

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**PHILOSOPHY****Fall Semester 2023**

PHIL 1110	INTRO TO PHILOSOPHY	<u>Section</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
		001	11:00-12:15	TR	Bailey, G.
		602	8W2		

(GE:HU)

This course introduces students to the core areas of philosophy: Metaphysics, Epistemology, Value Theory and Logic. Problems examined include some or all of the following traditional topics: reality and appearance, free will, proofs that God exists, what is knowledge and how do we get it, and theories about what is and is not moral/ethical and why. Students learn what logic is and how it is the basis for philosophical reflection. Other philosophical issues can be introduced because of their current importance, free speech, for example

PHIL 1110	INTRO TO PHILOSOPHY	<u>Section</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
		002	2:00-3:15	TR	Georgalis, N.

(GE:HU)

The purpose of this course is to introduce you to some of the main areas of philosophy: theory of knowledge, metaphysics, philosophy of mind, philosophy of religion, and ethics. Central to doing this is to understand how philosophers try to move beyond mere speculation or the offering of their opinions on these topics. Philosophers give arguments in support of their claims. So early in the course we will attempt to understanding different kinds of arguments and what makes each kind a "good" or convincing argument. To do the latter we will examine a bit of logic

PHIL 1110	INTRO TO PHILOSOPHY	<u>Section</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
		003	11:00-12:15	TR	Veber, M

(GE:HU)

An introduction to the major issues and problems in philosophy including the existence of God, freedom and determinism, the mind body problem and skepticism

PHIL 1175	INTRO TO ETHICS	<u>Section</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
		001	12:30-1:45	TR	Collins, J

(GE:HU)

This course is an introduction to philosophical ethics, or moral philosophy, through a critical examination of some historically important philosophers and the influential ethical theories they advocate. The philosophers we will discuss include Plato, Aristotle, David Hume, John Stuart Mill, Immanuel Kant, Martha Nussbaum, and Agnes Callard. We will examine, and critically evaluate, the different answers that these philosophers provide to questions like the following: What is a good life? What is the morally right way to act? Is living morally a necessary part of living a good life? What role do reason and emotion play in determining how we ought to live? Do these questions have objective answers? Three traditional ethical theories will receive special attention: utilitarianism, deontology, and virtue ethics, but we will also cover subjectivism, relativism, and divine command theory, and how these theories fare when they are applied to some contemporary moral issues.

PHIL 1175	INTRO TO ETHICS	<u>Section</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
		002	2:00-3:15	TR	Newhard, J.

604 8W2

(GE:HU)

002-This introductory level philosophy course provides a systematic introduction to philosophy and especially to the main areas of ethical theory. As an introductory level course, no background in ethics or philosophy is presupposed. The course begins by discussing what philosophy is, and what ethics is. An ethical theory is a theory offering an answer to the question, What is it to be a morally good person? or, What is it which makes an action morally right or wrong? We study some fundamental moral concepts such as those raised by asking, What is it to be a morally good person? Are there other ways to be good, or other kinds of goodness? Is morality just a matter of getting along with others? The nature of morality is explored by examining certain challenges to justifying or proving an ethical claim. Such challenges are posed by questions such as, Are ethical claims subjective or objective? and, How is it possible to establish the truth of an ethical claim at all? Several ethical theories will be studied, including relativism and divine command theory. The three major approaches to the development of an ethical theory—consequentialism, deontology, and virtue ethics—will be explored in some detail. Two topics in applied ethics are also studied.

604-This course is an asynchronous online course. It is an introductory level philosophy course providing a systematic introduction to philosophy and especially to the main areas of ethical theory. As an introductory level course, no background in ethics or philosophy is presupposed. The course begins by discussing what philosophy is, and what ethics is. An ethical theory is a theory offering an answer to the question, What is it to be a morally good person? or, What is it which makes an action morally right or wrong? We study some fundamental moral concepts such as those raised by asking, What is it to be a morally good person? Are there other ways to be good, or other kinds of goodness? Is morality just a matter of getting along with others? The nature of morality is explored by examining certain challenges to justifying or proving an ethical claim. Such challenges are posed by questions such as, Are ethical claims subjective or objective? and, How is it possible to establish the truth of an ethical claim at all? Several ethical theories will be studied, including relativism and divine command theory. The three major approaches to the development of an ethical theory—consequentialism, deontology, and virtue ethics—will be explored in some detail.

PHIL 1175	INTRO TO ETHICS	<u>Section</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
		003	2:00-2:50	MWF	Ferguson, K.

(GE:HU)

Introduction to Ethics is a course in moral theory designed to give the student a general overview of the history of philosophical ethics. Some questions that we will examine are: How ought one to live? What is the greatest good? What is the ultimate goal in life for humans? What makes an act morally right? What role do reason and sentiment play in morality? What is human nature.

PHIL 1175	INTRO TO ETHICS	<u>Section</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
		601			Roberts, R.
		602			
		603			

(GE:HU)

The aim of this course is to introduce students to the study of ethics by examining some of the traditional approaches to moral theorizing found in Western philosophy and some of the contemporary challenges to these approaches. Course grades will be based on four objective examinations: three intermediate exams and a final exam.

PHIL 1175	INTRO TO ETHICS	<u>Section</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
		605			Olsen, L.

(GE:HU)

Introduction to Ethics is a course in moral theory designed to give the student a general overview of the history of philosophical ethics. Some questions that we will examine are: How ought one to live? What is the greatest good? What is the ultimate goal in life for humans? What makes an act morally right? What role do reason and sentiment play in morality? What is human nature? We will read classic ethical works by Plato, Aristotle, Hobbes, Hume, Kant, and Mill, in conjunction with a more general overview of ethics provided by James Rachels.

PHIL 1180	INTRO TO CRITICAL REASONING	<u>Section</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
		601			Miller, R.
		602			

(GE:HU)

This is a course in informal or non-symbolic logic. Topics include categorical, conditional and disjunctive arguments, common fallacies, finding conclusions, critically responding to arguments and identifying assumptions. Students can work at their own pace but must complete an average of one module per week in order to earn at least a B.

PHIL 1500	INTRO TO LOGIC	<u>Section</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
		001	12:30-1:45	TR	Miller, R.

(GE:HU)

This course fulfills the General Education Math Requirement. This is a course in deductive logic. Most of the course is devoted to Sentential logic. The last two weeks of the course will briefly cover Predicate Logic. Topics include definitions of validity, consistency, tautology and contradiction; truth tables for individual sentences, sets of sentences and arguments; proofs in sentence logic including conditional and indirect proof; predicate logic translations with identity. The course is designed around mastery level learning. Short quizzes cover each distinct set of problems. Students must demonstrate thorough understanding of each small unit in order to move to the next. Failing a quiz means that you must retake a quiz on the same material until it is mastered. Final grades are determined by the total number of units mastered.

PHIL 1500	INTRO TO LOGIC	<u>Section</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
		601			Olsen, L.

(GE:HU)

Introduction to Logic is a course in logical reasoning that is offered by the Department of Philosophy. The student can come to a course in logic with the expectation of spending most of his/her time examining the logical nature of thought as expressed through statements and arguments. The primary focus of the course will be on the analysis of arguments. Over the course of the semester, the student will examine how language is used to create arguments and he/she will also learn how to categorize and assess the value of such arguments. Special skills (i.e., the use of symbolic notations) will be developed to assist in argument analysis.

PHIL 2261	INTRO TO PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE	<u>Section</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
		001	TR	11:00-12:15	Veber, M.

(GE:HU)

Intro to Philosophy of Science: An introduction to the major philosophical issues and problems surrounding science. These include: What is the difference between science and pseudoscience? Is all scientific knowledge based on observation? What is the nature of confirmation, refutation, and explanation in science?

PHIL 2271	INTRO TO PHILOSOPHY OF ART	<u>Section</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
		001	TR	9:30-10:45	Bailey, G.

(GE:HU)

This class is an introduction to classical and contemporary issues in the philosophy of art. We explore how people go about philosophizing about art, and the sorts of views they create when they do this. The views we examine play a major role in Western Civilization's present understanding of modern and postmodern art. Our central concern is with views that are relevant to the art being created right now. We explore theories about what an artist working today must do to turn something into art, and theories about the sorts of value contemporary artworks should have. We are especially concerned to examine the relevance of the artist's intentions, feeling and knowledge to her art making and to examine the relation that exists between the artist, her work, and the viewer. In class, we apply what we learn from our studies to our personal.

PHIL 2274	BUSINESS ETHICS	<u>Section</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
		001	MWF	11:00-11:50	Ferguson, K.
		002	MWF	12:00-12:50	

(GE:HU)

Introduces undergraduate students to the philosophical approach to business ethics. The emphasis is on the application of normative theories to determine the moral obligations of businesswomen and businessmen. The normative theories covered include authoritarianism, evolutionary ethics, egoism, Kantian ethics, and utilitarianism (Mill). Also introduced are the leading contemporary theories of corporate responsibility, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), Triple Bottom

Line (TBL), and resilient prosperity (the most common view inside the corporate world). Topics to be covered include insider trading, price gouging, the rights of workers, sexual harassment, affirmative action, discrimination, product safety standards, animal rights, and other important issues related to business ethics.

PHIL 2275	PROFESSIONAL ETHICS	<u>Section</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
		601			Yalcin, U.
		602			
		603	8W2		

(GE:HU)

Professional Ethics focuses on ethics at work, for individuals who work in professional fields. Ethics is the philosophical study of morality, or of moral right and wrong. Professional Ethics, therefore, applies the study of morality to issues arising in professional experience. The course develops a model for analyzing such morally complex situations and focuses on applying it to numerous case-studies. This is a fully online course taught by means of the resources provided by Canvas. Participants need to be fully conversant with internet navigation processes and procedures (including netiquette), word-processors, and the Canvas environment. Course grades are based on a number of online tests or quizzes (currently eight) and weekly class participation (posting to discussion boards).

PHIL 2277	BIOMEDICAL ETHICS	<u>Section</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
		601			Smith, J.

After an extended study of background materials and ideas relevant to the study of applied philosophical ethics, our course proceeds to a careful study of the longest standing and most revered study of biomedical ethics ever published. We make a close study of all ten chapters of the 8th edition of Principles of Biomedical Ethics, by Tom Beauchamp and James Childress, published in 2019. This is a text that began in first edition in the 1970s and has followed the development of bioethics over the last fifty years, culminating in the most up-to-date history and content of biomedical ethics currently available under one cover. We will pursue their detailed considerations of Moral Foundations, Moral Principles, and Theory and Method. We will compare the conclusions reached by the authors in those areas with the extended study of background materials with which the course begins. Student will take midterm and final essay examinations and produce a semester essay that may be optionally submitted for professorial critique before final submission for grading. Each of the five course requirements has equal weight in determining the course grade.

PHIL 3281	INTRO PHIL ETHICS HEALTH CARE	<u>Section</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
		601			Smith, J.

We begin with a story that for more than thirty years has produced the obvious need for the class to discuss moral relativism. That discussion will lead to interrelated topics dealing with the relation of the social sciences to philosophy, with the nature of inference, and with some introductory considerations of the cognitive status of moral claims. These considerations will include issues regarding inferential justification, domestic and foreign diversity, the nature of the American founding, domestic and foreign diversity, and methods for the presentation of sound argumentation in cases of moral importance in health care. Students will complete three exams, a semester essay, and a final exam

PHIL 3290	PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION	<u>Section</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
		001	TR	9:30-10:45	Collins, J.

This course will be a critical analysis of the problem of evil. This is the problem of reconciling the existence of a God who is all-powerful, all-knowing, and morally perfect, with the existence of bad things, like moral evil or the suffering and death of innocent children. We'll consider various responses from theists as to why such a God would (or might) permit or cause evil. Discussion of this problem will take us into several areas of philosophy, such as metaphysics, epistemology, and moral philosophy. (What are the properties of a perfect being? How should a perfectly good being act? What is the nature of evil? Is human free will compatible with God's divine foreknowledge? How much do we know about good and evil?)

PHIL 4250	METAPHYSICS	<u>Section</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
		001	11:00-12:15	TR	Newhard, J.

The aim of this course is to introduce advanced undergraduate students to some of the central topics, problems, and concepts in metaphysics. Important topics in metaphysics include existence, possibility and necessity, the nature of time, properties and objects, mereology, identity, change and persistence, personal identity, causation, and freedom and determinism. This course will focus on the topics of the nature of time, change and persistence, personal identity, and freedom and determinism. Exploring these topics in metaphysics not only has great significance in itself; it also has great practical importance, since their study leads to a greater understanding of oneself, the comprehensive span of one's life, and moral responsibility.

PHIL 4276	SOCIAL POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY	<u>Section</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
		001	TR	2:00-3:15	Wall, E.

This semester, among other things, we will engage in a philosophical examination of Martin Luther King's account of civil disobedience in his "Letter from Birmingham Jail" and Henry David Thoreau's account of civil disobedience in his treatise, "Civil Disobedience." We, also, will engage in a philosophical examination of the social and political thought of John Locke in his *Second Treatise of Government*, including an examination of his justificatory foundation for political society and government, which, in turn, includes, among other things, his accounts of natural moral rights and the philosophical basis for legal duties. We will compare Hobbes's political philosophy to Locke's political philosophy, and we will examine the moral status of capital punishment