

Spring 2026
PHIL 10: “Introduction to Philosophy” GE Area: 3B
Section 03 TuTh 10:30-11:45AM in SH 435
Instructor: **Nathan Osborne**; Email: Nathan.osborne@sjsu.edu



Introduction to Philosophy is intended as a survey of the major areas and traditions of philosophy, and in this course we shall explore the discipline of Philosophy through the lens of one of the great themes that has seduced the imagination of humanity for millennia– “**Love.**” Love is a unique and intimate experience that acts as a mirror to the self, and through our investigation we will gain a greater insight to the potential transcendence we can gain from the bittersweet experience of Love (and loss).

In the course we shall explore the origin of our (Western) conception of love, look at love through the lustful eyes of the seducer as well as through the eyes of a hopeless romantic, discover the difference between “Authentic” and “Inauthentic” love, and finally we shall focus on the type of love that truly permeates our entire society – material love (we shall do this by examining the role capitalism plays in shaping how we view love, sex, and desire).

Throughout the course we shall look at the politics behind love, tackling both questions of gender and the issues it elicits as well as our role in combatting those issues.