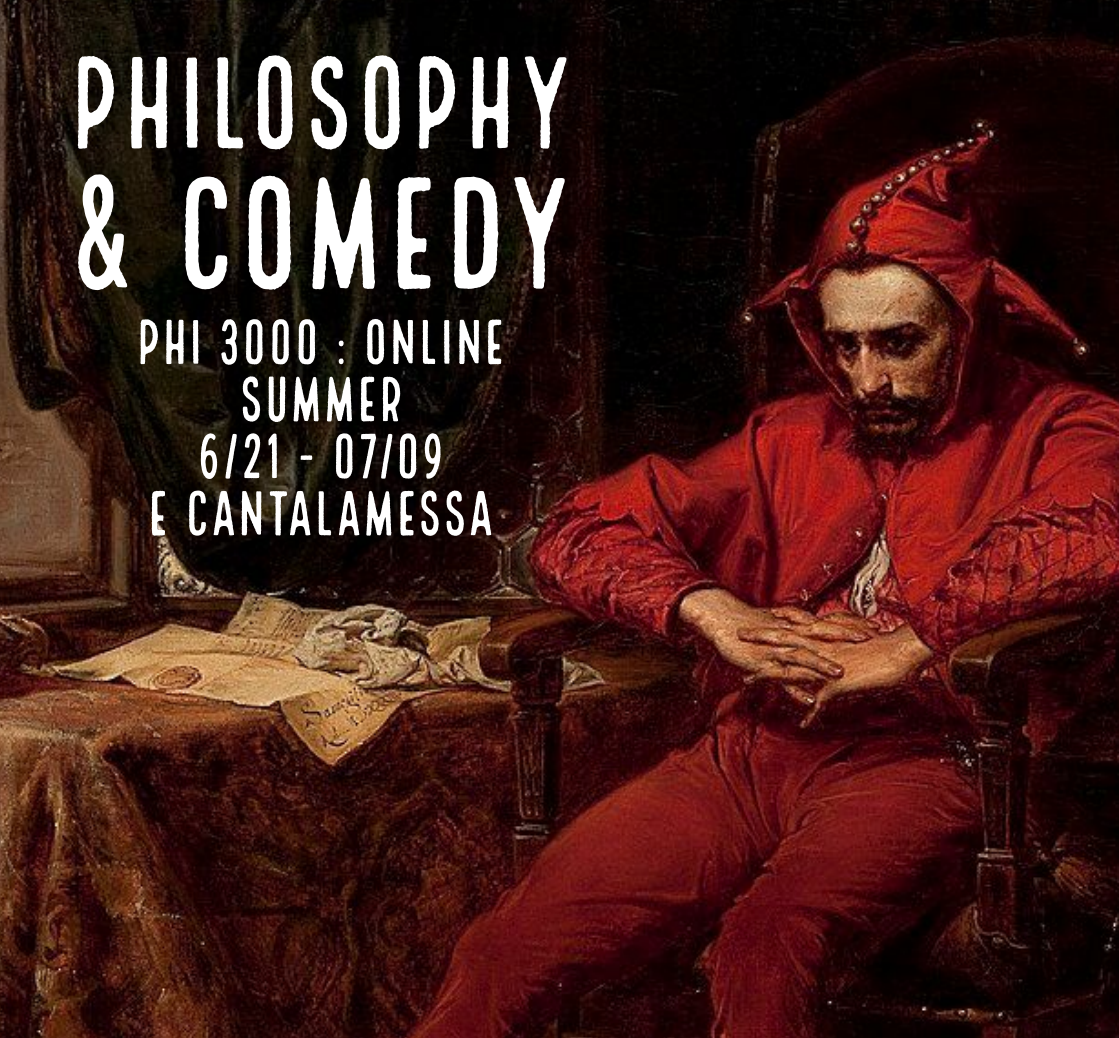


# PHILOSOPHY & COMEDY

PHI 3000 : ONLINE  
SUMMER  
6/21 - 07/09  
E CANTALAMESSA



Humor and authority have an essential but often overlooked relationship. Consider the role of the court jester during medieval times: the jester had the unique ability to poke fun at the king, an otherwise unquestionable authority figure. In this class we'll explore the ways in which humor functions as a method for revealing (and sometimes undermining) authority. We'll look at the relationship between power and humor, and explore whether comedy does or should have limits. How does humor relate to power and authority? How can satire serve as a form of political critique? Should comedians be subject to moral norms? How does comedy pose challenges for legal practices such as copyright law?