosmos and what it means to be thinking beings.

We will cover readings from Plato and Aristotle to Descartes, Hume, Nietzsche, and Baudrillard.

Students will be introduced to the basic concepts of philosophical argument including the foundations of deductive structures and critical inquiry.

This course will develop academic writing and research skills culminating in a well-crafted, creative paper.

**GE/SJSU Studies Learning Outcomes:**

Students shall:

1. Recognize how significant works illuminate enduring human concerns.
2. Respond to such works by writing both research-based and personal responses.
3. Write clearly and effectively.
4. Examine significant works of the human intellect and imagination.
5. Understand the historical and cultural contexts in which such specific texts were created.