***Class Diversity Statement!*** *“The topics that we’re covering in this class are often difficult, not just intellectually but emotionally. While I expect there will be rigorous discussion and differences of opinion in the course of our class discussions, I ask that you engage with each other using care and empathy for your classroom colleagues. Aim to disagree (and be prepared to support your point of view with credible, scholarly resources) without becoming disagreeable. In this class we will not shy away from the uncomfortable, but we will recognize triggers and respect your right to take a time out when you need one. Critically examining and assessing our most basic assumptions and values is not just one of the tasks of philosophy but is an activity vital to living an authentic (and your best!) life. I urge you to have the courage to experience the uncomfortable in this class. In exchange for your courage, I will work to ensure a classroom environment that supports your determination in taking these intellectual and emotional risks.  Some of you will have strong opinions based on religious or spiritual beliefs. This is expected and respected as long as we allow everyone a voice.  I welcome you to this class as my academic partner.”*