

PHILOSOPHY (PHIL)

PHIL 100 Introduction to Philosophy 3 Credit Hours

An introduction to philosophical thinking through an examination of some timeless human problems such as the existence of God, the problem of freedom, and the attempt to find an ethical foundation for life. (F,W).

PHIL 120 Philosophy and Religion 3 Credit Hours

An examination of how basic concerns of philosophy impinge on questions of religious beliefs. Using philosophical texts, the course will explore such questions as the following: Does God exist? Does human life have a purpose? How can we know whether religious claims are true?

PHIL 200 The Human Condition 3 Credit Hours

The human condition as seen in selected works of philosophy and literature. Typical issues: the meaning of life, the existence of God, moral responsibility for human actions, and the role of society in promoting or hindering human excellence. (OC).

PHIL 233 Critical Thinking 3 Credit Hours

A study of the nature and justification of reasoned arguments, both deductive and inductive, as they occur in natural language. A consideration of topics in language that promote an understanding of ways of reasoning, including definitions and fallacies. (F,W).

PHIL 234 Symbolic Logic 3 Credit Hours

This course will examine the central themes in modern symbolic logic including consistency, truth-functionality, sentential first-order predicate logic, and the logic of identity and possibility. These themes and their relation to the wider philosophical context will be discussed. (F,W).

Prerequisite(s): PHIL 233

PHIL 240 Ethics 3 Credit Hours

A study of ethical concepts and theories. Typical questions: Is the morality of an action based on its results or on the intent of the person acting? Is ethics purely rational? What makes a good person? Ethical principles may be applied to such issues as abortion, capitalism, war, and capital punishment. (F,W).

PHIL 301 Ancient Philosophy 3 Credit Hours

An examination of the metaphysical, epistemological, ethical, and political theories of the ancient Greek philosophers with particular attention paid to Plato and Aristotle and to the influence of their ideas on Western culture. Students electing this course must have successfully completed a previous course in philosophy or have permission of instructor.

Prerequisite(s): PHIL 100 or PHIL 120 or PHIL 233 or PHIL 234 or PHIL 240 or PHIL 302 or PHIL 303 or PHIL 304 or PHIL 305 or PHIL 310 or PHIL 315 or PHIL 320 or PHIL 355 or PHIL 340 or PHIL 350 or PHIL 365 or PHIL 369 or PHIL 370 or PHIL 371 or PHIL 375 or PHIL 380 or PHIL 390 or PHIL 441 or PHIL 442 or PHIL 445 or PHIL 485 or PHIL 490

PHIL 302 Modern Philosophy 3 Credit Hours

A study of 17th and 18th century European philosophers including such philosophers as Descartes, Spinoza, Hume, and Kant with emphasis on their metaphysical and epistemological theories and how those theories provided a foundation for science and a bedrock for modern thought. Students electing this course must have successfully completed a previous course in philosophy or have permission of instructor.

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PHIL 303 Kant and the 19th Century 3 Credit Hours

The development of philosophical thought from Kant through the 19th century. In addition to Kant, figures discussed may include Hegel, Schopenhauer, Marx, Kierkegaard, and Nietzsche. Readings in selected texts. (OC).

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PHIL 304 Twentieth-Century Philosophy 3 Credit Hours

A study of selected topics, movements, and figures in the philosophy of the twentieth century, including such representative subjects as continental philosophy, contemporary philosophy of mind, and analytic philosophy. Designed to meet the needs of students in literature and the history of ideas as well as philosophy students. Students electing this course must have successfully completed a previous course in philosophy or have permission of the instructor.

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PHIL 305 Marxism 3 Credit Hours

This course is an introduction to the philosophy of Marxism which emphasizes Marx's theories of human nature, alienation, class struggle, and revolution through readings of classical and contemporary texts. Students electing this course must have successfully completed a previous course in philosophy or have permission of instructor. (OC).

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PHIL 306 Islamic Philosophy 3 Credit Hours

The course covers the development of Islam, basic Islamic doctrine, and a selection of issues that have been debated within the Islamic philosophical tradition. Students read original texts by Muslim philosophers and think critically about the issues in them and the arguments raised about them. All readings in English; no knowledge of Arabic required.

PHIL 307 Medieval Philosophy 3 Credit Hours

This course is an introduction to Medieval Philosophy and is structured around the ideas and works of key philosophers in the Christian, Islamic and Jewish religious traditions. It attempts to answer the question of what 'Medieval Philosophy' is and how it fits into the larger context of the Western philosophical tradition. The course is roughly divided into four sections based on the chronological development of philosophy through the Middle Ages – (I) Early Medieval Christian Philosophy, (II) Islamic Philosophy, (III) Jewish Philosophy and (IV) Latin Christian Philosophy in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries. We will look at what some famous Christian, Muslim and Jewish philosophers, such as Augustine, Boethius, Anselm, Peter Abelard, Al-Ghazali, Ibn Rushd, Saadia, Maimonides, Aquinas, Scotus and Ockham had to say about a diverse range of philosophical issues and topics, including the existence and nature of God, free will, morality, reason and revelation, human nature and the problem of universals. (YR)

Prerequisite(s): PHIL 100 or HUM 200 or PHIL 200 or PHIL 233 or PHIL 234 or PHIL 240 or PHIL 350

PHIL 310 Darwinism and Philosophy 3 Credit Hours

Darwinism represents a challenge to the traditional view of human life as radically separate from the rest of the natural world. This course will examine the philosophical implications of this world view. It will address questions such as these: Is Darwinism compatible with traditional religion? Does Darwinism imply that human life and the cosmos are without purpose? Can human life be meaningful if it is the result of evolution and natural selection? Does Darwinism require us to change our view of nature? What are the ethical implications of a Darwinian view of life and the universe?

Prerequisite(s): PHIL 100 or PHIL 120 or PHIL 233 or PHIL 234 or PHIL 240 or PHIL 301 or PHIL 302 or PHIL 303 or PHIL 304 or PHIL 305 or PHIL 315 or PHIL 320 or PHIL 355 or PHIL 340 or PHIL 350 or PHIL 365 or PHIL 369 or PHIL 370 or PHIL 371 or PHIL 375 or PHIL 380 or PHIL 390 or PHIL 441 or PHIL 442 or PHIL 445 or PHIL 485 or PHIL 490

Restriction(s):

Cannot enroll if Class is

PHIL 312 Environmental Ethics 3 Credit Hours

The relationship of human beings to the non-human environment raises pressing moral and political issues. This course will use the theories and concepts of philosophical ethics to explore such questions as human obligations to non-human animals; the preservation of wilderness; balancing economic, aesthetic, and spiritual values; and the problems of pollution, urban sprawl, and ecological justice. Prerequisite or permission of instructor. (YR).

Prerequisite(s): PHIL 100 or PHIL 233 or PHIL 240* or CRJ 240 or ENST 105 or ENST 301

PHIL 315 Ethics of War & Peace 3 Credit Hours

A philosophical exploration of ethical issues underlying war and peace. The course will treat such questions as the following: what wars, if any, are just? Are there moral restrictions on the methods that may be used? What individuals are morally responsible for wartime decisions, and to what degree? Discussion of these issues will be used to elucidate larger problems in ethical theory. Students electing this course must have successfully completed a previous course in philosophy or have permission of instructor.

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PHIL 320 The Problem of Human Freedom 3 Credit Hours

A critical examination of the idea of freedom: the free will/determinism debate, moral and legal responsibility, punishment, and the relationship between metaphysical and social freedom. Students electing this course must have successfully completed a previous course in philosophy or have permission of instructor.

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PHIL 327 Kierkegaard & Nietzsche 3 Credit Hours

This course will explore the philosophical views of Kierkegaard and Nietzsche, examining the interconnections and differences between these two thinkers as well as each one's contributions to philosophy and psychology. The course will focus on both philosophers' emphasis on the individual and how that emphasis arose as a response to the social, political and economic changes in the 19th century and anticipated and influenced philosophical developments in the 20th century, in particular existentialism.

PHIL 335 Philosophy of Law 3 Credit Hours

An examination of some of the important philosophical issues relevant to law and legal theory, including legal punishment, legal responsibility, and the relationship between law and morality. Both classical and contemporary writings will be studied. Students electing this course must have successfully completed a previous course in philosophy or have permission of instructor.

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PHIL 340 Analytic Philosophy 3 Credit Hours

An introduction to philosophy as the analysis and evaluation of fundamental concepts and principles occurring in ordinary life and in the sciences. While analytic philosophy in the twentieth century is emphasized, its antecedents in the history of western philosophy will be examined. Students electing this course must have successfully completed a previous course in philosophy or have permission of instructor. (OC).

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PHIL 350 Symbolic Logic 3 Credit Hours

This course will examine the central themes in modern symbolic logic including consistency, truth-functionality, sentential first-order predicate logic, and the logic of identity and possibility. These themes and their relation to the wider philosophical context will be discussed. (F,W).

PHIL 360 Philosophy of Technology 3 Credit Hours

A study of both the history of, and current issues in, the philosophy of technology. This course will examine the deeper meaning and implications of our modern technological society. Questions examined include: What is the definition and nature of technology? How did the concept originate in Western thought? What is the relationship between modern industrial technology and the 'mechanistic' worldview? How do Western religious beliefs influence our attitudes about technology? Is technological progress socially determined, or is it culturally independent? In what ways has our technological society been supportive of, or detrimental to, overall human well-being? Students will cover both classic and contemporary readings.

PHIL 365 Philosophy of Religion 3 Credit Hours

A philosophical examination of basic religious problems, such as the nature and grounds of religious belief, the existence and nature of God, human immortality, the relations of religion and science, and the nature of religious language. Students electing this course must have successfully completed a previous course in philosophy or have permission of instructor.

Prerequisite(s): PHIL 100 or PHIL 120 or PHIL 233 or PHIL 234 or PHIL 240 or PHIL 302 or PHIL 303 or PHIL 304 or PHIL 305 or PHIL 310 or PHIL 315 or PHIL 320 or PHIL 355 or PHIL 340 or PHIL 350 or PHIL 369 or PHIL 301 or PHIL 370 or PHIL 371 or PHIL 375 or PHIL 380 or PHIL 390 or PHIL 441 or PHIL 442 or PHIL 445 or PHIL 485 or PHIL 490

PHIL 369 Philosophy of Art 3 Credit Hours

An examination and critique of both traditional and contemporary theories of art as well as an examination of theories of the aesthetic including theories of beauty, taste, and the aesthetic attitude. Students electing this course must have successfully completed a previous course in philosophy or have permission of instructor. (OC).

Prerequisite(s): PHIL 100 or PHIL 120 or PHIL 233 or PHIL 234 or PHIL 240 or PHIL 301 or PHIL 302 or PHIL 303 or PHIL 304 or PHIL 305 or PHIL 310 or PHIL 315 or PHIL 320 or PHIL 355 or PHIL 340 or PHIL 350 or PHIL 365 or PHIL 370 or PHIL 375 or PHIL 380 or PHIL 390 or PHIL 441 or PHIL 442 or PHIL 445 or PHIL 485 or PHIL 490 or PHIL 371

PHIL 370 Philosophy of Mind 3 Credit Hours

A study of current philosophical work in the area of consciousness studies examining the nature and function of human consciousness and the problem of reconciling an objective, scientific view of consciousness with our subjective experience of it. Students electing this course must have successfully completed a previous course in philosophy or have permission of instructor.

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PHIL 371 Philosophy in Literature 3 Credit Hours

An exploration of philosophical problems as they are encountered in works of literature. Students electing this course must have successfully completed a previous course in philosophy or have permission of instructor.

Prerequisite(s): PHIL 100 or PHIL 120 or PHIL 233 or PHIL 234 or PHIL 240 or PHIL 301 or PHIL 302 or PHIL 303 or PHIL 304 or PHIL 305 or PHIL 310 or PHIL 315 or PHIL 320 or PHIL 355 or PHIL 340 or PHIL 350 or PHIL 365 or PHIL 369 or PHIL 370 or PHIL 375 or PHIL 380 or PHIL 390 or PHIL 441 or PHIL 442 or PHIL 445 or PHIL 485 or PHIL 490

PHIL 375 Problems of Human Knowledge 3 Credit Hours

A study of issues and problems that arise in considering the nature of knowledge: an examination of traditional theories of knowledge and recent critiques of those theories. Readings of classical and contemporary texts. Students electing this course must have successfully completed a previous course in philosophy or have permission of instructor.

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PHIL 380 Theories of Reality 3 Credit Hours

A critical examination of philosophical positions that claim to distinguish between what is real and what is apparent; an evaluation of the basic principles of philosophy and of extra-philosophical disciplines. Readings of classical and contemporary texts. Students electing this course must have successfully completed a previous course in philosophy or have permission of instructor.

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PHIL 384 Feminist Philosophy 3 Credit Hours

Feminists working in philosophy, most notably in the 19th and 20th centuries, have altered the traditional philosophical canon by first, recovering women philosophers who were essentially erased from the history and secondly, by extending and contributing to the standard questions of philosophy. For example, one central question of philosophy; "What can we know with certainty?" has been transformed through a feminist lens and reinterpreted as "What does one's gender, social location, and cultural framework contribute to what one knows?" In this course we will look at the variety of feminist philosophical theories with a focus on epistemology, metaphysics, and ethics.

Prerequisite(s): PHIL 100 or WST 275 or WGST 303 or HUM 275 or ANTH 275 or PSYC 275 or SOC 275 or HUM 303 or ANTH 303 or PSYC 303 or SOC 303

PHIL 390 Topics in Philosophy 3 Credit Hours

Examination of problems and issues in selected areas of philosophy. Title as listed in Schedule of Classes will change according to content. Course may be repeated for credit when specific topics differ. Typical topics: Philosophy of Language, Minds and Machines, Moral Responsibility. Students electing this course must have successfully completed a previous course in philosophy or have permission of instructor.

Prerequisite(s): PHIL 100 or PHIL 120 or PHIL 233 or PHIL 234 or PHIL 240 or PHIL 301 or PHIL 302 or PHIL 303 or PHIL 304 or PHIL 305 or PHIL 310 or PHIL 315 or PHIL 320 or PHIL 355 or PHIL 340 or PHIL 350 or PHIL 365 or PHIL 369 or PHIL 370 or PHIL 371 or PHIL 375 or PHIL 380 or PHIL 441 or PHIL 442 or PHIL 445 or PHIL 485 or PHIL 490

PHIL 390Q Topics in Philosophy 3 Credit Hours

In this course students will explore the ways that cognitive and affective aspects of social identities (race, gender, socio-economic class, sexual orientation, dis/ability) intersect with issues of social power and privilege to make critical thinking and critical dialogue particularly challenging. We will consider how the history of 'argument' in Western philosophy has contributed to the challenges of social identity debates and we will explore a variety cognitive biases and logical fallacies as well as strategies for effectively countering these biases and fallacies.

PHIL 390R Topics in Philosophy 3 Credit Hours

Topic Title: Eastern Philosophy: Confucianism, Daoism, and Buddhism-
The purpose of this course is to examine the roots and development of the three main strands of thought in Eastern Philosophy: Confucianism, Daoism, and Buddhism. We will do this by first working through the foundational ideas and arguments as they are found in the work Kogzi (Confucius) and Laozi, analyzing the basic arguments and disagreements, which pave the way for subsequent thinkers. We will then look at the development of these ideas in the followers of these two schools of thought. We end by examining the original development of Buddhism in India, and its subsequent transformation to Zen or Chan Buddhism as it encounters Daoism in China. Given the significant emphasis on praxis (as opposed to theory) in both Daoism and Zen tradition, it will often be the case that the distinction between philosophy and religion becomes blurred. Eastern Philosophy has a long and rich tradition, often beginning with radically different starting points and concerns from its Western counterpart (although there are certain overlaps and similarities). As such, this course will offer a window into a set of philosophical discourses that have only recently been seriously examined in the West.

Prerequisite(s): PHIL 100 or PHIL 200 or PHIL 233 or PHIL 234 or PHIL 240

PHIL 390S Topics in Philosophy 3 Credit Hours

Topic Title: Philosophy of Race- The concept of "race" remains controversial. The controversy concerns two broad issues: first, whether "race" is a legitimate way to demarcate human groups, as opposed to, say ethnicity, or simply seeing all persons as individuals; and, second, whether the continued use of the category of race exacerbates racism. Contemporary philosophers have been making important contributions to these issues, addressing such questions as: what is the true meaning of the concept of "race"? Is the concept of race a mere myth or fiction? Does the use of racial categories exacerbate racism? What race is a mixed race person? What is the race of Latinos or Arabs? How can racism best be reduced and resisted? This course will explore recent philosophical work on the concept of race and the political effects of racial identities. Students will gain an understanding of how philosophers analyze and use concepts, especially as they apply to the politics of race in the U.S. Students will also gain a better understanding of the underlining causes of the rash of police lynching that has galvanized the Black Lives Matter Movement.

Prerequisite(s): PHIL 100 or PHIL 200 or PHIL 233 or PHIL 234 or PHIL 240

PHIL 399 Independent Studies 1 to 3 Credit Hours

Readings or analytical assignments in philosophy in accordance with the needs and interests of those enrolled and agreed upon by the student and instructor. (F,W).

PHIL 415 Existentialism and Its Sources 3 Credit Hours

An exploration of the literary sources of existentialism and a critical study of selected philosophical texts. Particular themes - death, subjectivity, alienation, commitment, and freedom - will be considered in an attempt to formulate an existential conception of the human condition. Students electing this course must have successfully completed a previous course in philosophy or have permission of instructor.

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PHIL 441 Social and Political Phil 3 Credit Hours

An analysis of some fundamental problems of political and social philosophy, with special attention to the way in which theory may function as a guide to specific policies. Students electing this course must have successfully completed a previous course in philosophy or have permission of instructor.

Prerequisite(s): PHIL 100 or PHIL 120 or PHIL 233 or PHIL 234 or PHIL 240 or PHIL 301 or PHIL 302 or PHIL 303 or PHIL 304 or PHIL 305 or PHIL 310 or PHIL 315 or PHIL 335 or PHIL 340 or PHIL 350 or PHIL 365 or PHIL 369 or PHIL 370 or PHIL 371 or PHIL 375 or PHIL 380 or PHIL 390 or PHIL 411 or PHIL 442 or PHIL 485 or PHIL 490

PHIL 442 Medical Ethics 3 Credit Hours

An examination of moral issues in medicine. Among the problems to be considered are truth-telling and paternalism in the doctor-patient relationship, psychosurgery and behavior control, death and euthanasia, the allocation of scarce resources, and genetic counseling and control. Specific attention will be given to ethical theories and to philosophical concepts such as rights, autonomy, and justice. Students cannot receive credit for both PHIL 442 and PHIL 542. Students electing this course must have successfully completed a previous course in philosophy or have permission of instructor.

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PHIL 445 Contemporary Ethical Issues 3 Credit Hours

An intensive study of a topic in recent ethical theory. Topics will vary with each offering. Among the topics: ethics and law, utilitarianism, virtue theory, theories of justice, morality and emotion, ethics and partiality. Students electing this course must have successfully completed a previous course in philosophy or have permission of instructor.

Prerequisite(s): PHIL 100 or PHIL 120 or PHIL 233 or PHIL 234 or PHIL 240 or PHIL 301 or PHIL 302 or PHIL 303 or PHIL 304 or PHIL 305 or PHIL 310 or PHIL 315 or PHIL 320 or PHIL 335 or PHIL 340 or PHIL 350 or PHIL 365 or PHIL 369 or PHIL 370 or PHIL 371 or PHIL 375 or PHIL 380 or PHIL 390 or PHIL 441 or PHIL 442 or PHIL 490

PHIL 485 Philosophy of Science 3 Credit Hours

A critical study of the foundations of the sciences, natural and social, with emphasis on the following topics: the nature of scientific method, theories and explanation, probability and determinism, the unity of the sciences. Students electing this course must have successfully completed a previous course in philosophy or have permission of instructor.

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PHIL 490 Studies in Philosophy 1 to 4 Credit Hours

Intensive study of a figure, movement, or issue in philosophy. Title as listed in Schedule of Classes will change according to content. Course may be repeated for credit when specific topics differ. Typical topics: Plato's dialogues, philosophical foundations of mathematics, minds and machines. (OC).

PHIL 495 Great Thinkers in Dialogue 3 Credit Hours

This course is designed to serve as a capstone experience for students in philosophy. Research in philosophy at all levels of inquiry, beginning with undergraduate and moving toward advanced senior scholars, focuses on increasingly more and more in-depth takes on specific thinkers and problems. That is, we begin with large surveys and progressively zero in, adding complexity and nuance all along. This course looks to do precisely that at the advanced undergraduate levels by looking at two thinkers in conversation with each other over specific perennial issues in philosophy. The thinkers and topics will shift depending on the faculty member teaching the course. (YR).

Prerequisite(s): PHIL 100 and PHIL 301 and PHIL 302

PHIL 496 Independent Studies 1 to 3 Credit Hours

Topics in philosophy not ordinarily included in other courses in philosophy. Selected in accordance with needs and interests of those enrolled.

PHIL 497 Independent Studies 1 to 3 Credit Hours

Topics in philosophy not ordinarily included in other courses in philosophy, selected in accordance with the needs and interests of those enrolled.

PHIL 498 Independent Studies 1 to 4 Credit Hours

Topics in philosophy not ordinarily included in other courses in philosophy, selected in accordance with the needs and interests of those enrolled. Credit hours will vary. (F,W).

PHIL 499 Independent Studies 1 to 4 Credit Hours

Topics in philosophy not ordinarily included in other courses in philosophy, selected in accordance with the needs and interests of those enrolled. Credit hours will vary. (F,W).

* An asterisk denotes that a course may be taken concurrently.

Frequency of Offering

The following abbreviations are used to denote the frequency of offering: (F) fall term; (W) winter term; (S) summer term; (F, W) fall and winter terms; (YR) once a year; (AY) alternating years; (OC) offered occasionally