



Introductory Courses

PHIL 110.01 Introductory Philosophy 3 credits Adrienne Lyles-Chockley
10:00-10:50 MWF

Readings and discussions designed to introduce the student to the major areas and problems of philosophy through a study of writings of classical and contemporary thinkers. *This course fulfills LO1: Philosophical Worldviews.*

PHIL 110.02 Introductory Philosophy 3 credits Megan Zwart
11:00-12:15 TR

Readings and discussions designed to introduce the student to the major areas and problems of philosophy through a study of writings of classical and contemporary thinkers. *This course fulfills LO1: Philosophical Worldviews; LO2: Women's Voices; LO2: Critical Thinking Seminar; and LO3: Social Responsibility A.*

PHIL 110.03 Introductory Philosophy 3 credits George Trey
3:00-4:15 MW

Readings and discussions designed to introduce the student to the major areas and problems of philosophy through a study of writings of classical and contemporary thinkers. *This course fulfills LO1: Philosophical Worldviews; LO2: Critical Thinking Seminar*

PHIL 110.04, 05 Introductory Philosophy 3 credits Joseph Rabbitt
9:30-10:45 TR
12:30-1:45 TR

Readings and discussions designed to introduce the student to the major areas and problems of philosophy through a study of writings of classical and contemporary thinkers. *This course fulfills LO1: Philosophical Worldviews.*

PHIL 110W Introductory Philosophy 4.0 credits Patricia Sayre
11:00-11:50 MWF
also meets 12:00-12:50 W

We live in a world that can dazzle us with beauty but also threaten us with chaos. Even the most orderly of lives can unexpectedly veer out of control, and the most rational of activities take on aspects of madness. How are we to make our way in such a world? Is there some underlying pattern in the mad whirl? Can we find meaning in the mayhem? Questions concerning life's meaning and purpose lie at the heart of all serious philosophical inquiry. In this course we will explore the possibilities for meaning offered by the conceptual frameworks of western philosophy. Whether we are wrestling with Socrates' response to the collapse of Athenian democracy or Descartes' response

to the collapse of the medieval worldview, our concern throughout will be to articulate our own responses to the questions that matter most. *This course fulfills LO1: Philosophical Worldviews; LO2: Writing Proficiency.*

Upper Division Courses

PHIL 230 **Socrates to Scholasticism** **3 credits** **Patricia Sayre**
10:00-10:50 MWF

This is a course for those who like to ask big questions and think about big answers, and who want to know something about the ideas that have shaped western culture—its art, literature, religion, history, science and politics. We begin at the very beginning with the first recorded evidence of philosophical thought in the West. After a brief visit with the Pre-Socratics, who set the agenda for us, we turn to Plato and Aristotle and consider the powerful philosophical visions they developed in response that agenda. Then it is on to the medieval thinkers, Augustine and Aquinas, and their synthesizing of these visions with Christian thought. *Recommended for intellectually lively students majoring in any discipline, but especially crucial for those serious about work in the humanities.*

PHIL 233 **Philosophy of Gender** **3 credits** **Megan Zwart**
9:30-10:45 TR

In this course, we will investigate questions of gender construction and how gender construction has influenced how philosophy has been done and received historically. The course will also investigate how past and present thinkers view reality, knowledge and the good through the lens of gender identity (and the intersections of gender and other identities, including race, class and sexuality). In an effort to confront these questions, we'll do several things. We'll consider key historical texts that discuss sex and gender, paying close attention to the sex and gender based assumptions these texts make. We'll consider the way in which some key philosophical concepts (reason, for instance) have been gendered in the history of thought, and ask about the effect these gendered concepts have had on philosophical thought and experience. We'll also take seriously the critiques of feminist philosophers who call for revision of the canon to include voices of more women across history, paying attention to critiques issuing from queer theory and underrepresented feminist voices.

PHIL 235 **Philosophy of Human Existence** **3 credits** **Patricia Sayre**
3:00-4:15 MW

This course provides an introduction to philosophy structured around encounters with a number of existentialist thinkers (Dostoevsky, Kierkegaard, Nietzsche, Sartre, Camus, de Beauvoir, Tillich, Buber, Marcel, and Jaspers) as they reflect on philosophical issues pertaining to human existence. These issues coalesce around three fundamental sorts of questions: (1) What is the relationship between human existence (that we are) and human essence (what we are) and what do various accounts of this relationship imply about the larger reality within which we find ourselves? (2) What are the powers and limits of human rationality and knowledge and how do these shape our understanding of the point and purpose of human existence? (3) What does it mean to assume moral responsibility for living a good life as a being existing in a world with other human beings? Ultimately this course will provide students with an opportunity to think philosophically about how their views on human existence contribute to their larger views of the world and about how these views translate into concrete actions. *Fulfills Sophia Philosophical Worldviews requirement as well as being an elective course for both majors and minors in philosophy.*

PHIL 243 **Intro to Feminist Philosophy** **3 credits** **Adrienne Lyles-Chockley**
11:00-11:50 MWF

This course is an inquiry into the meaning of gender and its philosophical implications. Questions of identity, knowledge, ethics, and race will be considered both from historical and contemporary perspectives. Feminism is both an intellectual commitment and a social and political movement that seeks justice for women. We will be studying feminism from a theoretical background and examine the philosophical and intellectual commitments that underlie feminist projects. Throughout the course, we will examine how feminist philosophy and inquiry is motivated by a quest for justice. *This course fulfills LO1 Philosophical Worldviews; LO2 Writing Proficiency.*

PHIL 253 **Philosophy of Politics** **3 credits** **George Trey**
11:00-12:15 MW

This course will serve as an introduction to philosophical thinking and philosophical literature using the philosophy of politics as a focal point. The Western philosophical tradition is rich in political thought. Both Plato and Aristotle understood ethics and politics to be seminal to the overall philosophical enterprise. Both Augustine and Thomas also incorporated reflections on law, justice, and worldly affairs into their concerns about human nature and the nature of the divine. Modern Philosophy has likewise been rife with political thought as philosophy became increasingly attuned to the changing dynamics brought about by the rise of modern science, transitions to market economies, an emphasis on individualism and shifts in how we think about all other philosophical matters. As such, this course will involve reflections upon, and critical analyses of, the way that classical thinkers have viewed the relationships that exist between questions concerning the nature of reality, the standards for knowing and conceptions of the good.

PHIL 254 **Social Justice-AEL** **3 credits** **Megan Zwart**
2:00-3:15 TR

Eating is very important to all of us. We spend lots of our time, money and energy purchasing, preparing and consuming food. But despite the important role food plays in our lives, we often fail to notice that each food choice we make is part of a larger web of social, political and economic systems which often degrade the natural world and disadvantage the vulnerable. In this course in applied social philosophy, we will use the lens of food to consider the broad philosophical question: 'how can these systems use and distribute natural and human resources justly, both locally and globally.' In answering this question, we will pay special attention to the hidden costs of the food we eat daily, particularly focusing on the costs to our natural environment and those who are disadvantaged. Since philosophy can prepare us to harmonize our most deeply held beliefs with our actions, this course aims to help the student understand the current injustices embedded in our food system, to clarify her own views on appropriate distribution and consumption of the world's resources, and to develop the skills and knowledge necessary for effective advocacy on these issues. This course also includes an academic experiential learning component, which will enable students to engage off campus, through field trips and service learning, with community partners pursuing food justice locally. LO3: Global Learning B; LO3: Social Responsibility A & B; LO3 Academic Experiential Learning

PHIL 332 **Kant and His Critics** **3 credits** **George Trey**
4:30-5:45 MW

This course involves an intensive study of the important philosophical works of Immanuel Kant. Kant is a pivotal figure in the history of philosophy. It could be said with little hyperbole that every philosopher after Kant had Kant to contend with. The focal point of our study will be the famous *Critique of Pure Reason*—a notoriously challenging, yet very

rewarding text. Emphasis will be placed on the transcendental aesthetic and the transcendental analytic, but consideration will also be given to the dialectic. Kant's work incites us to consider the relative merits of epistemological realism and epistemological nominalism. Put otherwise, we will consider the role of the human mind in the construction of knowledge. In addition to this we will examine important features of Kant's ethical philosophy. Kant's famed categorical imperative will be the focal point of this enquiry. Finally, we will examine the work of two of Kant's 19th century critics: Hegel and Nietzsche.

Phil 497.01 Permission	Independent Study	1 to 3 credits	George Trey
Phil 497.02 Permission	Independent Study	1 to 3 credits	Megan Zwart
Phil 497.03 Permission	Independent Study	1 to 3 credits	Patricia Sayre
Phil 998.01 Permission	Advanced Writing Proficiency		George Trey
Phil 999.01 Permission	Senior Comprehensive		George Trey

Advising: Spring 2016

For advising regarding course selection you may consult with any member of the Philosophy faculty, or, if you are working on a major or minor in Philosophy Contact:

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