

Summer 2006 Undergraduate Courses

“B” Session (May 9 – June 16)

PHI 2010 01 **Introduction to Philosophy** **MTWRF 11:00-12:15, 004 MON**
Ref: **Instructor: Tracie Mahaffey** **(Liberal Studies/Gordon Rule)**

This course is designed to introduce students to some of the core questions in philosophy. The course begins with a review of the basic tools that philosophers use in addressing these questions – basic reasoning and critical thinking skills. Then, we will spend the rest of the semester considering the following questions: Does God exist? What is knowledge? What is the relationship between mind and body? Is there survival after death? Do humans have free will? What makes an action morally right or wrong? The goal of this course is to present students with a fair treatment of both sides of each of these issues so that students may develop well-founded positions of their own.

PHI 2100 01 **Reasoning & Critical Thinking** **MTWRF 2:00-3:15, 002 LSB**
Ref: **Instructor: Alan Casselman** **(Liberal Studies/Gordon Rule)**

The general goal of this course is to develop students’ reasoning skills, that is, to help them become better reasoners. Some specific objectives that will aid in the attainment of the general goal are:

- Learning how some general features of language and discourse can affect one’s understanding of a particular linguistic act.
- Acquiring the ability to reconstruct arguments contained in arbitrary samples of argumentative discourse.
- Learning to distinguish between valid and invalid argument forms.
- Learning how to evaluate an argument as either sound, strong, weak, or fallacious.
- Learning how, in writing, to communicate more effectively the results of such critical analysis.

PHI 2630 01 **Ethical Issues & Life Choices** **MTWRF 12:30-1:45, 004 MON**
Ref: **Instructor: Josh Cline** **(Liberal Studies/Gordon Rule)**

The general aim of this course is to introduce students to some classical ethical theories and applied ethical issues. To achieve this aim, we will examine certain ethical theories, such as Utilitarianism, Kantian Ethics, Moral Relativism, and Egoism, in order to provide a basis for understanding certain applied ethical issues, such as abortion, euthanasia, drug policy, sexuality and marriage, animal rights, and war and terrorism.

PHM 3123 01 **Philosophy of Feminism** **MTWRF 12:30-1:45, 326 PSY**
Ref: **Instructor: Melissa Lammey** **(Lib. Studies/Gordon Rule/Multicult. Y)**

In the course of modern history, women from all regions of the globe have organized themselves in one way or another to address the issues that shape their very existence. Women’s place in patriarchal societies and religious customs, their roles as wives and mothers, the persistence of violence against them, and social ideals of their own bodies are among the issues addressed by what are known as “feminist” or “womanist” perspectives. The aim of this course is to familiarize students with a variety of feminist ideologies. For instance, we will discuss liberal feminist thought and the waves of activism it has inspired in the United States since the turn of the 20th century. We will also discuss the nature of sex and gender identities and politics as advocated by radical feminism, socialist feminism, existentialist feminism, and psychoanalytic feminism. We will consider the impact that postmodernism has upon feminist thought. We will take into account the effects upon feminist thought

that result from living in an increasingly multi-cultural society. Finally, we will discuss globalization and its effects on women around the world.

PHH 3400 01	Modern Philosophy	MTWR 9:10-10:45, 004 MON
Ref:	Instructor: Prof. John Roberts	(Liberal Studies/Gordon Rule)

As in any philosophy course, the primary objective is to help you develop a skill rather than acquire a body of knowledge. Philosophical skills are critical thinking skills. In this particular course, we will be honing our critical thinking skills by focusing on the work of some of the greatest philosophers in the Western tradition. While one of our goals is to familiarize ourselves with these various philosophers and their positions, we will also be learning how to evaluate their views as well. Only when one begins evaluating philosophical positions is one doing philosophy rather than just studying it.

PHI 3670 01	Ethical Theory	MTWRF 11:00-12:15, 326 PSY
Ref:	Instructor: Joe Olechnowicz	

This course examines important questions regarding the nature of morality. Some of the topics to be considered are the nature of goodness, the status of moral judgements, moral motivation, and moral decision making. We will examine important philosophical writings, both historical and contemporary, that attempt to answer these questions. The subject matter of this course includes metaethics and consideration of various normative ethical theories, but does not specifically include consideration of any particular applied problems in ethics (e.g. capital punishment, abortion, euthanasia).

PHI 4938 01	Seminar for Majors:	MTWRF 12:30-1:45, 181 DOD
Ref:	Instructor: Prof. Thomas Nadelhoffer	(MAJORS ONLY)

Special Topics in the Philosophy of Mind--Neuroscience, Moral Responsibility, and the Law:
In this class we are going to examine some of the empirical evidence concerning the neuropsychological underpinnings of our moral faculties. Having examined some of the gathering data from the sciences of the mind, we will consider how these data shed light on some traditional philosophical and legal problems such as free will, moral psychology, and criminal responsibility. Issues to be discussed will include: What does contemporary neuroscience reveal about morality? What problems arise in moral and legal philosophy in light of recent and foreseeable developments in neuroscience? Does the gathering evidence from neuroscience put pressure on traditional notions of free will and moral/legal responsibility?

“C” Session (June 26 – August 4)

PHI 2010 02	Introduction to Philosophy	MTWR 9:10-10:45, 004 MON
Ref:	Instructor: Tina Huggins	(Liberal Studies/Gordon Rule)

TBA

PHI 2100 02	Reasoning & Critical Thinking	MTWRF 12:30-1:45, 004 MON
Ref:	Instructor: Jason Zinser	(Liberal Studies/Gordon Rule)

TBA

PHI 2630 02	Ethical Issues & Life Choices	MTWR 2:00-3:35, 002 LSB
Ref:	Instructor: Bobby Robinson	(Liberal Studies/Gordon Rule)

A course that will draw on ethical theories to explore the major ethical issues that one faces as one makes decisions about the kinds of activities to engage in and the kind of life to lead. Issues such as those involving life

and death (e.g. abortion, euthanasia, animal rights) and social justice (e.g. discrimination, responsibility to future generations) will be examined.

PHI 3130 01

Introduction to Symbolic Logic

MTWRF 11:00-12:15, 004 MON

Ref:

Instructor: Charles Hermes

(Liberal Studies - Mathematics)

TBA

PHI 3320 01

Philosophy of Mind

MTWR 9:10-10:45, 318 WMS

Ref:

Instructor: Lisa Watkins

TBA

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

GRADUATE SEMINAR

Summer 2006

“C” Session: June 26 – August 4

PHH 5505 01

Marx*

Prof. Maria Morales

Tuesday/Thursday 2:00-5:00

181 DOD

Ref: 03502

This course is a survey of Marx’s political philosophy. We will study many of his key works in their entirety, beginning with his early writings on emancipation, moving through the “middle” period when he developed the materialist method and began his most critical philosophical work, and ending with the later economic writings that weave together his life-long intellectual and practical concerns.

The objectives of this course are to master Marx’s most important texts in their philosophical and historical context, and to hone students’ philosophical skills in identifying assumptions and developing arguments.

Text

David McLellan, ed. *Karl Marx: Selected Writings*. 2nd ed. (Oxford UP)

***Meets V breadth requirement for philosophy graduate students**