

Philosophy

Course Offerings – Spring 2014

Phil 1000.01	Introduction to Philosophy: Ethics & the Meaning of Life – CH	Sherline
MW 10:00-10:50 am	This course is designed to introduce you to philosophy by concentrating on the area of ethics. We'll look at questions such as: Is morality relative? Why should I be moral when it is against my self-interest? Why is it wrong to kill? What is so bad about death? What is the moral status of nonhuman animals? What is the best life for me to lead? What is a meaningful life?	
Plus one Friday discussion section	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 1000.02	Introduction to Philosophy - CH	Colter
MW 11:00-11:50 am	This course is designed to introduce you to philosophy by focusing on three major areas of philosophical research: epistemology, or the theory of knowledge, metaphysics, or the theory of the ultimate nature of reality, the philosophy of mind, and ethics, the investigation of the moral permissibility and/or obligatoriness of (types of) human action.	
Plus one Friday discussion section	Discussion Sections held on Fridays: section 24 – 10:00-10:50 section 25 –11:00-11:50 section 26 – 11:00-11:50 section 27 – 12:00-12:50	
Phil 1000.03	Introduction to Philosophy - CH	Goodin
TR 11:00-12:15 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 2345.01	Natural Resource Ethics - CH, D	Arico
MWF 11:00-11:50 am	This course pursues the development of an ethical “toolbox”—theoretical methods that pertain to conflicts regarding natural resources—along with how these tools work, their limitations, and what problems they can address. We finish with the tools of justice to explore how environmental assets and liabilities ought to be distributed. <i>Cross-listed with ENR 2345/RNEW 2345</i>	
Phil 2345.02	Natural Resource Ethics - CH, D	Arico
MWF 1:10-2:00 pm	This course pursues the development of an ethical “toolbox”—theoretical methods that pertain to conflicts regarding natural resources—along with how these tools work, their limitations, and what problems they can address. We finish with the tools of justice to explore how environmental assets and liabilities ought to be distributed. <i>Cross-listed with ENR 2345/RNEW 2345</i>	
Phil 3000-01	Tp: Ethics of War	Sherline
TR 1:20-2:35 pm	When is it justified to go to war? When, for example, is humanitarian intervention justified? What about military intervention in another state's civil war? What are the ethical rules of conduct of war? Why is the use of chemical weapons immoral? Is it justified to fight terror with terror? What is a just peace? In this class we'll consider these and other questions regarding the ethics of war, concentrating on current issues	
Phil 3120-01	Ancient Greek Philosophy	Colter
MWF 1:10-2:00 pm	This is a course surveying some of ancient Greek philosophy. We will begin with the works of the earliest extant philosophical thinkers, known as the pre-Socratics, who began thinking in a way that is recognizably philosophical. The remainder of the course will focus on two giants of western philosophy, Plato and Aristotle.	
Phil 3350-01	History of Moral Philosophy	Sherline
MWF 11:00-11:50 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 3420-01	Symbolic Logic	Griesmaier
MWF 10:00-10:50 am	Studies both propositional and quantificational logic, concentrating on methods of proof. Takes up such topics as identity, singular terms, intuitive set theory, and translating English sentences into symbolic notation.	
Phil 3440-01	Philosophy of Mind	Arico
MWF 2:10-3:00 pm	What is the relationship between our minds and our bodies? What is consciousness? What accounts for the mind's capacity to be about objects external to it? Is the theory of mind simply part of an outdated, unscientific folk theory which should be discarded in favor of neuroscience? These are some of the more pressing questions which we will address in this course.	
Phil 3500-01	History of Science	Griesmaier
TR 11:00-12:15 pm	Historical and philosophical survey of the development of science from the ancient Greeks to the twentieth century.	
Phil 4000/5000	Phil Issues: Stoicism/Skepticism/Epistemology	Colter
R 3:00-5:30 pm	Stoicism and Skepticism are two prominent post-Aristotle philosophical schools that emphasized philosophy as a way of life. In this seminar, we will explore these schools with an emphasis on their epistemology and practical philosophies.	
Phil 4340/5340	Issues Environmental Ethics: Philosophy of Wilderness	Lockwood
M 3:10-5:40 pm	In the course, we will explore two philosophical lines of inquiry—the ontology and axiology of wilderness. In other words, we will ask, “What is wilderness” and “Why is wilderness valuable?” Neither question is simple to answer, but both are key to understanding the concept and developing rational policies.	
Phil 4440/5440	Tp: Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Cognitive Science	Arico
T 3:00-5:30 pm	This course will survey the many ways that our philosophical study of mind and cognition overlaps and interacts with contemporary science. We will consider the reducibility of the mental to the physical (i.e., neurological), contemplate how best to scientifically investigate mentality and cognition, and explore various ways that sciences like Linguistics, Vision Science, Psychology, and Neuroscience might inform our philosophical understanding of human cognition.	