



Sign up for summer classes in

Philosophy

Course Offerings ~ Summer 2011

Phil 3000-01	Morality & the Movies	Devlin
MTWR 1:35 – 4:25 pm	Movies can present characters that undergo moral dilemmas: problems to solve or decisions to make that have a moral nature and consequences. Furthermore, movies can explore many different questions in the study of morality: What do we mean when we say a person is morally good? How do we justify an action as good? Do we rely upon principles, consequences, virtues, etc? How do we apply such moral reasoning in everyday life? Such moral questions bring us to the topic of moral philosophy, or ethics, which include moral theories that provide various reasons concerning how to act, how to justify decisions between the right and wrong actions, and reasons as to whether or not such theoretical claims are objective or relative. In this course, we explore various films and use readings from famous philosophers in history to help interpret and understand the moral questions and arguments presented through these films.	
5/16 – 6/12		
Phil 3000-02	How to Think About Weird Things	Thompson
MTWR 9:10-12:00 pm	The class will explore some of the more traditional forms of beliefs in the supernatural, such as astrology, ghosts, the law of attraction, vampires, clairvoyance, telekinesis, astrology, Nostradamus and miracle cures, as well as beliefs in phenomena such as bigfoot, UFO's, extra-terrestrials, alien abduction, new world order conspiracies, and the like. We will examine the evidence and arguments for the reasonableness of these beliefs.	
6/13 – 7/10		
Phil 3000-03	Destiny, Fate, and Freewill	Thompson
MTWR 1:35 – 4:25 pm	Freedom of the will is one of the most widely discussed philosophical topics. The topic surfaces as one attempts to understand moral responsibility, praise, blame, personal autonomy, personal projects, the self, God, destiny, fate, and our human condition. We will examine free will as it relates to each of those topics.	
6/13 – 7/10		
Phil 3000-04	God, Death & the Afterlife: Philosophical Investigations	Devlin
MWTR 5:20 – 8:00 pm	Does God exist? If so, how do we know? Should we use reason to prove God's existence, or should we rely upon faith? Does science challenge our reasons for believing in God? What is death? What does our own mortality mean to how we live our lives? Is there an afterlife? Is the meaning of our lives grounded in an afterlife or is it found in this life? In this course, we will philosophically explore questions and issues in religion, life, and death. We will examine various perspectives—from theism to atheism to agnosticism to existentialism—to help flesh out multiple ways to approach questions regarding faith, reason, arguments for and against God's existence, the meaning of death and a meaningful life.	
7/11 – 8/5		
Phil 3320-01	Eastern Thought –Meets Non-Western for A&S	Devlin
MTWR 5:20 – 8:00 pm	Take a journey to the East and explore the central philosophies and religions of Asia, as we examine four particular religions – Hinduism, Theravada Buddhism, Taoism, and Mahayana Buddhism – and focus on the philosophical significance of these religions. <i>Cross listed with RELI 4500</i>	
5/16 – 6/12		

