Course Offerings - Summer 2017

### Session 1

5/22-6/09

#### Phil 3000.01

#### **Anime: Alternate Societies and Personal Identity**

**Pekins** 

MTWR 9:10 am - 12:50 pm

Watch anime and do philosophy! Anime often presents particularly rich and entertaining depictions of future and alternate societies. Class will feature two full-length anime series, "Psycho-Pass" (season 1) and "Serial Experiments Lain." We may also analyze clips and episodes from other shows such as "Ergo Proxy," and "Ghost in the Shell," but mainly based on student preference/input. Using these anime series, we will examine various philosophical issues concerning personal identity and society/social structure. Possible questions to be explored: how do we understand personal identity and responsibility in the context of a particular community or society? What about in a virtual community? What makes for a "good" or "successful" society? How does societal transformation change collective and individual notions of personal identity? How might the technological advances of the future impact personal identity?

#### Phil 3000.02

#### Sex, Art, and Philosophy

Cantalamessa

MTWR 1:35 pm – 5:15 pm In this course we will explore fundamental questions in philosophy through less conventional domains. Some issues we'll we address include: What is the ontological nature of art works? How can we make true claims about fictional entities? What is the nature of love? What makes us human? What constitutes sex? We will also watch films and discuss how these issues are addressed. Some of the films we will watch are, Mad Max: Fury Road (2015), Ferris Bueller's Day Off (1986), Her (2013), and Rashomon (1950.

## **Session 2**

6/19-7/14

#### Phil 3000.03 H

### Harry Potter and Philosophy

Julian

MTWR 9:10 am – 12:50 pm The Harry Potter series has had a massive cultural impact on the world, and not by any mistake. The diverse themes and genres the series embraces are a testament to its popularity and resulting influence. This course focuses on the philosophical insights that are found within the wizarding world created by J. K. Rowling. Numerous important topics of philosophy, from ancient to current, will be discussed in this course. These topics include identity and death, love, feminism, patriotism and politics, choices and abilities, and more. There are no prerequisites, as all magical creatures and muggles are welcome.

# **Session 3**

7/17-8/04

#### Phil 3000.05

#### **Philosophy Through Science Fiction**

**Poland** 

MTWR 5:00 pm – 8:40 pm Science Fiction provides us with some of the most vivid and sometimes visceral presentations of problems that are traditionally classified as 'philosophical.' Problems such as 'Who are we (What is the Human Condition)? Where are we (What is the nature of reality)? What are we doing here (Do we have a purpose)? In this course we will discuss classic and contemporary approaches to addressing these and related questions (e.g. 'What is Knowledge?' 'What is a Mind?' 'What is Time?') through both academic literature and science fiction media.