

Philosophy

Course Offerings – Spring 2012

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| Phil 1000-01 | Introduction to Philosophy--C1, CH | Goodin |
| TR 11:00 am -12:15 pm | This course explores such philosophical topics as God (his existence and his traits), metaphysics (the study of reality and being), and epistemology (the study of knowledge). | |
| Phil 1000-02 | Introduction to Philosophy: Ethics & the Meaning of Life--C1, CH | Sherline |
| MW 10:00-10:50 am | This course is designed to introduce you to philosophy by focusing on one major area, ethics. Within this broad area we'll look at questions such as: If God doesn't exist, is everything permitted? Why should I be moral in cases where it is against my self-interest? Why is it wrong to kill people? What is so bad about death? What is a happy life? What is a meaningful life? | |
| | Discussion Sections held on Fridays: section 20 – 9:00-9:50 section 21 – 10:00-10:50 section 22 – 10:00-10:50 section 23 – 11:00-11:50 | |
| Phil 2330-01 | Environmental Ethics--C1, CH | Mayes |
| TR 11:00-12:15 pm | This course serves both as an introduction to ethical theory with practical application to environmental problems and as an introduction to the issues that arise from the study of environmental philosophy itself. | |
| Phil 3120-01 | Ancient Greek Philosophy | Colter |
| MWF 10:00-10:50 am | See instructor for further information. | |
| Phil 3350-01 | History of Moral Philosophy | Sherline |
| TR 1:20-2:35 pm | What is happiness? What is virtue? Why be moral? How should morality and science be reconciled? What is duty, and what are my duties? We'll study historical works by the most influential ethical theorists from the beginnings of Western philosophical thought through the 19th century: Plato, Aristotle, Hume, Kant, Mill, Nietzsche. | |
| Phil 3500-01 | History of Science | Griesmaier |
| MWF 11:00-11:50 am | Historical and philosophical survey of the development of science from the pre-literate societies through Newton. | |
| Phil 4030/5030 | Aristotle | Colter |
| W 3:10-5:40 pm | See instructor for further information. | |
| Phil 4340/5340 | Issues in Environmental Ethics | Lockwood |
| R 3:00-5:30 pm | Environmental aesthetics concerns the ways in which nature affects our senses—most often (but by no means always) in a positive way. Humans value, protect, and manage nature, often in large part, because of our experience of beauty. But what is a defensible approach to an aesthetic engagement with the environment? Should we view nature through the lens of artistic standards, our emotional responses, scientific understanding—or could it be that aesthetic judgments are inapplicable to natural objects? We'll explore theories of beauty whether they should be applied, revised, or abandoned with regard to the environment. | |
| Phil 4420/5420 | Advanced Logic | Griesmaier |
| TR 9:35-10:50 am | This is an introduction to Modal Logic, an area of increasing importance for doing technical philosophy, esp. for those interested in metaphysics and epistemology. It will cover propositional and quantified modal logic, exploring both proof and model theories, with an emphasis on the latter. We will also discuss doxastic, epistemic, and justification logics. | |
| Phil 5100-01 | Figures in Modern & 19th Century: Leibniz | Goodin |
| T 3:00-5:30 pm | We will be reading Daniel Garber's acclaimed new book Leibniz: Body, Substance, Monad. This book examines how Leibniz moved from being a stalwart believer in mechanism to the rather startling metaphysical position of monadology, the claim that reality consists solely of an infinite number of minds and their perceptions, each isolated from all the others yet perfectly synchronized. | |