

Undergraduate Philosophy Classes – Spring 2018

PHIL 1000: Introduction to Philosophy

Introduces students to the most fundamental questions of human existence, either topically or through various major figures in philosophy. Topics may include free will, the mind-body problem, the nature of the self, the existence of God, knowledge of the external world, the nature of morality, the meaning of life. **A&S Core: Ideals & Values**

MWF 9:00-9:50, 10:00-10:50, 11:00-11:50, 12:00-12:50, 1:00-1:50, 2:00-2:50, 3:00-3:50, 4:00-4:50, TR 9:30-10:45, 12:30-1:45; recitations W 9:00-9:50, 10:00-10:50, 11:00-11:50

PHIL 1010: Introduction to Western Philosophy: Ancient

Develops three related themes: the emergence in antiquity of a peculiarly scientific mode of thinking; the place of religious belief within this developing scientific world view; and the force of ethical speculation within the culture and political climates of ancient Greece and Rome. **A&S Core: Historical Context**

MWF 11:00-11:50, 12:00-12:50, 1:00-1:50

PHIL 1020: Introduction to Western Philosophy: Modern

Introduces several philosophical texts and doctrines of 17th and 18th century Europe. Gives special attention to the connection between philosophical ideas and the wider historical milieu: social, political and literary. **A&S Core: Historical Context**

MWF 9:00-9:50, 10:00-10:50, 2:00-2:50, 3:00-3:50

PHIL 1100: Ethics

Introductory study of major philosophies on the nature of the good for humanity, principles of evaluation, and moral choice as they apply to contemporary moral problems. **A&S Core: Ideals & Values**

MWF 10:00-10:50, 12:00-12:50, 1:00-1:50, 3:00-3:50, TR 8:00-9:15, 9:30-10:45; recitations F 9:00-9:50, 10:00-10:50, 11:00-11:50

PHIL 1160: Introduction to Bioethics

Introduce students to topics in contemporary bioethics. No previous knowledge of science, philosophy, or bioethics will be presupposed. A primary goal will be to teach students how to think critically and write persuasively. **A&S Core: Ideals & Values**

MWF 2:00-2:50, 3:00-3:50

PHIL 1200: Contemporary Social Problems

Examines competing positions in debates over a wide variety of controversial moral, social and political issues. Topics may include: abortion, world poverty, animal rights, immigration, physician-assisted suicide, freedom of religion, hate speech, cloning, income inequality, pornography, gun rights, racial profiling, capital punishment, overpopulation, prostitution, drug legalization, torture. **A&S Core: Ideals & Values; U.S. Context**

MWF 9:00-9:50, 10:00-10:50, 12:00-12:50, 1:00-1:50, 2:00-2:50, TR 8:00-9:15, 11:00-11:50, 3:30-4:45; recitations M 9:00-9:50, 10:00-10:50, 11:00-11:50

PHIL 1400: Philosophy and the Sciences

Considers philosophical topics and concepts related to the natural sciences, such as the following: science and pseudo-science; scientific method; the nature of explanation, theory, confirmation, and falsification; the effect of science on basic concepts like mind, freedom, time, and causality; ethics of experimentation; and the relation of science to society. **A&S Core: Natural Science (Non-Sequence)**

MW 12:00-12:50; recitations F 9:00-9:50, 10:00-10:50

PHIL 1440: Critical Thinking

Introductory study of definition, informal fallacies and the principles and standards of correct reasoning. Provides practice in analyzing, evaluating and constructing frequently encountered types of arguments.

MWF 11:00-11:50; TR 2:00-3:15

PHIL 1500: Reading, Writing and Reasoning

Teaches students how to write argumentative papers. Each seminar will focus narrowly on some controversial topic. For example, one seminar might focus on the existence of God, whereas another might question whether we have free will. In all cases, a significant portion of the course will be devoted to learning how to write cogent argumentative papers about controversial topics. **A&S Core: Written Communication**

TR 11:00-12:15, 3:30-4:45

PHIL 1600: Philosophy and Religion

Philosophical introduction to some of the central concepts and beliefs of religious traditions, focusing particularly on the question of the existence of God and on the relation between religious beliefs and moral beliefs. **A&S Core: Ideals & Values**

MWF 8:00-8:50, 9:00-9:50

PHIL 1700: Philosophy and the Arts

Considers philosophic questions involved in the analysis and assessment of artistic experiences and of the objects with which the arts, including the literary arts, are concerned.

TR 2:00-3:15

PHIL 2140: Environmental Justice

Traditional and contemporary theories of justice are employed in order to critically analyze social and political issues that have important environmental dimensions. Assesses the relationship of justice and equity to the presuppositions of national and global environmental issues and policies.

MWF 12:00-12:50

PHIL 2200: Major Social Theories

Introductory study of major philosophies of the past in relation to political, economic, and social issues. **A&S Core: Ideals & Values**

MWF 11:00-11:50

PHIL 2220: Philosophy and Law

Considers philosophical issues related to law in general and the U.S. system in particular. Topics to be covered may address such questions as the following: What is the nature of law? What kinds of acts should the law prohibit (e.g., abortion, drug use, pornography, cloning)? Is there a moral obligation to obey the law? Can civil disobedience be justified? Is there a justification for punishing people for breaking the law? Is capital punishment, in particular, morally justified? **A&S Core: U.S. Context**

MWF 10:00-10:50, 12:00-12:50

PHIL 2270: Philosophy and Race

Explores the historical relationship between western philosophy and race and investigates the ways in which philosophy can be used to address contemporary racial issues. **A&S Core: Human Diversity**

MWF 12:00-12:50, 2:00-2:50

PHIL 2290: Philosophy and Women

Explores different approaches to the study of women. **A&S Core: Human Diversity**

MWF 1:00-1:50

PHIL 2440: Symbolic Logic

Introduces students to sentential logic, the logic of quantification and some of the basic concepts and results of metalogic (interpretations, validity and soundness).

MWF 12:00-12:50, TR 3:30-4:45

PHIL 2800: Open Topics in Philosophy (*Philosophy & Psychiatry*)

Should we try to prevent ostracizing the mentally ill, and if so how? When is a psychiatrist justified in administering a treatment against a patient's will? Should a psychiatrist go along with a patient's desires if he believes fulfilling those desires would be bad for her? Is a psychopath morally blameworthy? What is a mental disorder? Is autism a mental

disorder or merely a different neurological type? Is psychiatry a science? All of these questions fall at the intersection between philosophy and psychiatry. Philosophers and psychiatrists are aware of the existence of common ground. In the last couple of decades, the common ground has been subject of intensive exploration. In this course, we shall take advantage of these recent developments. Our aim will be to get the best of both worlds: combine philosophy's clarity of vision with psychiatry's firm empirical grounding.

TR 3:30-4:45

PHIL 3000: History of Ancient Philosophy

Survey of selected figures in ancient Greek and Roman philosophy and in medieval philosophy. Philosophers studied may include the pre-Socratics, Plato, Aristotle, the Hellenistic philosophers and such figures as Aquinas and Occam. Explores the larger cultural context that influenced these philosophers and were, in turn, influenced by them.

Sophomore Standing or higher to enroll; A&S Core: Historical Context

MWF 2:00-2:50, 3:00-3:50

PHIL 3010: History of Modern Philosophy

Introduces modern philosophy, focusing on the period from Descartes through Kant. In addition to careful analysis of philosophical arguments, attention is paid to the ways in which philosophers responded to and participated in major developments in the 17th and 18th century, such as the scientific revolution. *Sophomore Standing or higher to enroll; A&S Core: Historical Context*

MWF 10:00-10:50, TR 3:30-4:45

PHIL 3100: Ethical Theory

Examines important doctrines and arguments in various areas of theoretical ethics, such as the normative ethics of behavior, axiology, virtue theory and metaethics. and were, in turn, influenced by them. *Junior Standing or higher to enroll; A&S Core: Ideals & Values*

MWF 2:00-2:50

PHIL 3140: Environmental Ethics

Examines major traditions in moral philosophy to see what light they shed on value issues in environmental policy and the value presuppositions of the economic, ecological, and juridical approaches to the environment. *Sophomore Standing or higher to enroll; A&S Core: Ideals & Values*

TR 11:00-12:15, 12:30-1:45

PHIL 3160: Bioethics

Analysis of ethical problems involved in such issues as abortion, euthanasia, organ transplants, eugenics, treatment of the patient as a person and the institutional nature of the health care delivery system. Department enforced prerequisite: 6 hours of philosophy course work. *Sophomore Standing or higher to enroll; A&S Core: Ideals & Values*

MWF 9:00-9:50, 3:00-3:50

PHIL 3190: War and Morality

Focuses on moral issues raised by war as a human institution. What are the justifications, limits and alternatives? Does the advent of nuclear weapons change the nature of war? Department enforced prerequisite: 6 hours of philosophy course work. *Sophomore Standing or higher to enroll; A&S Core: Ideals & Values*

TR 3:30-4:45

PHIL 3200: Social and Political Philosophy

Systematic discussion and analysis of such philosophic ideas as community, freedom, political power, and violence. *Sophomore Standing or higher to enroll; A&S Core: Ideals & Values*

MWF 12:00-12:50

PHIL 3260: Philosophy and the International Order

Considers philosophical topics concerning the international economic, political and legal systems. Topics that may be considered include the nature of international law, war and peace, humanitarian intervention, international justice, world

hunger and human rights. *Sophomore Standing or higher to enroll; A&S Core: Ideals & Values*

TR 3:30-4:45

PHIL 3430: History of Science: Newton to Einstein

History of physical and biological science, from the epoch-making achievements of Charles Darwin in biology to the dawn of the 20th century revolutions in physics, chemistry and genetics. Deals with the success of the mechanical philosophy of nature and its problems. Department enforced prerequisite: 6 hours of philosophy course work. *Sophomore Standing or higher to enroll; A&S Core: Historical Context; Natural Science (Non-Sequence)*

TR 3:30-4:45

PHIL 3480: Critical Thinking/Writing in Philosophy

Focuses upon the fundamental skills, methods, concepts and distinctions that are essential for the study of philosophy. Basic skills covered include the writing of philosophy papers, the reading of articles and the extraction and evaluation of arguments. *Only PHIL majors; Sophomore Standing or higher to enroll; requires PHIL 1440 or PHIL 2440; A&S Core: Written Communication*

MWF 9:00-9:50, TR 9:30-10:45

PHIL 3600: Philosophy of Religion

Philosophical discussion of fundamental issues in religion, such as existence of God, religious experience, faith and reason, evil, immortality and religious language. *Junior Standing or higher to enroll; A&S Core: Ideals & Values*

MWF 3:00-3:50

PHIL 4010: Single Philosopher (*David Hume*)

Intensively studies the work of one historical figure in philosophy, with the aim of reaching a broad understanding of the philosopher's whole body of thought. *Junior Standing or higher to enroll*

MWF 2:00-2:50

PHIL 4260: Philosophy of Law

Considers philosophical topics concerning law and the U.S. legal system. Topics that may be considered include the nature of law, relations between law and morality, justifications of punishment, the moral duty to obey the law, and law and liberty. *Junior Standing or higher to enroll*

MWF 2:00-2:50

PHIL 4340: Epistemology

Studies some of the main topics of theory of knowledge, such as evidence, justification, prediction, explanation, skepticism, and concept acquisition. *Only PHIL majors; Junior Standing or higher to enroll*

TR 3:30-4:45

PHIL 4360: Metaphysics

Traditional and contemporary theories of the basic categories of reality and the human relationship to it, including universals, substance, identity, change, mind and body, free will and modality. *Junior Standing or higher to enroll; requires PHIL 2440, PHIL 3010, PHIL 3480, & PHIL 4340*

TR 11:00-12:15

PHIL 4370: Free Will and Determinism

Explores the full range of questions relating to the problem of free will and determinism. Topics may include; the scientific evidence for determinism, hard versus soft determinism, arguments for and against the compatibility of free will and determinism, moral responsibility and the principle of alternate possibilities, hierarchical motivation, the deep self, reactive attitudes, the intelligibility question for libertarianism, divine foreknowledge.

TR 12:30-1:45

PHIL 4450: History and Philosophy of Physics

Investigates the role of experiment in physics. Uses case studies in the history and philosophy of physics and in

scientific methodology. *Junior Standing or higher to enroll; requires PHYS 1020 or PHYS 1120 or PHYS 2020*

TR 11:00-12:15

PHIL 4470: Probability and Rational Choice

Examines issues in four related areas: probability theory (e.g. the interpretation of probability, the raven paradox, and the principle of indifference), decision theory (e.g., the Newcomb problem, the toxin puzzle, and Pascal's wager), game theory (e.g., Prisoner's dilemma, tragedy of the commons, and Schelling points), and social choice theory (e.g., Arrow's theorem). Familiarity with symbolic logic is strongly recommended.

TR 12:30-1:45

PHIL 4490: Philosophy of Language

Examines theories and problems regarding the nature of language and its relation to reality. Concepts discussed include sense, reference, conventions, intentions and their relation to science and social life. Relevant literature includes readings in Frege, Russell, Quine, Putnam, Kripke and Chomsky. *Junior Standing or higher to enroll; requires PHIL 2440*

MW 3:00-4:15

PHIL 4800: Open Topics in Philosophy (*Gender and Global Justice*)

This course highlights the gendered aspects of some contemporary transnational moral wrongs, which are often overlooked in mainstream discussions of global justice. Topics may include: human rights, moral relativism, and adaptive preferences; assessing wellbeing, poverty, and quality of life; responsibility, aid, and development; gendered divisions of global labor; labor migration, including global care chains and sex trafficking; health including reproductive and mental health; gender and militarism; moral repair and transnational responses to gendered wrongs. *Junior Standing or higher to enroll*

MW 4:30-5:45