Department: Social Studies
Course Title: Intro to Philosophy
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Branches of Philosophy	5	August - September	What are the five branches of philosophy?	Logic Metaphysics Epistemology Ethics Aesthetics	- Close Reading - Critical thinking and analysis	RI.9-10.3 W.9-10.4 CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.5	Quizzes Prompt Responses	Quiz Written responses
Intro to Logic	2	September - October	What makes a logical argument sound and valid? What is inductive reasoning vs. deductive reasoning?	Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth Pre College Philosophy Course: https://cty.jhu.edu/cty-experience/courses/philosophy-phil	- Evaluation of logical, sound, and valid arguments - Recognizing fallacies	CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.3 RI.9-10.3	Logical puzzles Evaluate headlines/articles for logical congruence and contradiction. Construction of Truth Tables	Symbolic logic quiz. Spotting fallacies quiz.
Epistemology	3	October - November	What is a theory of knowledge? What is the difference between rationalism and empiricism?	Descartes - *Meditations on First Philosophy*	Close reading. Evaluation of logical reasoning.	CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.4 CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.6	Short response paragraphs. Reading checks.	Summary writing and argument analysis.
Metaphysics	3	November - December	What is existence? What is real?	Plato's Cave (from, *The Republic)*	Close reading. Argument formation.	CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.4 CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.3	Reading checks (quizzes) Discussion of modern analogies.	Essay/Project - Modern depictions and analogies of Plato's Cave.
Ethics	3	December - January	What are morals? How do we derive and defend the concepts of right and wrong?	Peter Singer - *All Animals are Equal* Peter Singer - *Famine, Affluence and Morality*	Close reading. Argument analysis and evaluation.	CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.5 CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.6	Reading checks and oral debates.	Response Essay evaluating Singer's arguments with those of contrary opinion.
Aesthetics	2	January	What makes something beautiful or ugly? Are these concepts universal? What is the nature and purpose of art?	Jean Paul Sartre - *Essays in Aesthetics*	Close reading. Application of ideas and concepts.	CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.6 CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.4	Reading checks and oral debates.	Presentation: Beauty and Ugliness vs. Cultural Relevance.