

## Spring 2004 Undergraduate Courses

**HUM 2937-02**      **HONS Humanities Seminar**      **TR 12:30-1:45, 310 DIF**  
**Ref: 04761**      **Instructor: Prof. Maria Morales**      **(HONORS ONLY)**

This course is a survey of late 20th-century political thought. We will discuss the work of representatives of major theories (e.g., liberalism and communitarianism), and concentrate on discussions about race, class, and gender in the contemporary world.

**PHI 2010-01**      **Introduction to Philosophy**      **TR 2:00-3:15, 201 DIF**  
**Ref: 03001**      **Instructor: Ms. Sara Chant**      **(Liberal Studies/Gordon Rule)**

Some introductory courses in philosophy are taught with an emphasis on the history of philosophy, others are topic-oriented and they are taught with an emphasis on particular philosophical problems. In this course, we will be concerned with acquiring the tools necessary to do philosophy. So, we will examine a number of topics, including epistemology (or theory of knowledge), philosophy of religion, the mind-body problem, the nature of freedom, and the problem of personal identity. Moreover, we will learn a bit about the history of philosophy and how these topics emerged. But ultimately we will use these historical problems as a means toward becoming philosophers ourselves.

**PHI 2010-02**      **Introduction to Philosophy**      **MW 5:15-6:30, 108 SAN**  
**Ref: 04770**      **Instructor: Mr. Jason Zinser**      **(Liberal Studies/Gordon Rule)**

What is philosophy? What is it that philosophers do? We will try to answer these questions by examining a number of philosophical problems and various answers that have been given to these problems. Some of the problems that we will address are: Does God exist? What do the terms 'good' and 'bad' mean? What is consciousness? An emphasis will be placed on critically reading original texts and carefully evaluating (in writing) the arguments contained therein. By the end of the course you will have acquired the necessary tools to think more critically about the world around you.

**PHI 2010-03**      **Introduction to Philosophy**      **MWF 10:10-11:00, 121B WMS**  
**Ref: 04771**      **Instructor: Mr. Sean Millard**      **(Liberal Studies/Gordon Rule)**

This course will serve as an introduction to the core areas of philosophy. Some of the central questions that will be addressed are: What makes for good reasoning? Does God really exist? When and how do we truly have knowledge? What makes an action morally right or wrong? After a survey of previously suggested answers by various philosophers, students will be encouraged to come up with their own conclusions regarding such questions.



**PHI 2630-02**                      **Ethical Issues and Life Choices**                      **TR 12:30-1:45, 103 DHA**  
**Ref: 04783**                      **Instructor: Mr. Thomas Nadelhoffer**                      **(Liberal Studies/Gordon Rule)**

The course is designed to provide students with a general introduction to classical ethical theories and applied ethical issues. The course will be divided into three main parts: 1) a brief overview of basic reasoning and critical thinking skills, 2) a general introduction to important historical sources of ethical theory, and 3) an analysis of how the different ethical theories affect our answers to important, yet difficult, applied ethical issues such as abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment, animal rights, violence, war, and terrorism.

**PHI 2630-03**                      **HONS Ethical Issues and Life Choices**                      **TR 11:00-12:15, 310 DIF**  
**Ref: 04784**                      **Instructor: Prof. David McNaughton**                      **(Liberal Studies/Gordon Rule)**  
**(HONORS ONLY)**

Most of us have views about what is right and wrong when it comes to specific issues, such as abortion or the death penalty but we do not always have views about what is right and wrong in general. That is, we may not have a coherent theory of what is morally relevant and why. And so our views run the risk of being mere prejudices. In this course, we will first examine a number of moral theories, e.g., utilitarianism and Kantian ethics. Then we will discuss some specific ethical issues in light of these theories to see how well our views stand up to critical scrutiny. These issues may include euthanasia, capital punishment, pornography and censorship, world hunger, animal rights, and environmental ethics.

**PHH 3061-01**                      **Medieval & Renaissance Philosophy**                      **TR 3:35-4:50, 002 LSB**  
**Ref: 04785**                      **Instructor: Prof. Maria Morales**

This course is a survey of Christian, Jewish, and Arabic philosophy in the Medieval through early Renaissance periods. We will discuss such topics as the relationship between faith and reason, freedom of the will, and the nature of moral and political authority.

**PHM 3123-85**                      **Philosophy of Feminism**                      **MWF 12:20-1:10, 303 MCH**  
**Ref: 04051**                      **Instructor: Mr. Kermit Harrison**                      **(Lib. Stud./Gordon Rule/Multicult. Y)**

This course is designed to introduce students to key aspects of feminist thought. We will discuss notions such as oppression, gender, sex, and sexism with a view to understanding the role that each plays in different feminist ideologies. Authors we will discuss include Marilyn Frye, Simone de Beauvoir, and bell hooks. We will discuss a wide variety of topics including sexual harassment and rape, marriage and motherhood, cosmetic surgery, and eating disorders. Perhaps most importantly, students enrolled in this course will develop a full understanding of academic integrity, or intellectual honesty. The ability to understand a viewpoint that may differ from one's own and evaluate it on its own merits is crucial to the successful completion of this course.

**PHI 3130-01**                      **Introduction to Symbolic Logic**                      **TR 11:00-12:15, 214 LSB**  
**Ref: 05891**                      **Instructor: Prof. Cei Maslen**

What makes some arguments valid and others invalid? How can you tell the difference? In this course, we will answer these questions by learning how to symbolize English arguments and how to use the rules of a natural deduction system, as well as semantic methods, to determine whether these arguments are valid. Those who acquire the knowledge and skills taught in this course will be able to distinguish between good and bad reasoning in the most rigorous way possible.

**PHH 3130-01**                      **Plato and his Predecessors**                      **MWF 10:10-11:00, 208 RBA**  
**Ref: 09218**                      **Instructor: Prof. Donald Crosby**                      **(Liberal Studies/Gordon Rule)**

We will first examine ideas of important Presocratic philosophers, then move to representative Sophists, and finally to Plato. Many of the topics, problems, arguments, positions, and outlooks that have characterized philosophical writings in the West up to the present day are anticipated in the thought of philosophers in the first two categories and brought to consummate expression in the works of one of the greatest and most influential of all Western philosophers, Plato. The second part of the course will be devoted to Socrates and Plato, and to a careful critical reading of five Platonic Dialogues: *Apology*, *Crito*, *Phaedo*, *Meno*, and *Republic*.

**PHH 3140-01**                      **Aristotle to Augustine**                      **TR 2:00-3:15, 002 LSB**  
**Ref: 02996**                      **Instructor: Prof. Russell Dancy**                      **(Liberal Studies/Gordon Rule)**

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**                      **Knowledge and Belief**                      **TR 9:30-10:45, 310 DIF**  
**Ref: 05839**                      **Instructor: Prof. Thomas Crisp**

This course will introduce students to epistemology, that branch of philosophy concerned with questions about the nature and scope of human knowledge. We'll consider questions like: Does all of our knowledge come from our senses or are there other sources of knowledge too? What is knowledge? When someone claims to know something, just what is it that she's claiming? Can we really know anything? Can we know that we're not in the Matrix? How about moral and religious knowledge? Is there such a thing? In-class discussion will be highly encouraged.

**PHI 3320-01**  
**Ref: 04791**

**Philosophy of Mind**  
**Instructor: Prof. John Roberts**

**MW 5:15-6:30, 002 LSB**

Deeply embedded in our thinking is a distinction between mind and body. But what kind of difference does this distinction really mark? Are the mind and brain two completely different kinds of things? Is talk about "the mind" maybe just fanciful talk about behavior, or maybe a kind of shorthand for ways of talking about the activities of the brain? What sorts of things have minds? What sort of things don't? Do dogs have minds? How about fish? Snails? This course will take up these questions and study the ways that both contemporary and historical philosophers have pursued them.

**PHM 3331-01**  
**Ref: 05088**

**Modern Political Thought**  
**Instructor: Prof. Peter Dalton**

**MWF 1:25-2:15, 108 SAN**

We will read selections from the work of most of the leading political thinkers of the Modern era: Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Burke, Hegel, Mill, Marx, and a few others. We'll put special emphasis on how a government both helps and restrains individuals through the rights it gives them. Much of this material will be of contemporary relevance, often because it shows how far we've drifted from democratic ideals.

**PHI 3400-01**  
**Ref: 05093**

**HONS Philosophy of Science**  
**Instructor: Prof. Zachary Ernst**

**TR 3:35-4:50, 209 BEL**  
**(Liberal Studies/Gordon Rule)**  
**(HONORS ONLY)**

TBA

**PHH 3400-01**  
**Ref: 05990**

**Modern Philosophy**  
**Instructor: Prof. John Roberts**

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

In 1633 Galileo was condemned by the Inquisition and his masterpiece defending the Copernican conception of the solar system, the *Dialogue Concerning the Two Chief World-Systems*, was placed on the list of prohibited books. Almost immediately, philosophy began in a new key. Rene Descartes boldly undertook the project of providing a coherent account of the legitimacy of scientific practice while at the same time circumscribing the extent of its authority over our knowledge of the nature and structure of reality. His work was deeply influential, but the project he undertook remains unfinished, even to this day. In this course we will limit ourselves to a study of the philosophical developments of the 17th and 18th centuries in Europe and Britain. We will begin with Descartes' great contribution, his *Meditations on First Philosophy*, and move on to criticisms, developments, and occasionally, revolutionary breakthroughs initiated by later thinkers, including Nicolas Malebranche, John Locke, Bishop Berkeley, and David Hume.

**PHH 3500-01**  
**Ref: 05094**

**Nineteenth-Century Philosophy**  
**Instructor: Prof. Peter Dalton**

**MWF 11:15-12:05, 310 DIF**

This is an era of grandiose philosophical world-views. After a review of some basic themes in the work of Kant and Hegel, we will study selected writings by four of this century's leading philosophers. We will begin with Schopenhauer's pessimistic idealism, turn next to Kierkegaard's strange but interesting subjectivism, then study Marx's varied writings arguing that economics is at the basis of everything, and conclude with a study of short book (*On The Genealogy of Morality*) that is an excellent introduction to Nietzsche's thinking.

**PHI 3670-01**  
**Ref: 05095**

**Ethical Theory**  
**Instructor: Prof. Josh Gert**

**MW 3:35-4:50, 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 some harm? And yet, our intuitions in particular cases are often very hard to fit into a coherent consequentialist theory. This course begins by examining J.S. Mill's classic presentation of consequentialism, along with two of its most prominent competitors: Kant's deontology and Aristotle's theory of virtue. We will then go on to examine some modern versions of these views, and their relative merits.

**PHI 3700-01**  
**Ref: 05131**

**Philosophy of Religion**  
**Instructor: Prof. Alfred Mele**

**TR 12:30-1:45, 002 LSB**

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. Meets with PHI 3700-02, listed by Department of Religion, ref. no. 05096.

**PHI 4134-01**  
**Ref: 06890**

**Modern Logic I**  
**Instructor: Prof. Piers Rawling**

**TR 11:00-12:15, TBA**

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 can 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.

**PHI 4137-01**  
**Ref: 05100**

**Modern Logic II**  
**Instructor: Prof. Piers Rawling**

**W 2:30-5:30, 181 DOD**

This course examines modal logic and various other non-classical logics. We shall begin with modal logic, which is the logic of necessity and possibility. You will learn about various systems of modal logic, including their axioms, derivations and possible worlds semantics. We shall then move on to discuss intuitionist logic and, if time allows, many-valued logics. In addition to mastering the technicalities of these various logics, we shall also discuss their philosophical motivations and uses. Meets with PHI 5136-01. PREREQUISITE: PHI 3130, equivalent, or permission of instructor.

**PHM 4340-01**  
**Ref: 06886**

**Contemporary Political Thought**  
**Instructor: Prof. Maria Morales**

**TR 9:30-10:45, 208 BEL**

This course will explore a range of issues in contemporary political thought. This exploration will be set in the context of systematic political thought and the history of major approaches to political theory in the modern period. We will develop the contemporary political spectrum and the various traditional positions on that spectrum such as liberalism, libertarianism, and conservatism. We will also attend to some of the new viewpoints such as communitarianism, feminism, and critical race theory. (Meets with PHM 4340-02, listed by Department of Political Science, ref. no. 05107.)

**PHI 4930-01**  
**Ref: 05355**

**Free Will and the Sciences of the Mind**  
**Instructor: Prof. Eddy Nahmias**

**TR 5:15-6:30, 181 DOD**

The more science tells us about human nature, the more it suggests that our free will and conscious control over our own lives is limited. We will examine this problem. First, we will try to figure out what free will is and why it is important to us. We will discuss traditional philosophical conceptions of free will and threats to it, especially determinism. Then we will turn to threats from various scientific theories, including Freudian psychology, behaviorism, social psychology, neuroscience, evolutionary psychology and human genetics. We will examine to what extent these theories challenge our conception of ourselves as free and responsible, and how we might respond to these challenges. PREREQUISITE: Previous course in philosophy or instructor's approval.

**PHI 4938-01**  
**Ref: 03012**

**Seminar for Majors: Philosophy of Time**  
**Instructor: Prof. Thomas Crisp**

**TR 12:30-1:45, 181 DOD**

This seminar will introduce students to some main questions in the philosophy of time. We'll consider questions like: What is time? What does Einstein's theory of relativity teach us about the nature of time? Does time have a beginning? We sometimes talk as if time "flows". What does such talk mean? If time does "flow" in some sense, how fast does it flow? What about time travel? Is it possible? Is there something incoherent about the idea? In-class discussion will be highly encouraged.

