

Philosophy Courses

Spring 2023

PHIL 001

Introduction to Philosophy (4)

Prof. Barry Hulsizer

MWF 10:45-11:35 AM

OR

Prof. Filippo Casati

TR 10:45-12:00PM

Philosophy is a broad discipline which critically addresses many different branches of human experience. Aesthetics, politics, ethics, religion and even the structure of the world have all represented great sources of philosophical discussion in both eastern and western traditions. Study of historical and contemporary texts will introduce students to this vast philosophical universe and provide the skills necessary to benefit from its further exploration. Course not open to seniors. **(HU)**

PHIL/ASIA/REL/ 010

Intro to Buddhism: Love Death and Freedom (4)

Prof. Annabella Pitkin

TR 3:00-4:15 PM

This course will introduce students to Buddhist practices, philosophical systems, and cultural forms, from Buddhism's Indian origins to its spread across Asia and globally. Students will explore how Buddhists have approached the problem of death, the possibility of freedom, and the forms of social and individual love and concern. Course materials include poetry, biographies, philosophical writings, art and film. **(HU)**

PHIL/POLS/GS 100

Introduction to Political Thought (4)

Prof. Richard Matthews

TR 10:45-12:00 PM

A critical examination of political ideologies: Liberalism, Marxism, Fascism, and Islamism.

PHIL/ETH 105

Ethics (4)

Prof. Nathan Schmidt

MW 1:35-2:50 PM

Examination of right and wrong, good and bad, from classic sources such as Plato, Aristotle, Hume, Kant, Mill and Nietzsche. **(HU)**

PHIL/MATH 114

Metalogic (4)

Prof. Aladdin Yaqub

TR 3:00-4:15 PM

This is a course on the metatheory of First-Order Predicate Logic. It offers expositions of some of the most important results of this metatheory, such as the Soundness and Completeness Theorems, Gödel's first and second Incompleteness Theorems, Tarski's Indefinability Theorem, and Church's Undecidability Theorem. It also offers introductory expositions of set theory, computability theory, and Second-Order Predicate Logic. The course is structured to serve the needs of a mixed audience, including students with no background in symbolic logic. **(MA)**

PHIL/ETH/REL/HMS 116 **Bioethics (4)**
Prof. Nathan Schmidt
MW 10:45-12:00 PM

Moral issues that arise in the context of health care and related biomedical fields in the United States today, examined in the light of the nature and foundation of moral rights and obligations. Topics include: confidentiality, informed consent, euthanasia, medical research and experimentation, genetics, and the distribution of health care. **(HU)**

PHIL/REL 124 **Philosophy of Religion (4)**
Prof. Filippo Casati
TR 12:10-1:25 PM

Critical examination, from a philosophical perspective, of some fundamental problems of religion, the nature of religious experience and belief, reason and revelation, the existence and nature of God, the problem of evil, and religious truth. **(HU)**

PHIL 127 **Existentialism (4)**
Prof. Gordon Bearn
TR 3:00-4:15 PM

Investigation of the historical development of existentialism from its origins in the 19th century (Kierkegaard, Nietzsche) through its marriage to phenomenology in the early 20th (Heidegger, Sartre, Merleau-Ponty), and out the other side as a vigorous dimension of much literary, psychological, and artistic work produced in the last 50 years. **(HU)**

PHIL/JST/REL 129 **Jewish Philosophy (4)**
Prof. Hartley Lachter
MW 1:35-2:50 PM

Consideration of how major Jewish thinkers from the first to 21st centuries confronted questions at the intersection of religion and philosophy: the existence and nature of God, free will, evil, divine providence, miracles, creation, revelation, and religious obligation. **(HU)**

PHIL 135 **Modern Philosophy (4)**
Prof. Nathan Schmidt
MW 3:00-4:15 PM

Historical survey of selected texts and issues in 17th and 18th century European philosophy with particular emphasis on developments in epistemology and metaphysics. Attention will be given to the relation of the "modern period" to developments in late medieval philosophy and the rise of the experimental sciences. Figures may include Descartes, Leibniz, Locke, Hume, and Kant. **(HU)**

PHIL/ASIA 140

Eastern Philosophy (4)
Prof. Ricki Bliss
MW 10:45AM-12:00 PM

Survey of selected texts and issues in the eastern philosophical traditions. Attention will be given to the development and interrelations of these traditions as well as a comparison of western and eastern treatments of selected issues. Areas of focus may **include** Confucianism, Taoism, and Zen Buddhism. **(HU)**

PHIL 145

Philosophy of Technology (4)
Prof. Gregory Reihman
TR 9:20-10:35AM

This course is an exploration of questions of metaphysics and morality in the digital age. Are new technologies changing our views of metaphysics (what's real) and morality (what's right)? Can classical and contemporary philosophical theories help us think more clearly and make better choices when faced with new technologies? To help answer these questions, students will read a variety of philosophical works that invite critical reflection on a broad array of topics at the intersection of philosophy and technology. **(HU)**

PHIL 171

Independent Study (1-4)
Various Philosophy Faculty

Individual philosophical investigation of an author, book, or topic, designed in collaboration with a philosophy professor. Tutorial meetings, substantial written work. Consent of faculty instructor required. **(HU)**

PHIL 196

Legal Philosophy (4)
Prof. John Martin Gillroy
TR 12:10-1:25 PM

This course will examine how philosophical argument is used to justify collective legal authority. It will focus on the dialectical relationship between the 'Ethical' definition of the moral in individual choice and the 'Juridical' definition of the moral in collective public law. Using legal cases, a cross-section of Medieval and Modern (Age of Reason-Enlightenment) Philosopher's arguments will be examined with special attention to their distinct definitions of human practical reason and moral agency, as these justify legitimate legal authority. **(HU)**

PHIL 221

Metaphysics (4)
Prof. Ricki Bliss
MW 12:10-1:25 PM

Metaphysics, the study of the basic structure of reality, seeks both to determine at a fundamental level what exists and what it means for something to be real, and to understand the nature of what exists, for example, whether what exists is mind-independent or depends on human thought. Topics might include social constructionism, universals and properties, identity and individuation, causation, necessity and possibility, realism and antirealism. Student must have completed at least one Philosophy course at the 100-level. **(HU)**

PHIL 371

Advanced Independent Study (1-4)
Various Philosophy Faculty

Individual philosophical investigation of an author, book, or topic designed in collaboration with a philosophy professor. Tutorial meetings; substantial written work. Must have completed one HU designated philosophy course at 200-level or higher, and have consent of instructor. (ND)