

PHI 2100-01 Reasoning & Critical Thinking TR 5:15-6:30, 201 DIF
Ref: 03002 Instructor: Mr. Jonathan Caro (Liberal Studies/Gordon Rule)

We are bombarded every day with the claims of activists, advertisers, politicians, and others. What reasons do they give for their claims? Do these claims follow from their reasons? In this class, we will develop and apply the general (and practical!) skills for answering these questions, by taking up the study of arguments. We will learn the criteria for the evaluation of sound arguments, talk about common fallacies, and along the way learn to become better at reasoning ourselves.

PHI 2100-02 Reasoning & Critical Thinking MWF 9:05-9:55, 303 MCH
Ref: 05708 Instructor: Mr. Jeremy Kirby (Liberal Studies/Gordon Rule)

Valid formulae and strong premises are essential tributaries to sound argumentation. Sound arguments are the headwaters of progress. In this course, we will, therefore, concentrate our attention on criteria for evaluating premises and the decision procedures for evaluating the formulae in which they are presented. More specifically, the class will master the criteria for deciding whether arguments are deductive or inductive, valid or invalid, sound or fallacious. With an eye toward improving our thinking and writing skills, we will essay criticisms and rebuttals to arguments derived from various fields of inquiry.

PHM 2300-01 Introduction to Political Philosophy MWF 12:20-1:10, 103 DHA
Ref: 03028 Instructor: Mr. Steve Morris (Lib. Stud./Gordon Rule/Multicult.X)

This course will provide an overview of the most influential ideas in the history of political philosophy. We will begin by examining ancient political thought and work our way up to the ideas of some contemporary political thinkers. We will also consider some criticisms of the historical texts. Among the issues we will focus on are the justifications for political systems, the connection between human nature and the ideal political arrangement, and the influence economic factors have on political structures. In the course of our investigations we will become familiar with various schools of political thought including communitarianism, social contract theory, utilitarianism, socialism, and libertarianism.

PHI 2630 Ethical Issues and Life Choices MW 3:35-4:50, 201 DIF
Ref: 03003 (Sect. 01) Instructor: Dr. Russell Swanson (Lib. Studies/Gordon Rule)
07090 (Section 02, HONORS ONLY)

This course is designed to introduce students to the field of philosophical ethics. In the first segment we will briefly examine the highlights of the history of ethical theory. We will look at some of the most famous and influential of the "maps of moral experience." In the second segment of the course we will utilize these maps to explore important moral issues for the new millennium.

PHI 2642-01
Ref: 06880

Environmental Ethics
Instructor: Mr. Peter Hanowell

MWF 1:25-2:15, 118 DOD

Environmental ethics concerns itself with the relationship between humans and the rest of the natural world. It is an attempt to determine what kinds of obligations we have, if any, toward the environment, ecological systems, and the creatures that inhabit the earth. In this class, we will study a number of theories that have been proposed to address these kinds of obligations. We will also consider a variety of specific environmental problems, such as human population, pollution, and animal welfare. Our primary goals will be to better understand topics of concern in environmental philosophy and to evaluate reasons that can be given in support of an environmental ethic.

PHM 3123-85
Ref: 05713

Philosophy of Feminism
Instructor: Mr. G.T. Smith (Lib.Stud./Gordon Rule/Multicult. Y)

MWF 10:10-11:00, 303 MCH

We live our lives as gendered human beings. Being a woman or a man affects the most basic aspects of our lives—our personality, our sexuality, and our familial and social relations. Perhaps our gender even affects our thinking about learning, knowing, and living well. Further, being a woman in many times and places results in one's being accorded an inferior social role to that of a man. In this course, we will consider several feminist theories (liberal, socialist, Marxist, radical, and "minority") of women's oppression. We will discuss recommendations for a better society made in light of these theories, including such topics as the family, sexuality, rape, pornography, domestic violence, and employment. We will also consider more generally the bases for the distinctions between sex and gender, woman and man. **Women's Studies core course.**

PHH 3140-01
Ref: 02996

Aristotle to Augustine
Instructor: Prof. Russell Dancy

TR 3:35-4:50, 002 LSB

We'll consider ancient philosophy as it develops from Aristotle on. The first half of the semester will be devoted to Aristotle: his methods, his ideas on metaphysics, on nature, on the soul, and on ethics. During the second half, we'll turn to the Hellenistic "schools": skepticism, Epicureanism, and stoicism; it was in the conflict between these thinkers that some of the most important philosophical problems began to take the shape in which we know them, e.g., the problem of the external world, and free will vs. determinism. We'll also have a look at the revival of platonism in Plotinus, a mystic of the 3rd century A.D., and at the turn this takes in the hands of a Christian, St. Augustine.

PHI 3300-01
Ref: 05839

Knowledge and Belief
Instructor: Prof. Cei Maslen

TR 12:30-1:45, 118 DOD

Can we know anything? The theory of knowledge encompasses the debate between the "dogmatists" who think we can and the "skeptics" who think we cannot. This is a broad-ranging survey course of contemporary theory of knowledge. In the first half of the course, we will discuss the three central topics in the field – skepticism, analyses of knowledge, and theories of justification. In the second half, we will investigate some particular kinds of belief: those arising from inductive inference, a priori reasoning and perception.

PHM 3350-01 **Introduction to Marxist Philosophy** **TR 9:30-10:45, 310 DIF**
Ref: 06885 **Instructor: Prof. Donald Hodges**

An introduction to the principal dimensions of Marxist political thought: (1) political objectives (what is to be done); (2) political strategy (means and their implementation); (3) political history (classes and class struggles); (4) political sociology (who gets what, when, how); (5) political economy (competing economic systems). Following an assessment of Marxism under conditions of modern capitalism in England and America in the 19th and early 20th centuries, we examine how it fares under conditions of America's present postcapitalist system and how its theoretical apparatus might be revised to account for America's new economic order.

PHI 3700-01 **Philosophy of Religion** **TR 11:00-12:15, 008 LSB**
Ref: 05131 **Instructor: Prof. Al Mele**

This course is a general introduction to the philosophy of religion, especially as it has developed in the West. It is *not* a course in the theology of any particular religion nor a course in comparative religions. The topics to be considered are the existence of God (arguments for and against), faith, God's attributes, free will, miracles, religious experience, morality, and human immortality.

PHI 3420-01 **Philosophy of the Social Sciences** **TR 5:15-6:30, 002 LSB**
Ref: 06888 **Instructor: Prof. Pekka Mäkelä**

What are social institutions? How are they created and maintained? What are social norms or social practices? These are questions related to the social world and thus to the subject matter of the social sciences. It may be a platitude to say that the social world, at least to a great extent, is man-made. However, the question how and in what sense the social world is man-made is of interest. In this course, we discuss recent philosophical accounts in answering this question. As we proceed, we avail ourselves of the conceptual tools developed in social and collective action theory.

PHM 3400-01 **Philosophy of Law** **MWF 12:20-1:10, 026 BEL**
Ref: 07091 **Instructor: Prof. Paolo Annino**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the fundamental questions of philosophy of law: What is law? What is the relationship of law to political morality? What is the relationship of the interpreter to the legal text? As examples of legal texts, we shall read United States Supreme Court and South African Constitutional Court decisions and U.N. Treaties. We shall carefully read philosophical works from ancient and contemporary times (Plato, Aristotle, Hart, Dworkin, and Habermas). In conjunction with the philosophical works, we shall read works of literature (Sophocles, Tolstoy, Kafka, and Faulkner) which illustrate the nature and function of law.

PHI 3670-01
Ref: 03006

Ethical Theory
Instructor: Prof. Josh Gert

MW 2:30-3:45, 002 LSB

Consequentialism has been and continues to be very attractive to philosophers. How could an action be morally bad, for example, if it didn't increase the risk of someone's suffering any sort of harm at all? And yet, our intuitions in particular cases are often very difficult to explain in terms of a coherent consequentialist theory. This course begins by re-examining two classic consequentialist and non-consequentialist views: those of Mill and Kant. We then follow the contemporary debate between these two types of view, which will lead us to examine a number of other types of ethical theory.

PHP 3786-01
Ref: 06884

Existentialism
Instructor: Prof. Peter Dalton

MWF 11:15-12:05, 310 DIF

We will study the main ideas of the existential movement (e.g., the individual, nothingness, freedom, absurdity, values). We will do this by a close examination of three books: Rudiger Safranski's *Martin Heidegger: Between Good and Evil*, an intellectual biography of Heidegger with extensive quotes from Heidegger's works, summaries of his ideas, and critical comments on them. (We will probably also read some selections from Heidegger's writings.) We will study Jean-Paul Sartre's *Being and Nothingness*, which is almost universally acknowledged to be the greatest work of existentialist philosophy; also, Iris Murdoch's *Existentialists and Mystics*, which not only has several short essays on existentialist writers, but contains longer essays arguing that many existential ideas are endorsed by the principal British moral philosophers of the twentieth century.

PHI 3880-01
Ref: 03008

Philosophy of Music
Instructor: Prof. Russell Dancy

TR 12:30-1:45, 214 LSB

In this course we will consider questions such as: What is music? Why do we listen to it? What does *understanding* it consist in? What is the relationship between the composer or performer's *intentions* and our understanding of it? What, if anything, does it *mean*? What, if anything, does it have to do with *emotions*? We won't arrive at any definitive answers to these questions, but we'll come away with a deeper understanding of them, and perhaps with a deeper understanding of music itself.

PHI 3882
Ref: 06882 (Section 01)
06883 (Section 02, HONORS ONLY)

Philosophy in Literature
Instructor: Prof. Peter Dalton

(Liberal Studies/Gordon Rule/Lit.)
MWF 1:25-2:15, 002 LSB

We will study several works of literature with the main purpose of solving problems that arise in them. To do this, students will have to grasp philosophical ideas or ways of thinking that either have been inserted into a work of literature by the author (e.g., Sartre's 'being' and 'perfect moments') or that there are good reasons to use in interpreting such a work (e.g., 'individualism' in Ibsen). We will be reading some plays by Ibsen, some stories by Kafka, Sartre's novel *Nausea* (which should have retained its original title, *Melancholia*), some stories by Flannery O'Connor, and Camus's long story *The Fall*.

PHI 4134-01
Ref: 06890

Modern Logic I
Instructor: Prof. Piers Rawling

TR 11:00-12:15, 310 DIF

This course examines the metatheory of modern symbolic logic. As a prerequisite, you will have learned how to evaluate arguments in predicate logic both semantically and syntactically – i.e., using interpretations (which are simply truth-tables in the case of sentential logic) and doing derivations. In this course, we shall first prove the completeness theorem for predicate logic – a theorem to the effect that the semantic and syntactic methods of evaluation coincide. We shall then move on to look at such matters as Gödel’s first incompleteness theorem: can all arithmetic truths be proven from the axioms of arithmetic, or are there unprovable arithmetic truths? Meets with PHI 5135-01. PREREQUISITE: PHI 3130, equivalent, or permission of instructor.

PHM 4340-01
Ref: 06886

Contemporary Political Thought
Instructor: Prof. Donald Hodges

TR 2:00-3:15, 002 LSB

In a study of the political thought of the leaders of the Russian and Mexican Revolutions, the two most consequential 20th century revolutions in the Old World and the New, we shall examine how and why revolutionary theory diverged from the evolving political reality and today’s postcapitalist order in both countries.

PHI 4938-01
Ref: 03012

Seminar for Majors:
Davidson on Language and Action
Instructor: Prof. Piers Rawling

T 2:00-5:00 181 DOD
(MAJORS ONLY)

Donald Davidson is a major contemporary philosopher who has made ground-breaking contributions in the philosophy of language, the philosophy of action, and the links between them. One of his central ideas is that we must make out our fellow speakers as rational in thought, speech and action. From this kernel, Davidson argues, much else follows. The aim of this course is to explore and critique Davidson’s views, and compare them to alternatives.

Spring 2002 Graduate Classes

PHI 5135-01 (03) **Modern Logic I** **Course ref. # 06893**
(Prof. Piers Rawling) **Tues/Thurs 11:00-12:15, DIF 310**

This course examines the metatheory of modern symbolic logic. As a prerequisite, you will have learned how to evaluate arguments in predicate logic both semantically and syntactically – i.e., using interpretations (which are simply truth-tables in the case of sentential logic) and doing derivations. In this course, we shall first prove the completeness theorem for predicate logic – a theorem to the effect that the semantic and syntactic methods of evaluation coincide. We shall then move on to look at such matters as Gödel's first incompleteness theorem: can all arithmetic truths be proven from the axioms of arithmetic, or are there unprovable arithmetic truths? Meets with PHI 4134-01. PREREQUISITE: PHI 3130, equivalent, or permission of instructor.

PHI 6325-01 (03) **Philosophy of Mind** **Course ref. # 03020**
(M&E)* (Prof. Eddy Nahmias) **Wed 2:30-5:30 PM, DOD 181**

This course will examine (1) the history of the mind-body problem, especially 20th century responses to it (behaviorism, identity theory, and functionalism), (2) the problem of consciousness, and (3) the debate about theory of mind vs. simulation in philosophy of psychology. Students will be expected to present on one of the readings and to write a final paper.

PHI 6505-01 (03) **Metaphysics: Causes and Counterfactuals** **Course ref. # 05128**
(M&E)* (Prof. Cei Maslen) **Mon 2:30-5:30 PM, DOD 181**

Tina is standing by a switch in the trolley tracks. A trolley approaches in the distance. She flips the switch, so that the trolley travels down the right-hand track, instead of the left, but the tracks reconverge up ahead. Tina claims to have prevented a collision. After all, she caused the absence of a trolley on the left-hand track (for if she had not flipped the switch, the trolley would have been there), which, in turn, causes there to be no collision (for if there had been a trolley on the left-hand track, there would have been a collision at the point of reconvergence). What is her mistake? [from Ned Hall] This course covers analyses of counterfactuals ("If A were the case then B would be the case") and analyses of causes in terms of counterfactuals, through recent papers.

PHI 6607-01 (03) **Ethics** **Course ref. # 06896**
(V)* (Prof. Josh Gert) **Thurs 2:00-5:00 PM, DOD 181**

Expressivism about normative judgments, including moral judgments and judgments about reasons for action, is a view that has recently received some extremely sophisticated defenses. Advocates of such views frequently cite Hume as an inspiration. This seminar will begin with a reading of Hume, and will then jump to contemporary debate about expressivism and related views. With luck, the result will be a sophisticated understanding both of Hume's views on normative matters, and of the state of the debate about expressivism.

PHM 6205-01 (03)
(V)*

Social Philosophy
(Prof. Maria Morales)

Course ref. # 06897
Fri 12:20-3:20 PM, DOD 181

The focus of this course will be on conceptions of race and gender, and our discussions will center on questions of *identity*. We will begin by examining in detail the concepts of *social construction* and *intersectionality*, then move on to some of the key discussions of race- and gender-identity questions in contemporary philosophy. Required texts are John Searle, *The Construction of Social Reality*, and Charles Mills, *Blackness Visible: Essays in Philosophy and Race*. We will also discuss the work of Haslanger, Zack, Alcoff, Young, Crenshaw, Bell, Appiah and others.