Course Description: What is a “basic philosophical question?” Why are you required to take a course on such questions? Is that all philosophy is – just the asking of questions and the identification of problems, with no real answers or solutions? Why is a university course concerned with basic questions – didn't you already go to elementary school? And after all, if some of these questions are so “basic,” then how is it that we do not yet have answers to them?

If these sort of questions are preoccupying you as you approach registration, then you're already thinking philosophically. This course is a general introduction to Western Philosophy and fundamental problems pertaining to truth, reality, time, existence, and God.

Reading will include Plato, Descartes, Rousseau, Nietzsche, and Alison Jaggar.