



Sign up for summer classes in

Philosophy

Course Offerings ~ Summer 2014

Session 1

Phil 3000-03	Sex, Love & Philosophy	Goodin
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MTWR 9:10-11:50 am 5/19 – 6/13	This course will look at the nature of romantic or erotic love. Among the topics we will cover will be: distinctions among love, sex, infatuation, obsession, and friendship, the role of physical attraction for love, gender differences in the conception of love and sex, and the various views on homosexuality, marriage, monogamy, adultery, promiscuity, perversion, pornography and rape.
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The broad topic of philosophy of sex has been found, in one way or another, throughout history. From Plato's Symposium and Aquinas' On the Truth of the Catholic Faith, through Hume, Mill, Nietzsche, Milton, Shakespeare, and Stendhal, up to contemporary feminism and gender studies, sex and love have been discussed, analyzed, dissected, dismissed, and celebrated. As the authors of Philosophy and Sex point out, if the unexamined life is not worth living, and given that sex and love are an undeniable part of that life, then how can the philosopher not include them as topics for philosophical scrutiny?

Session 2

Phil 3000-05	Science Fiction & Philosophy	Poland
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MTWRF 1:35-4:25 pm 6/16-7/4	Is it possible that we are living in a computer simulation like in the movie The Matrix? Can sophisticated artificial intelligences have genuine minds? Would they be morally equivalent to humans? If your brain is put into another body, did you become a brain donor or were you the recipient of a new body? What are some of the paradoxes associated with time travel? This class will explore these and related questions using both philosophical and science fiction texts/media.
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Session 3

Phil 3000-06	Morality at the Movies	Devlin
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MTWRF 5:00 – 7:35 pm 7/14 – 8/8	Movies can present characters that undergo moral dilemmas: problems to solve or decisions to make that have moral ramifications. 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 questions bring us to the topic of moral philosophy, or ethics, which include the study of theories that provide reasons concerning how to act morally, how to justify such actions, and whether or not such justifications are objective or relative. In this course, we explore various films and use readings from famous philosophers to help interpret and understand the moral questions and arguments presented through these cinematic portrayals.
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Phil 3320-01	Eastern Thought – Non-Western for A&S	Devlin
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MTWRF 1:35 – 4:10 pm 7/14 – 8/8	Philosophical Dialogues Between East and West 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. This significance will be enhanced as we explore these eastern religions in a “philosophical dialogue” with western philosophers such as Plato, Epictetus, Arthur Schopenhauer, and Friedrich Nietzsche. Class discussions will stress analysis of readings and important philosophical concepts that arise from our Eastern and Western exploration and how they apply to our lives at home in the West. <i>Crosslisted: Reli 4500</i>
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