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# PHILOSOPHY

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Department Website: <http://philosophy.uchicago.edu>

## Philosophy Undergraduate Wiki

<https://wiki.uchicago.edu/display/phildr/Philosophy+Wiki+Home+Page> (<https://wiki.uchicago.edu/display/phildr/Philosophy+Wiki+Home+Page/>)

## Email Lists

All majors and minors in philosophy should immediately subscribe to two Department of Philosophy email lists: [philugs@lists.uchicago.edu](mailto:philugs@lists.uchicago.edu) and [philosophy@lists.uchicago.edu](mailto:philosophy@lists.uchicago.edu). These lists are the department's primary means of disseminating information on the undergraduate program, deadlines, prizes, fellowships, and events. Information on how to subscribe can be found here: <https://wiki.uchicago.edu/display/phildr/Philosophy+Email+Lists>. (<https://wiki.uchicago.edu/display/phildr/Philosophy+Email+Lists/>)

## PROGRAM OF STUDY

Philosophy covers a wide range of historical periods and fields. The BA program in philosophy is intended to acquaint students with some of the classic texts of the discipline and with the different areas of inquiry, as well as to train students in rigorous methods of argument. In addition to the standard major, the department offers two tracks. The intensive track option is for qualified students interested in small group discussions of major philosophical problems and texts. The option in philosophy and allied fields is designed for students who wish to pursue an interdisciplinary program involving philosophy and some other field. All three options are described in the next section.

The course offerings described include both 20000-level courses (normally restricted to College students) and 30000-level courses (open to graduate students and advanced College students). There is room for a good deal of flexibility in individual planning of programs. Most of the requirements allow some choice among options. Course prerequisites may be relaxed with the consent of the instructor, and College students may take 40000- and 50000-level courses (normally restricted to graduate students) under special circumstances. Students should work out their program under the guidance of the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Students in other fields of study may also complete a minor in Philosophy. Information follows the description of the major.

## PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

All majors will be required to book an appointment (<https://calendly.com/tyler-j-zimmer/>) with the Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies during Winter Quarter of their third year to review their program of study and discuss the possibility of writing the senior essay.

## THE STANDARD MAJOR

The following basic requirements for the standard major in philosophy are intended to constitute a core philosophy curriculum and to provide some structure within an extremely varied collection of course offerings that changes from year to year.

The Department of Philosophy offers a three-quarter sequence in the history of philosophy (PHIL 25000 History of Philosophy I: Ancient Philosophy, PHIL 26000 History of Philosophy II: Medieval and Early Modern Philosophy, and PHIL 27000 History of Philosophy III: Kant and the 19th Century), which begins in the first quarter with ancient Greek philosophy and ends in the third quarter with nineteenth-century philosophy. Students are required to take two courses from this sequence (any two are acceptable) and are encouraged to take all three. Students are also encouraged to take these courses early in their program because they make an appropriate introduction to more advanced courses. Students may substitute both PHIL 25200 Intensive History of Philosophy, Part I: Plato and PHIL 26200 Intensive History of Ancient Philosophy, Part II: Aristotle for PHIL 25000. Note, however, that taking both PHIL 25200 and PHIL 26200 counts as taking only one quarter of the history requirement, though they will count for two courses so far as the major is concerned.

Students are also urged to take logic as early in their studies as possible. Although either PHIL 20100 Introduction to Logic or PHIL 20012 Accelerated Introduction to Logic both satisfy the logic requirement, students may count only one of these two courses toward the credits required for graduation. Students may bypass the logic requirement standardly satisfied by PHIL 20100 Introduction to Logic by taking either PHIL 29400 Intermediate Logic, MATH 27700 Mathematical Logic I, or MATH 27800 Mathematical Logic II. However, although either MATH 27700 or MATH 27800 satisfy the logic requirement, these courses do not count for credit toward the completion of the major. Only courses with a PHIL designation count toward the total number of credits required in order to complete the major. Save for transfer credit (see below), there are no exceptions to this rule.

In order to officially declare as a standard major, students should do so using the student portal (<http://my.uchicago.edu>). Unlike the other forms of the major (see sections on The Intensive Track and Philosophy and

Allied Fields below), there is no departmental application form standard track students need to complete in order to officially declare as a major.

Standard majors are welcome to apply to write senior essays. For more information, please see The Senior Essay below.

Distribution

At least two courses in one of the following two fields and at least one course in the other field: (A) practical philosophy and (B) theoretical philosophy.

Courses that may be counted toward these requirements are indicated in the course descriptions by boldface letters in parentheses. Other courses may not be used to meet field distribution requirements.

Summary of Requirements: Standard Major

Two of the following:		200
PHIL 25000	History of Philosophy I: Ancient Philosophy *	
PHIL 26000	History of Philosophy II: Medieval and Early Modern Philosophy	
PHIL 27000	History of Philosophy III: Kant and the 19th Century	
PHIL 20100	Introduction to Logic (or approved alternative course in logic)	100
One of the following:		300
One from field A and two from field B		
Two from field A and one from field B		
Four additional courses in philosophy **		400
Total Units		1000

- \* Students may substitute both PHIL 25200 Intensive History of Philosophy, Part I: Plato and PHIL 26200 Intensive History of Ancient Philosophy, Part II: Aristotle for PHIL 25000.
- \*\* These courses must be drawn from departmental offerings. One of these courses may be satisfied by participation in PHIL 29902 Senior Seminar II.

THE INTENSIVE TRACK

Admission to the intensive track requires an application, which must be submitted by week 4 of the Spring Quarter in the student's second year. The application form is on the department wiki (<https://wiki.uchicago.edu/display/phildr/Departmental+Forms/>).

The intensive track is designed to acquaint students with the problems and methods of philosophy in more depth than is possible for students in the standard major. It differs from the standard program mainly by offering the opportunity to meet in the following very small discussion groups: the intensive track seminar in the Autumn Quarter of the third or fourth year (PHIL 29601 Intensive Track Seminar), PHIL 29200 Junior Tutorial, and PHIL 29300 Senior Tutorial.

Note on the pacing and scheduling of the intensive track: Intensive track majors take PHIL 29601 Intensive Track Seminar in Autumn Quarter of their third year. Students fulfill the tutorial requirement by selecting one junior tutorial (PHIL 29200) in any quarter of their third year and one senior tutorial (PHIL 29300) in any quarter of their fourth year. Finally, intensive track students must write a senior essay. The essay process includes participation in the Senior Seminar over two quarters of their fourth year; students must register for PHIL 29901 Senior Seminar I in Autumn Quarter and PHIL 29902 Senior Seminar II in Winter Quarter.

Summary of Requirements: Intensive Track

Two of the following:		200
PHIL 25000	History of Philosophy I: Ancient Philosophy *	
PHIL 26000	History of Philosophy II: Medieval and Early Modern Philosophy	
PHIL 27000	History of Philosophy III: Kant and the 19th Century	
PHIL 20100	Introduction to Logic (or approved alternative course in logic)	100
One of the following:		300
One from field A and two from field B		
Two from field A and one from field B		
PHIL 29200	Junior Tutorial	100
PHIL 29300	Senior Tutorial	100
PHIL 29601	Intensive Track Seminar	100
PHIL 29901 & PHIL 29902	Senior Seminar I and Senior Seminar II	200

Two additional courses in philosophy **	200
Total Units	1300

- \* Students may substitute both PHIL 25200 Intensive History of Philosophy, Part I: Plato and PHIL 26200 Intensive History of Ancient Philosophy, Part II: Aristotle for PHIL 25000.
- \*\* These courses must be drawn from departmental offerings. Students should consult with the Director of Undergraduate Studies regarding courses taken at other colleges.

PHILOSOPHY AND ALLIED FIELDS

This variant of the major is a specialist option for students with a clear and detailed picture of a coherent interdisciplinary course of study, not available under the standard forms of major and minor. Examples of recent programs devised by students electing this track are philosophy and mathematics, philosophy and biology, and philosophy and economics. Students in this program must meet the first three of the basic requirements for the standard major (a total of six courses) and take six additional courses that together constitute a coherent program; at least one of these six additional courses must be in the Department of Philosophy. *Students must receive approval for the specific courses they choose to be used as the allied fields courses. Admission to philosophy and allied fields requires an application to the Director of Undergraduate Studies, which should be made by the middle of Spring Quarter of their second year.* To apply, students must submit a sample program of courses as well as a statement explaining the nature of the interdisciplinary area of study and the purpose of the proposed allied fields program. Applicants must also have the agreement of a member of the Department of Philosophy to serve as their sponsor in the program. Interested students should consult with the assistant to the Director of Undergraduate Studies before applying; for office hours and the application form, visit the departmental wiki (<https://wiki.uchicago.edu/display/phildr/Departmental+Forms/>) or website.

Summary of Requirements: Philosophy and Allied Fields

Two of the following:	200	
PHIL 25000	History of Philosophy I: Ancient Philosophy *	
PHIL 26000	History of Philosophy II: Medieval and Early Modern Philosophy	
PHIL 27000	History of Philosophy III: Kant and the 19th Century	
PHIL 20100	Introduction to Logic (or approved alternative course in logic)	100
One of the following:	300	
One from field A and two from field B		
Two from field A and one from field B		
Six additional courses, at least one of which must be in the Department of Philosophy **	600	
Total Units	1200	

- \* Students may substitute both PHIL 25200 Intensive History of Philosophy, Part I: Plato and PHIL 26200 Intensive History of Ancient Philosophy, Part II: Aristotle for PHIL 25000.
- \*\* These courses must be drawn from departmental offerings. One of these courses may be satisfied by participation in PHIL 29902 Senior Seminar II.

The Senior Essay

Students who have been admitted to the intensive track are required to write a senior essay (also called the “BA essay”). Standard majors and philosophy and allied fields majors may also apply to write an essay. The proposal should be formulated in consultation with a faculty adviser who has expertise in the topic area. Potential advisers can be approached directly, but the assistant to the Director of Undergraduate Studies can help pair students with suitable advisers as needed. BA essay applications are due middle of Spring Quarter. Applications are available on the departmental wiki (<https://wiki.uchicago.edu/display/phildr/Departmental+Forms/>).

Students writing a BA essay in philosophy are normally expected to have maintained a GPA of 3.25 in their philosophy courses. A 3.25 is also the minimum GPA for departmental honors in philosophy. Students should submit, along with their application to write a BA essay, a record of their grades in the College. If a student who wishes to write a BA essay in philosophy has a GPA in philosophy courses below 3.25, the student should also submit a petition in writing to the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

In their fourth year, students writing BA essays must participate in the senior seminar. The seminar runs in the Autumn and Winter quarters and attendance is required throughout. Students should register for PHIL 29901 Senior Seminar I in Autumn Quarter and for PHIL 29902 Senior Seminar II in Winter Quarter. These two courses are among the requirements for the intensive track. For essay writers who are in the standard track or the allied fields track, both courses must be taken; however, only PHIL 29902 will be counted toward the track’s total-units requirement.

GRADING

All courses for all tracks must be taken for a quality grade. The one exception is for students in the Intensive Track: PHIL 29901 is graded on a Pass/Fail basis. Accordingly, students in other tracks taking PHIL 29901-29902 will only be able to count PHIL 29902 in the major.

HONORS

The main requirement for honors is a senior essay of distinction. A GPA in the major of 3.25 or higher typically also is required.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Requirements for students transferring to the University of Chicago are the same as for other students.

TRANSFER CREDIT

Up to (but typically no more than) three courses from another institution may be counted toward major requirements. Students seeking approval for such courses should send a syllabus for each course to the Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies. The Director of Undergraduate Studies will then determine which courses, if any, to approve for credit toward the major.

ADVISING

Students should contact the Director of Undergraduate Studies or the Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies with questions concerning program plans, honors, and so forth.

MINOR PROGRAM IN PHILOSOPHY

The minor program in philosophy provides a basic introduction to some central figures and themes in both the history of philosophy and in current philosophical controversies. The minor requires six courses: students must take: either two courses from the history of philosophy sequence and one course from field A or field B, along with three additional courses in philosophy; or one course from the history of philosophy sequence and one course from each of fields A and B, along with three additional courses in philosophy.

No courses in the minor can be double counted with the student's major(s) or with other minors; nor can they be counted toward general education requirements. They must be taken for quality grades.

Students who elect the minor program should meet with the Director of Undergraduate Studies before the end of Spring Quarter of their third year to declare their intention to complete the program. The approval of the Director of Undergraduate Studies for the minor should be submitted to the student's College adviser on the Consent to Complete a Minor Program ([https://humanities-web.s3.us-east-2.amazonaws.com/college-prod/s3fs-public/documents/Consent\\_Minor\\_Program.pdf](https://humanities-web.s3.us-east-2.amazonaws.com/college-prod/s3fs-public/documents/Consent_Minor_Program.pdf)) form, obtained from the College adviser or online, no later than the end of the student's third year.

Samples follow of two groups of courses that would comprise a minor:

SAMPLE 1

Two of the following:		200
PHIL 25000	History of Philosophy I: Ancient Philosophy *	
PHIL 26000	History of Philosophy II: Medieval and Early Modern Philosophy	
PHIL 27000	History of Philosophy III: Kant and the 19th Century	
One from either field A or field B		100
Three additional courses in philosophy **		300
Total Units		600

SAMPLE 2

One of the following:		100
PHIL 25000	History of Philosophy I: Ancient Philosophy *	
PHIL 26000	History of Philosophy II: Medieval and Early Modern Philosophy	
PHIL 27000	History of Philosophy III: Kant and the 19th Century	
One from field A		100
One from field B		100
Three additional courses in philosophy **		300
Total Units		600

\* Students may substitute both PHIL 25200 Intensive History of Philosophy, Part I: Plato and PHIL 26200 Intensive History of Ancient Philosophy, Part II: Aristotle for PHIL 25000.

\*\* These courses must be drawn from departmental offerings. One of these courses may be satisfied by participation in PHIL 29902 Senior Seminar II.

## PHILOSOPHY COURSES

### **PHIL 20005. Thomas Aquinas's Philosophy of Love. 100 Units.**

Thomas Aquinas is sometimes labeled an "intellectualist," because of the priority that he assigns to intellect or reason in human life. Nevertheless he treats love as a fundamental principle, not only of human life but of absolutely all life and even all reality, and he thought and wrote extensively about it. In this course we will read and discuss sizeable passages, from several of his works, concerning the nature of love in general, its various kinds, its causes and effects, how it exists in different subjects - human, angelic, divine, and even non-rational - and what it has to do with morality, virtue, and happiness. As regards the history of the topic, the we shall especially want to consider how Aquinas's thought on love relates to that of Aristotle and to the Platonic tradition. (A)

Instructor(s): S. Brock Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): Completion of the general education requirement in humanities is required.

### **PHIL 20112. Accelerated Introduction to Logic. 100 Units.**

This course provides an introduction to logic for students of philosophy. It is aimed at students who possess more mathematical training than can be expected of typical philosophy majors, but who wish to study logic not just as a branch of mathematics but as a method for philosophical analysis. (II)

Instructor(s): Anubav Vasudevan Terms Offered: Autumn

Prerequisite(s): While no specific mathematical knowledge will be presupposed, some familiarity with the methods of mathematical reasoning and some prior practice writing prose that is precise enough to support mathematical proof will be useful.

Note(s): Students may count either PHIL 20112 or PHIL 20100, but not both, toward the credits required for graduation.

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 30012

### **PHIL 20100. Introduction to Logic. 100 Units.**

An introduction to the concepts and principles of symbolic logic. We learn the syntax and semantics of truth-functional and first-order quantificational logic, and apply the resultant conceptual framework to the analysis of valid and invalid arguments, the structure of formal languages, and logical relations among sentences of ordinary discourse. Occasionally we will venture into topics in philosophy of language and philosophical logic, but our primary focus is on acquiring a facility with symbolic logic as such.

Instructor(s): Winter 2024: Molly Brown (200/300); Ryan Simonelli (200/300) Terms Offered: Winter

Note(s): Students may count either PHIL 20100 or PHIL 20012, but not both, toward the credits required for graduation.

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 30000, CHSS 33500, HIPS 20700

### **PHIL 20114. Dialectics: Kant and Hegel. 100 Units.**

Traditionally, contradiction is taken to be possible only as the disagreement between two judgments at least one of which is false. In the Transcendental Dialectic of the Critique of Pure Reason Kant claims to have discovered in us an ineliminable proclivity for holding contradictory metaphysical views. Hegel praises Kant for this discovery but criticizes him for locating the origin of this proclivity merely in us and not also in the things as they are in themselves. Breaking with tradition, Hegel thus holds that there are contradictions that are not merely subjectively, but also objectively necessary. In this class we reconstruct and discuss the arguments for each view. For both Kant and Hegel, the dialectic implies a certain conception of the unity of theoretical and practical reason; special attention will be given to this implication and to the difference between the Kantian and the Hegelian conception of this unity. (A) (B) (IV)

Instructor(s): Wolfram Gobsch Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): Introduction to Logic.

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 30114

### **PHIL 20128. Mathematics in Plato. 100 Units.**

This course explores the role that mathematics plays in Plato's philosophy with a special focus on the concept of incommensurability. We will be reading Platonic dialogues in which mathematical practice figures prominently and our goal will be to inquire into the ways that mathematical practice is similar to philosophical practice and the ways it can serve as a useful exemplar. We will also inquire into the ways that mathematics falls short of philosophy, which will give us a better sense of what the philosophical goals are. Finally, we will consider the challenges presented by mathematical incommensurability and we will investigate the ways that this concept is appropriated by Plato for philosophical purposes. Texts will include: Meno, Republic 5-7, Timaeus, Theaetetus, Statesman. We will read some secondary literature on Plato (e.g. S. Menn, H. Benson, T. Echterling) and on the mathematics of the time (W. Knorr, J. Klein) but not every time. (B)

Instructor(s): Ermioni Prokopaki Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): No mathematical background required, no prior familiarity with Plato required, no Greek required.

### **PHIL 20218. Introduction to the Philosophy of Life and Death. 100 Units.**

The focus of this course will be how philosophy arises in response to problems in the conditions of human life, especially our mortality and the prevalence of social injustice. Every one of us will die one day; and every one of us suffers from and/or helps perpetuate some form of injustice. These can be sources of alienation, suffering, and bad choices; they can also be sources of conviction, bravery, and wisdom. We will aim to understand how

philosophy fits into this picture, and especially how a person can use philosophy to find meaning for their life in relation to both death and injustice. Topics will include how the fear of death affects us in life, the prospect of "critical" consciousness in relation to death, and understanding the political dimensions of life and death. We will discuss ancient texts and figures, such as Plato's Socrates and the Buddha, as well as contemporary philosophical work and social issues in the US and elsewhere.

Terms Offered: Summer

**PHIL 20307. Kant on Moral Meaning. 100 Units.**

Kant is known mostly as a moral theorist. In that capacity, he argued that morality was a matter of pure practical rationality and that we are unconditionally obligated to a moral law, the categorical imperative. But Kant also noted that we do not experience our moral lives in those theoretical terms, and in several texts, he explored the various ways in which our moral vocation is ordinarily experienced, what it means to us, and how it comes to matter to us. In that context, he discusses such topics as conscience, virtue and the formation of character, moral education, whether human beings are radically evil, how the claims of morality fit into a human life as a whole, and the possibility of a moral community. These themes will comprise the topics of this seminar. The texts will include sections from his Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals, his Doctrine of Virtue, his Lectures on Ethics, Religion Within the Limits of Reason Alone, and essays on the problems of casuistry.

Instructor(s): Robert Pippin Terms Offered: Winter. Winter 2024

Prerequisite(s): Everyone needs the instructor's permission to register.

Equivalent Course(s): SCTH 50307, SCTH 20307, PHIL 50307

**PHIL 21000. Introduction To Ethics. 100 Units.**

In this course, we will read, write, think, and talk about moral philosophy, focusing on Immanuel Kant's Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals and work by John Stuart Mill. We will work through our texts with care. Neo-Kantianism is a prominent contemporary form of moral theory. We will use Kant to develop a critique of neo-Kantianism as we go along. We will look at influential criticisms of utilitarianism in the concluding weeks of the term, and we will need to ask ourselves whether either of them applies to the version of utilitarianism developed by John Stuart Mill. (A)

Instructor(s): Candace Vogler Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): FNDL 23107, HIPS 21000

**PHIL 21002. Human Rights: Philosophical Foundations. 100 Units.**

In this class we explore the philosophical foundations of human rights, investigating theories of how our shared humanity in the context of an interdependent world gives rise to obligations of justice. We begin by asking what rights are, how they are distinguished from other part of morality, and what role they play in our social and political life. But rights come in many varieties, and we are interested in human rights in particular. In later weeks, we will ask what makes something a human right, and how are human rights different from other kinds of rights. We will consider a number of contemporary philosophers (and one historian) who attempt to answer this question, including James Griffin, Joseph Raz, John Rawls, John Tasioulas, Samuel Moyn, Jiewuh Song, and Martha Nussbaum. Throughout we will be asking questions such as, "What makes something a human right?" "What role does human dignity play in grounding our human rights?" "Are human rights historical?" "What role does the nation and the individual play in our account of human rights?" "When can one nation legitimately intervene in the affairs of another nation?" "How can we respect the demands of justice while also respecting cultural difference?" "How do human rights relate to global inequality and markets?" (A) (I)

Instructor(s): Ben Laurence, Pozen Center for Human Rights Instructional Professor Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 31002, HIST 29319, HIST 39319, MAPH 42002, HMRT 31002, HMRT 21002, INRE 31602

**PHIL 21203. Introduction to Philosophy of Law. 100 Units.**

This course will be an introduction to the philosophy of law. The first third will cover some historical classics: Plato's Crito, and selections from Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics, Kant's Doctrine of Right, Hegel's Outline of the Philosophy of Right, and Austin's The Province of Jurisprudence Determined. The second third of the course will cover some classics of postwar Anglo-American jurisprudence, including selections from H.L.A. Hart, Ronald Dworkin, Richard Posner, and Ernest Weinrib. The final third of the course will explore in a little further detail philosophical problems that arise in the following areas: the philosophy of tort law, theories of constitutional interpretation, and feminist jurisprudence. (A)

Instructor(s): Lisa Van Alstyne Terms Offered: Winter

**PHIL 21204. Philosophy of Private Law. 100 Units.**

This course will be on the part of the law known as private law - the part that adjudicates disputes between private citizens where one person is alleged to have suffered harm through the wrongdoing of another. Among the questions with which we will be concerned are the following: What constitutes a legal harm in such a context? What, in the eyes of the law, counts as one person being the cause of another person's suffering? What sort of redress or compensation may one justifiably seek for such suffering? Who has a right to decide such questions? What justifies the use of sanction or force - and when is it justified - in the enforcement of such legal decisions? The first half of this course will present a selective historical genealogy of our contemporary understanding of how to go about answering such questions. The second half of the course will be on contemporary theories of private law. The historical portion of the course will begin by examining the origins of the modern distinction between private and public law in Aristotle's ancient distinction between corrective and



distributive justice. Next we will briefly consider what private legal adjudication looks like in the absence of the state, first by reading an Icelandic Saga and then by watching John Ford's classic western *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valence*. (A)

Instructor(s): Lisa Van Alstyne Terms Offered: Spring

**PHIL 21207. Ecocentrism and Environmental Racism. 100 Units.**

The aim of this course is to explore the tensions and convergences between two of the most profoundly important areas of environmental philosophy. "Ecocentrism" is the view that holistic systems such as ecosystems can be ethically considerable or "count" in a way somewhat comparable to human persons, and such a philosophical perspective has been shared by many prominent forms of environmentalism, from Aldo Leopold's *Land Ethic* to Deep Ecology to the worldviews of many Native American and Indigenous peoples. For some prominent environmental philosophers, a commitment to ecocentrism is the defining test of whether one is truly an environmental philosopher. "Environmental Racism" is one of the defining elements of environmental injustice, the way in which environmental crises and existential threats often reflect systemic discrimination, oppression, and domination in their disproportionate adverse impact on peoples of color, women, the global poor, LGBTQ populations, and Indigenous Peoples. Although historically, some have claimed that ecocentric organizations such as Greenpeace have neglected the problems of environmental injustice and racism in their quest to, e.g., "save the whales," a deeper analysis reveals a far more complicated picture, with many affinities and alliances between ecocentrists and activists seeking environmental justice. (A)

Instructor(s): Bart Schultz Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): CRES 21207, ENST 21207, PLSC 21207, HMRT 21207, MAPH 31207, CHST 21207

**PHIL 21218. Being and Goodness: Varieties of Constitutivism. 100 Units.**

In contemporary meta-ethics, Constitutivism figures as an alternative to the familiar opposition between Realism and Non-Cognitivism. The fundamental norms to which we are subject in acting are not independent of our agency. Yet they are the objects of knowledge. They are internal to what we are. We will look at the recent debate on how such a view is to be spelled out and whether it provides viable alternative to Realism and Non-Cognitivism. Which characterization of us allows the derivation of substantive normative principles: the abstract concept of an agent or the concrete concept of a human being? What is the logical grammar of the relevant sortal concept? And how does our knowledge of our kind enter into its characterization? Readings will include texts by David Enoch, Christine Korsgaard, David Velleman, Philippa Foot, Michael Smith, Judy Thompson and Michael Thompson.

Instructor(s): Matthias Haase Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 31218

**PHIL 21423. Introduction to Marx. 100 Units.**

This introduction to Marx's thought will divide into three parts: in the first, we will consider Marx's theory of history; in the second, his account of capitalism; and in third, his conception of the state. (A)

Instructor(s): Anton Ford Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): FNDL 21805

**PHIL 21426. Marx's Theory of Class. 100 Units.**

The topic of this course is Karl Marx's theory of socio-economic class. Its purpose is to gain insight into Marx's fundamental thesis that understanding classes helps us understand politics. Though it is one of the topics for which his name is most remembered, his view of class is often misrepresented. For instance, one might hear that, for Marx, there are just the two most famous classes of capitalist society-the so-called proletariat (workers) and the bourgeoisie (capitalists). Like classical economists before him and heterodox economists after him, however, Marx actually believes that modern societies consist of at least three classes: workers, capitalists, and landlords or rentiers, as well as other marginalized groups. And he even disaggregates those classes into the smaller groups which constitute them (e.g., productive and unproductive labor; industrial, commercial, and financial capital, etc.). By examining selections from his mature political-economic writings, we will reconstruct Marx's theory of social classes and consider his application of that theory in significant case studies such as the American Civil War. Themes which we will address include the relation between economy and politics, class and race, science and ideology, as well as agency and structure in historical development. Questions which we will ask include the advantages and disadvantages of Marx's view with an eye to contemporary questions.

Instructor(s): Daniel Burnfin Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): Some experience with philosophy would be helpful.

Note(s): Readings will be selections drawn from Marx's *Capital* (esp. volumes II and III), *Theories of Surplus Value*, *Grundrisse*, 18th Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte, and journalistic writings from the *Tribune*. (A)

**PHIL 21499. Philosophy and Philanthropy. 100 Units.**

Perhaps it is better to give than to receive, but exactly how much giving ought one to engage in and to whom or what? Recent ethical and philosophical developments such as the effective altruism movement suggest that relatively affluent individuals are ethically bound to donate a very large percentage of their resources to worthy causes-for example, saving as many lives as they possibly can, wherever in the world those lives may be. And charitable giving or philanthropy is not only a matter of individual giving, but also of giving by foundations, corporations, non-profits, non-governmental and various governmental agencies, and other organizational entities that play a very significant role in the modern world. How, for example, does an institution like the University of Chicago engage in and justify its philanthropic activities? Can one generalize about the various

rationales for philanthropy, whether individual or institutional? Why do individuals or organizations engage in philanthropy, and do they do so well or badly, for good reasons, bad reasons, or no coherent reasons? This course will afford a broad, critical philosophical and historical overview of philanthropy, examining its various contexts and justifications, and contrasting charitable giving with other ethical demands, particularly the demands of justice. How do charity and justice relate to each other? Would charity even be needed in a fully just world? (A) Instructor(s): Bart Schultz Terms Offered: Winter

Note(s): This course will feature a number of guest speakers and be developed in active conversation with the work of the UChicago Civic Knowledge Project and Office of Civic Engagement. Students will also be presented with some practical opportunities to engage reflectively in deciding whether, why and how to donate a certain limited amount of (course provided) funding.

Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 21499, MAPH 31499, HMRT 21499

**PHIL 21506. Memory and Unity of a Person. 100 Units.**

In one of his most widely read pieces of writing-the chapter of his Essay Concerning Human Understanding called "Of Identity and Diversity"-John Locke writes: "[S]ince consciousness always accompanies thinking, and 'tis that, that makes every one to be, what he calls self; and thereby distinguishes himself from all other thinking things, in this alone consists personal Identity, i.e. the sameness of rational Being: And as far as this consciousness can be extended backwards to any past Action or Thought, so far reaches the Identity of that Person..." Locke's theory of personal identity has puzzled, annoyed, and inspired readers since it was published in the second edition of his Essay, in 1694. In this course, we'll be concerned to discover what sense (as well as what use) we can make of Locke's odd-sounding suggestion-that a distinctive feature of persons is a capacity to extend consciousness backwards in time. In addition to Locke's famous chapter on identity and some responses to it, we'll read and discuss Wittgenstein (and probably Freud as well) on questions having to do with (what might be called) first-personal memory. Along the way, we'll be thinking together about self-awareness, trauma, psychoanalysis, and other related topics. (B)

Instructor(s): David Finkelstein Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): One prior philosophy course.

**PHIL 21606. Justice at Work. 100 Units.**

This course combines economic theory (the theory of the firm), legal theory (labor law), and labor history, with political philosophy to examine questions of justice for workers that are often ignored in academic political philosophy. The course begins by considering very basic questions from economic theory, including what markets are, and why production in the economy is organized through firms, and what economists have to say about why firms are arranged so hierarchically. Given this background, we next turn to consider injustices at the work, including worker domination, exploitation, and the casualization of employment. We consider responses including universal basic income that decouples access to goods from work; worker organization and resistance through the labor movement and tools such as collective bargaining; and finally, the reorganization of the economy to foster either shared control over firms or worker cooperatives. Along the way we consider the right to strike, the connection of race and labor, and different visions of a more just future for workers. (A)

Instructor(s): Ben Laurence, Pozen Center for Human Rights Associate Instructional Professor Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 32210, HMRT 22210

**PHIL 21702. Moral Evil in German Idealism. 100 Units.**

In this class we explore the debate about moral evil in German Idealism. Kant teaches that the moral law is the law of freedom while also holding that immoral activity is entirely imputable to the subject and therefore free. How are the two claims compatible? We will reconstruct Kant's own answer to this question as well as its discussion in Fichte, Schelling, and Hegel. And we will trace connections between the debate among the German Idealists and certain developments in contemporary moral constitutivism. Special attention will be given to Kant's doctrine of radical evil, according to which actual immorality is a condition of human freedom, our capacity for moral goodness. We will examine Kant's case for this doctrine and its role in the moral philosophies of Fichte, Schelling, and Hegel. (A) (IV)

Instructor(s): Wolfram Gobsch Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): One prior course in practical philosophy.

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 31702

**PHIL 21723. The Will: Aristotle, Augustine, Aquinas. 100 Units.**

Aristotle's approach to ethics is sometimes termed intellectualist, meaning that it has no room for a notion of the will, understood as a principle of human action distinct from intellect or reason. Such a notion, it is said, gained currency only centuries later, at least partly through influences alien to Greek philosophy. St Augustine is often cited as one of the thinkers most responsible for the notion's becoming prevalent. St Thomas Aquinas, however, presents a highly articulated theory of human action that appears to integrate a robust conception of the will, and one heavily indebted to Augustine, into a largely Aristotelian framework. We will read and discuss substantial passages from these three authors bearing on the question of the will, in the hope that seeing them side by side can help to get at what they really mean and what the philosophical merits of their views are. (A) (IV)

Instructor(s): Stephen Brock Terms Offered: Autumn

Prerequisite(s): Undergraduates who are not Philosophy majors must obtain the instructor's consent.

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 31723



**PHIL 21730. Aristotle's Metaphysics. 100 Units.**

Aristotle's Metaphysics is one of the most difficult and rewarding texts in the philosophical tradition. It attempts to lay out the goals, methods, and primary results of a science Aristotle calls "first philosophy." First philosophy is the study of beings just insofar as they are beings (as opposed to physics, which studies beings insofar as they come to be, pass away, or change), and if completed it would stand as the most fundamental and general science. Our aim will be to understand: if and how such a science is possible, what the principles of such a science are, what being is, which beings are primary, and what are the causes of being qua being. We will discuss the Metaphysics as a whole, but focus on A-B,  $\Gamma$ , Z, H,  $\Theta$ , and  $\Lambda$ . Our approach will be "forest," rather than "tree" oriented, preferring in most cases a coherent overview to close reading. (B) (III)

Instructor(s): Arnold Brooks Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): A background in ancient Greek philosophy (especially PHIL 25000: History of Philosophy I: Ancient Greek and Roman Philosophy) is recommended but not required.

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 31730

**PHIL 22000. Introduction to Philosophy of Science. 100 Units.**

We will begin by trying to explicate the manner in which science is a rational response to observational facts. This will involve a discussion of inductivism, Popper's deductivism, Lakatos and Kuhn. After this, we will briefly survey some other important topics in the philosophy of science, including underdetermination, theories of evidence, Bayesianism, the problem of induction, explanation, and laws of nature. (B) (II)

Instructor(s): Thomas Pashby Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): HIPS 22000, HIST 25109, KNOW 32000, HIST 35109, CHSS 33300, PHIL 32000

**PHIL 22100. Space and Time. 100 Units.**

This course is an introduction to some traditional philosophical problems about space and time. The course will begin with a discussion of Zeno's paradoxes. We will then look at the debate between Newton and Leibniz concerning the ontological status of space and time, and will examine reactions to this debate by physicists such as Mach. We will then go on to discuss the question of what sense is to be made of the claim that space is curved, looking at the work of Einstein. Students will be introduced to the basics of the special and general theories of relativity at a qualitative level. If time permits, we will also look at questions about the multiverse, and/or Boltzmann's conception of the arrow of time. (B) (II)

Instructor(s): Kevin Davey Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): CHSS 32100, HIPS 22100, PHIL 32100

**PHIL 22202. Modern Social Contract Theory. 100 Units.**

Since the 17th century, the social contract has been a central metaphor to characterize the conditions under which political authority is legitimate. However, the content of the social contract and its imagined mode of coming into being have varied widely. In this course we will try to delineate the conditions that might make the concept of a social contract a plausible way to justify political authority. We will read Hobbes, Rousseau, Kant, and Rawls. We will focus on these writers' conceptions of the person, on their views of how such conceptions generate specific institutional arrangements, and on their accounts of the justification of state power. (A)

Instructor(s): Dan Brudney Terms Offered: Winter

**PHIL 22277. The Philosophy of Thomas Kuhn. 100 Units.**

Thomas Kuhn was both an historian and a philosopher of science, with broader interests in philosophical issues pertaining to the nature of language, truth and knowledge - and, in particular, pertaining to questions concerning the possibility of communicability, commensurability, and inter-translatability across radically divergent conceptual schemes, theoretical frameworks, or grammatical/ linguistic structures. This course will be devoted to a close examination of the treatment of these topics in Kuhn's work. For purposes of orientation, we will begin with several class meetings in which we read his classic work *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*, first published in 1962, along with some of the central texts which figured in the controversies that book ignited in connection with the aforementioned topics. We will then examine some of the second thoughts Kuhn himself expressed concerning that work in scattered essays written between 1969 and 1977 (some of which are collected in *The Essential Tension*). The second half of the course will be on Kuhn's work from 1978 until his death in 1996, starting with the essays collected in *The Road Since "Structure"*, and further developed in *The Presence of Science Past* (his 1987 Shearman Lectures) and *The Plurality of Worlds* (his final unfinished magnum opus). (B) (II)

Instructor(s): James Conant Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): HIPS 22277, CHSS 32277, PHIL 32277

**PHIL 22702. Abortion: Morality, Politics, Philosophy. 100 Units.**

Abortion is a complex and fraught topic. Morally, a very wide range of individual, familial, and social concerns converge upon it. Politically, longstanding controversies have been given new salience and urgency by the Dobbs decision and the ongoing moves by state legislatures to restrict access to abortion. In terms of moral philosophy, deep issues in ethics merge with equally deep questions about the nature of life, action, and the body. In terms of political philosophy, basic questions are raised about the relationship of religious and moral beliefs to the criminal law of a liberal state. We will seek to understand the topic in all of this complexity. Our approach will be thoroughly intra- and inter-disciplinary, drawing not only on our separate areas of philosophical expertise but on the contributions of a series of guest instructors in law, history, and medicine. (A)

Instructor(s): Jason Bridges, Dan Brudney Terms Offered: Autumn

Prerequisite(s): PQ: Third or fourth-year standing. Students should opt into a discussion section that fits their schedule.

Note(s): Philosophy majors: this course fulfills the practical philosophy (A) requirement.

Equivalent Course(s): BPRO 22700, HLTH 22700, HIPS 22701, HMRT 22702, GNSE 22705

**PHIL 22709. Introduction to Philosophy of Quantum Mechanics. 100 Units.**

In this class we examine some of the conceptual problems associated with quantum mechanics. We will critically discuss some common interpretations of quantum mechanics, such as the Copenhagen interpretation, the many-worlds interpretation and Bohmian mechanics. We will also examine some implications of results in the foundations of quantum theory concerning non-locality, contextuality and realism. (B) (II)

Instructor(s): Thomas Pashby Terms Offered: Autumn

Prerequisite(s): Prior knowledge of quantum mechanics is not required since we begin with an introduction to the formalism. Only familiarity with high school geometry is presupposed but expect to be introduced to other mathematical tools as needed.

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 32709, CHSS 32709, KNOW 22709, HIPS 22709

**PHIL 22819. Philosophy of Education. 100 Units.**

What are the aims of education? Are they what they should be, for purposes of cultivating flourishing citizens of a liberal democracy? What are the biggest challenges—philosophical, political, cultural, and ethical—confronting educators today, in the U.S. and across the globe? How can philosophy help address these? In dealing with such questions, this course will provide an introductory overview of both the philosophy of education and various educational programs in philosophy, critically surveying a few of the leading ways in which philosophers past and present have framed the aims of education and the educational significance of philosophy. From Plato to the present, philosophers have contributed to articulating the aims of education and developing curricula to be used in various educational contexts, for diverse groups and educational levels. This course will draw on both classic and contemporary works, but considerable attention will be devoted to the work and legacy of philosopher/educator John Dewey, a founding figure at the University of Chicago and a crucial resource for educators concerned with cultivating critical thinking, creativity, character, and ethical reflection. The course will also feature field trips, distinguished guest speakers, and opportunities for experiential learning. (A) (B)

Instructor(s): Bart Schultz Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 32819, EDSO 22819, PLSC 22819, CHDV 22819

**PHIL 22960. Bayesian Epistemology. 100 Units.**

This course will be an introduction to Bayesian epistemology. (B) (II)

Instructor(s): Mikayla Kelley Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): Introduction to Logic (PHIL 20100/30000) or its equivalent.

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 32960

**PHIL 23000. Introduction to Metaphysics and Epistemology. 100 Units.**

In this course we will explore some of the central questions in epistemology and metaphysics. In epistemology, these questions will include: What is knowledge? What facts or states justify a belief? How can the threat of skepticism be adequately answered? How do we know what we (seem to) know about mathematics and morality? In metaphysics, these questions will include: What is time? What is the best account of personal identity across time? Do we have free will? We will also discuss how the construction of a theory of knowledge ought to relate to the construction of a metaphysical theory—roughly speaking, what comes first, epistemology or metaphysics? (B)

Instructor(s): Benjamin Callard Terms Offered: Spring

**PHIL 23001. Paradoxes. 100 Units.**

Paradoxes are conflicts in our own thought. Many of the most fundamental, frustrating, disturbing, and exciting concerns in philosophy and the sciences are to be found where paradoxes arise. In this course we will investigate paradoxes in logic, in metaphysics, in ethics, in action theory, in epistemology, and elsewhere. We will also try to understand the nature and sources of paradox—since the very possibility of paradoxes is, itself, a paradox. (B)

Instructor(s): Arnold Brooks; Benjamin Callard Terms Offered: Spring

**PHIL 23022. Agency and Virtual Reality: A Technophilosophical Exploration. 100 Units.**

This will be an exploratory course in philosophy of action focusing on how modern virtual reality technologies impact traditional debates within the metaphysics of action. Thus, we will engage in what David Chalmers calls "technophilosophy": we will use new technologies to address old philosophical questions. In particular, we'll be concerned with traditional metaphysical questions about agency such as what is action, what is distinctive about human action in particular, how do we exert control in action, what is the role of the body in agency, and to what extent does our agency manifest in the mind. But we will look at these questions keeping in close view that it may be only a matter of time before the vast majority of our lives are spent in virtual reality. To give sufficiently robust answers to these traditional questions—answers which are sensitive to a technologically changing world—we thus need to consider technophilosophical questions such as: could there be genuine virtual action? Can we make sense of genuine action without bodily movement? Are all actions in virtual reality simply mental actions? What are the limits of a human body, and could the human body extend into a virtual world?

Are we responsible for what we do in virtual reality in the same way we are responsible for what we do in the real world? A previous course in philosophy of action would be helpful but is not necessary. (B) (II)

Instructor(s): Mikayla Kelley Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): At least one course in philosophy.

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 33022

**PHIL 23027. Philosophy of Animal Minds. 100 Units.**

How did minds evolve? How unique is the human mind in nature? Are humans the only species on this planet capable of thinking? What does this even mean? How could we tell? Can other species form beliefs and concepts about the world? Do some animals possess the capacity for language? Do other species have a rudimentary sense of morality? If so, what challenges would this raise toward traditional notions of "human nature"? Furthermore, what might these questions tell us about our moral obligations to other species? This class offers a detailed look into contemporary debates in the philosophy of animal minds. These debates are inherently multi-disciplinary, ranging from questions in evolutionary biology, cognitive science, developmental psychology, the philosophy of mind, and even questions about the future of artificial intelligence. (B)

Instructor(s): Molly Brown Terms Offered: Spring

**PHIL 23028. The Philosophy of Human-Animal Relationships. 100 Units.**

Intimate relationships - primarily relations of companionship - between humans and non-human animals are ubiquitous but not often the subject of philosophy. This is a shame, since such relationships are important and interesting, providing rich ground for philosophical reflection. In this course, we will philosophize about such relationships, drawing on memoir and film as well as academic philosophy. How, we will ask, are we to understand such relationships? What is their nature? How are they possible? And what do they demand of us? (A)

Instructor(s): Claudia Hogg-Blake Terms Offered: Winter

**PHIL 23405. History and Philosophy of Biology. 100 Units.**

This lecture-discussion course will consider the main figures in the history of biology, from the Hippocratics and Aristotle to Darwin and Mendel. The philosophic issues will be the kinds of explanations appropriate to biology versus the other physical sciences, the status of teleological considerations, and the moral consequences for human beings.

Instructor(s): R. Richards Terms Offered: Autumn

Note(s): For students taking PHIL 23405, the course is (B) (II).

Equivalent Course(s): HIST 35104, CHSS 37402, KNOW 37402, PHIL 33405, HIPS 25104, HIST 25104

**PHIL 23452. Freedom and Self-Consciousness. 100 Units.**

(B) (II)

Instructor(s): David Finkelstein Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): Two prior philosophy courses.

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 33452

**PHIL 23540. Other Minds. 100 Units.**

This will be a course on the problem of other minds. We will try to understand what the problem is supposed to be by considering two formulations of it. One formulation is epistemological and has to do with how we can know (1) that there exist others like oneself, and (2) about those particular others. Another formulation is conceptual and concerns the question of where one gets the idea of another subject. Readings will be from philosophy addressing these topics.

Instructor(s): Melina Garibovic Terms Offered: Spring

**PHIL 23544. Philosophy of Creativity. 100 Units.**

This course will be an exploration of the topic of creativity as it comes up in works of philosophy. We will consider the questions of how creative works are brought about and how (or whether) such works are understood.

Instructor(s): Melina Garibovic Terms Offered: Spring

**PHIL 23728. Are We Forced to Work?: Force, Work, and Human Rights. 100 Units.**

Most of us, most of the time, must show up to work every day in order to get the money we need to survive. Although this fact seems commonplace, it raises important questions about human rights and human freedom. Are people under capitalism forced to labor? What about people who perform dangerous jobs out of economic desperation? And, if people are forced to work, is that in any sense a violation of their rights? On the one hand, some argue that egalitarian societies should recognize a right not to work. On the other, some argue that people should have a right to perform work, or at least work that is meaningful and freely chosen. In this class, we will read, write, and think about what contemporary philosophers have to say about each of these questions.

Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 23728

**PHIL 24098. Character and Commerce: Practical Wisdom in Economic Life. 100 Units.**

Most of us seek to be reasonably good people leading what we take to be successful and satisfying lives. There is a mountain of evidence suggesting that most of us fail to live up to our own standards. Worse, we often fail to mark our own failures in ways that could help us improve ourselves. The context in which we try to live good lives is shaped by the vicissitudes of the global economy. The global economy is obviously of interest to those of us studying economics or planning on careers in business. Aspiring entrepreneurs or corporate leaders have clear stakes in understanding practical wisdom in the economic sphere. But anyone who relies upon her pay - or someone else's - to cover her living expenses has some interest in economic life. In this course, we will bring work in neo-Aristotelian ethics and neo-classical economics into conversation with empirical work from

behavioral economics and behavioral ethics, to read, write, talk, and think about cultivating wisdom in our economic dealings. While our focus will be on business, the kinds of problems we will consider, and the ways of addressing these, occur in ordinary life more generally - at home, in academic settings, and in our efforts to participate in the daily production and reproduction of sound modes of social interaction. (A)

Instructor(s): Candace Vogler Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): ECON 12300

**PHIL 24751. Advanced Topics in the Philosophy of Human Rights. 100 Units.**

In this course we will explore new and cutting edge philosophy of human rights. We will focus on three new books: Allen Buchanan's *The Heart of Human Rights*, Andrea Sangiovanni *Human Rights without Dignity*, and Pablo Gilabert's *Human Rights and Human Dignity*. Using these texts we will explore debates about questions like the following: does human dignity really provide the foundation for human rights? What is the relationship of human rights to equality and egalitarianism? What is the role of international human rights law in setting the agenda for the philosophy of human rights? How contextual are human rights norms? How does the theory of human rights relate to the practice of human rights?

Instructor(s): B. Laurence Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): Human Rights: Philosophical Foundations.

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 34751, HMRT 24751, HMRT 34751

**PHIL 25000. History of Philosophy I: Ancient Philosophy. 100 Units.**

An examination of ancient Greek philosophical texts that are foundational for Western philosophy, especially the work of Plato and Aristotle. Topics will include: the nature and possibility of knowledge and its role in human life; the nature of the soul; virtue; happiness and the human good.

Instructor(s): John Proios Terms Offered: Autumn

Prerequisite(s): Completion of the general education requirement in humanities.

Equivalent Course(s): CLCV 22700

**PHIL 25120. Introduction to Philosophy of Religion. 100 Units.**

This course explores the Western philosophical tradition of reasoned reflection on religious belief. Our questions will include: what are the most important arguments for, and against, belief in God? How does religious belief relate to the deliverances of the sciences, in particular to evolutionary theory? How can we reconcile religious belief with the existence of evil? What is the relationship between religion and morality? In attempting to answer these questions we will read work by Plato, Augustine, Anselm, Nietzsche, and Freud, as well as some recent texts. (B)

Instructor(s): Benjamin Callard Terms Offered: Winter

**PHIL 25405. Feminist Political Philosophy. 100 Units.**

Feminist political philosophy has a two-fold history: both as a persistent critique of canonical political philosophy, as well as generative of new models of justice altogether. This course will be an exploration of the two sides of the history of feminist political philosophy. We will begin with a survey of feminist critiques of the canon, including from liberal feminism, Black feminist philosophy, and Marxist feminist philosophy. We will then move on to the positive accounts that have come out of this tradition, asking whether new models of the state, of the person, and of gender are required in order to construct theories that adequately represent what justice requires in a world with gender-based oppression. We will read philosophers such as Rousseau, Marx, Engels, John Rawls, Susan Okin, Mary Wollstonecraft, Catherine Mackinnon, and Christine Delphy. (A)

Instructor(s): Tyler Zimmer Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 20108, HIPS 25405

**PHIL 25407. Pregnancy and Motherhood. 100 Units.**

Pregnancy, childbirth, and motherhood have been relatively neglected as topics for philosophical exploration, and yet they are ripe for philosophical inquiry from multiple angles, including metaphysics, epistemology, normative ethics, medical ethics, and social and political philosophy. Throughout our inquiry we will pay particular attention to the first-hand, embodied experiences of women. For example: What is it like to be pregnant? How can we make metaphysical sense of this experience? And how is it informed by the socio-political landscape? Moreover, what is the moral significance of giving birth, and what are the ethical and political requirements for a good birth? And finally, what does it mean to be a good mother, and how might this conception of motherhood play into women's oppression? These are just a few of the questions we will explore, placing philosophical texts alongside memoir and film.

Instructor(s): Claudia Hogg-Blake Terms Offered: Spring

**PHIL 25503. Junior Seminar: My Favorite Readings in the History and Philosophy of Science. 100 Units.**

This course introduces some of the most important and influential accounts of science to have been produced in modern times. It provides an opportunity to discover how philosophers, historians, anthropologists, and sociologists have grappled with the scientific enterprise, and to assess critically how successful their efforts have been. Authors likely include Karl Popper, Thomas Kuhn, Robert Merton, Steven Shapin, and Bruno Latour.

Instructor(s): R. Richards; E. Kern Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): HIPS 29800, HIST 25503

**PHIL 25605. Life and A Life. 100 Units.**

This course is about the aims of human life. We address the question through two contrasting conceptions of life: 1) life in the sense of an ongoing activity and its associated values of pleasure, enlightenment, and happiness, and 2) life in the sense of a biographical story and its associated values of achievement, glory, meaning, and purpose. We will attempt to understand how these two conceptions of life are compatible, and if one or the other is prior. Readings include: Aristotle, Nietzsche, Kierkegaard, William James, Bernard Williams, Iris Murdoch, and Jonathan Lear. (A)

Instructor(s): Arnold Brooks Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 35605, HIPS 25605, CHSS 35605

**PHIL 25712. Showing and Saying in the History of Philosophy. 100 Units.**

Wittgenstein describes the theory of what cannot be said by means of propositions but is only shown as 'the cardinal problem of philosophy.' We shall ask how can the notion of showing, which is not familiar from tradition, can be regarded as the cardinal concern of philosophy. We shall discuss traditional accounts of philosophical understanding (e.g., Plato's theory of form of the Good, Aristotle's account of the Nous of simples, Absolute Idealism) in light of 'the theory of what cannot be said but shown.'

Instructor(s): Irad Kimhi Terms Offered: Autumn, Autumn 2023

Prerequisite(s): Background in philosophy and logic for Undergraduates.

Equivalent Course(s): SETH 35712, SETH 25712, PHIL 35712

**PHIL 25713. Wittgenstein's Lecture on Ethics. 100 Units.**

This course will be devoted to Wittgenstein's 'Lecture on Ethics' (1929.) We shall study the lecture in the context of Wittgenstein's work on logic and the history of ethics.

Instructor(s): Irad Kimhi Terms Offered: Winter, Winter 2024

Prerequisite(s): Background in philosophy for Undergrads. Consent Required for Undergrads.

Equivalent Course(s): SETH 35713, SETH 25713, PHIL 35713

**PHIL 25823. Fascism. 100 Units.**

Developments in recent years have clearly shown a resurgent interest in "fascism". While it designates a phenomenon which might concern everyone, it is also a term used more often in the manner of an insult than a precisely defined concept. One might even say it is what W.B. Gallie once called an essentially contested concept-not because many claim it for themselves today, but on the contrary, because virtually everyone denounces it in their own specific way. In this course, students will consider what "fascism" means by engaging with several influential explanations of it. We will read and discuss more contemporary philosophical views (Stanley, Eco), historical perspectives and documents (Paxton), but also classic perspectives from political theory (Arendt), philosophy (Burnham), and critical theory (Horkheimer, Adorno, Pollock), as well as political economy (Neumann, Sohn-Rethel, Gerschenkron, Fraenkel, Kalecki). With an eye to its historical and contemporary applications, our purpose throughout will be to reconstruct the arguments which we will consider in order to develop a rigorous concept of "fascism". This course will be offered in English. Its only prerequisite is a non-dogmatic approach to reading and discussion.

Instructor(s): Daniel Burnfin Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 35823, GRMN 35823, HIST 22508, GRMN 25823, HIST 32508

**PHIL 26000. History of Philosophy II: Medieval and Early Modern Philosophy. 100 Units.**

A survey of the thought of some of the most important figures of the period from the fall of Rome to the Scottish Enlightenment. The course will begin with an examination of the medieval hylomorphism of Aquinas and Ockham and then consider its rejection and transformation in the early modern period. Three distinct early modern approaches to philosophy will be discussed in relation to their medieval antecedents: the method of doubt, the principle of sufficient reason, and empiricism. Figures covered may include Ockham, Aquinas, Descartes, Avicenna, Princess Elizabeth, Émilie du Châtelet, Spinoza, Leibniz, Abelard, Berkeley, Hume, and al-Ghazali.

Instructor(s): Thomas Pendlebury Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): Completion of the general education requirement in humanities required; PHIL 25000 recommended.

Equivalent Course(s): MDVL 26000, HIPS 26000

**PHIL 26520. Mind, Brain and Meaning. 100 Units.**

What is the relationship between physical processes in the brain and body and the processes of thought and consciousness that constitute our mental life? Philosophers and others have puzzled over this question for millennia. Many have concluded it to be intractable. In recent decades, the field of cognitive science--encompassing philosophy, psychology, neuroscience, computer science, linguistics, and other disciplines--has proposed a new form of answer. The driving idea is that the interaction of the mental and the physical may be understood via a third level of analysis: that of the computational. This course offers a critical introduction to the elements of this approach, and surveys some of the alternative models and theories that fall within it. Readings are drawn from a range of historical and contemporary sources in philosophy, psychology, linguistics, and computer science. (B) (II)

Instructor(s): J. Bridges; L. Kay; C. Kennedy Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 36520, NSCI 22520, PSYC 36520, COGS 20001, LING 26520, PSYC 26520, LING 36520



**PHIL 26701. Descartes. 100 Units.**

René Descartes is widely regarded as a (and perhaps the) foundational figure in modern philosophy, and he made seminal contributions to mathematics, natural science, and metaphysics. In this course we will work towards attaining a synoptic view of his thought. Our work together will be structured around a close, systematic reading of his *Meditations on First Philosophy* (i.e., on metaphysics), although we will read widely in the Cartesian corpus. Topics to be discussed include substance and mode; the nature of body; mind-body union; sensation; motion; causation; God and the infinite; and the will, among others. We will occasionally look to the medieval tradition to which Descartes was indebted, as well as to responses to his work by his contemporaries. Secondary sources will include writings by Lilli Alanen, Christia Mercer, Tad Schmaltz, Dan Garber, Anat Schechtman, Paul Hoffman, Marleen Rozemond, and John Carriero. (B)

Instructor(s): Andrew Pitel Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): Open to undergraduate and MA students, and all others with consent.

Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 46701, PHIL 46701

**PHIL 27000. History of Philosophy III: Kant and the 19th Century. 100 Units.**

The philosophical ideas and methods of Immanuel Kant's "critical" philosophy set off a revolution that reverberated through 19th-century philosophy. We will trace the effects of this revolution and the responses to it, focusing specifically on the influence of Kant's contribution to moral philosophy and its lasting influence on discussions of ethics and political philosophy. We will begin with a consideration of Kant's famous *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals*, in which he announces his project of grounding all ethical obligation in the very idea of a free will. We will then consider Hegel's radicalization of this project in his *Philosophy of Right*, which seeks to derive from the idea of freedom, not just formal constraints on right action, but a determinate, positive conception of what Hegel calls "ethical life". We will conclude with an examination of some important challenges to the Kantian/Hegelian project in ethical and political theory: Karl Marx's re-interpretation of the idea of freedom in the economic sphere; Mary Wollstonecraft and John Stuart Mill's radicalizations of the ideas of political liberty and equality; and the appropriation and critique of the Enlightenment rhetoric of freedom by writers on racial oppression including Frederick Douglass, W. E. B. DuBois, and Angela Davis.

Instructor(s): Matthew Boyle Terms Offered: Spring

**PHIL 27303. The Principle of Sufficient Reason. 100 Units.**

The Principle of Sufficient Reason (PSR) is the principle according to which every truth or fact can be explained. Appeals to explicability are pervasive in our everyday reasoning as well as in philosophy and the sciences - for example, the view that consciousness is grounded in physical features of the world is motivated by the thought that otherwise consciousness would be inexplicable. However, while the thought that phenomena admit of explanation motivates a great deal of philosophy, contemporary philosophers on the whole reject the PSR. Their reasons for doing so are partly because the PSR is thought to have the following surprising consequences: that God exists; that everything that could possibly be true is not only actually true, but necessarily true (also known as necessitarianism); and that only one thing exists (also known as monism). In this course we will read, write, and think about the philosophical tradition of metaphysical rationalism that is characterized by its embrace of the PSR. Our course will divide into three sections. First, we will study the 'golden age' of metaphysical rationalism in the 17th century through the writings of Spinoza and Leibniz. From there, we will turn to the recent resurgence of interest in metaphysical rationalism within analytic metaphysics, much of which has been influenced by scholars working in 17th century philosophy. (B)

Instructor(s): Andrew Pitel Terms Offered: Autumn

Prerequisite(s): Open to undergraduate and MA students, and all others with consent.

Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 47303, PHIL 47303

**PHIL 27326. Leo Strauss' Philosophical "Autobiography" 100 Units.**

Leo Strauss did not write an autobiography. However, he did mark out his path of thought through autobiographical reflections on the decisive challenges to which his oeuvre responded. The philosophically most demanding confrontation that Strauss presented on the question of how he became what he was is the so-called *Autobiographical Preface* of 1965, which he included in the American translation of his first book, *"Spinoza's Critique of Religion"* (originally published in 1930). Two decades earlier, in the lecture *The Living Issues of German Postwar Philosophy* (1940), he made a first autobiographical attempt to publicly ascertain himself and determine his position. And in 1970 he published the concise retrospective *A Giving of Accounts*. The seminar will make these writings - which illuminate the significance of Nietzsche and Heidegger for Strauss and address his early engagement with revealed religion and politics, in a constellation ranging from Hermann Cohen and Franz Rosenzweig to Karl Barth and Carl Schmitt - the subject of a close reading. Selected letters to Karl Löwith, Gershom Scholem and others will be used as supplementary texts.

Instructor(s): Heinrich Meier Terms Offered: Spring, Spring 2024

Prerequisite(s): Undergraduates Need the Instructor's Permission to Register.

Note(s): Monday/Wednesday, 10:30 a.m. – 1:20 p.m.\*, during the first five weeks of the term (March 18 – April 17, 2024). \* The time may be changed after the first session to 10:00 a.m. – 1:10 p.m.

Equivalent Course(s): SETH 27326, FNDL 27007, PHIL 37326, CLCV 27423, SETH 37326, CLAS 37423

**PHIL 27379. Reparations. 100 Units.**

This course focuses on reparations for racialized slavery in the United States. As we'll see, the debate over reparations raises a number of complex philosophical questions: what does it mean today to atone for hundreds of years of slavery, given that those who were enslaved, and those who enslaved other human beings, are



now dead? Who today has an obligation to atone for it? What are they obligated to do? And, perhaps most importantly, who should have the authority to decide what successful atonement or reparation would look like? These questions arguably cannot be answered decisively without a precise accounting for the wrongs intrinsic to the institution of slavery, on the one hand, and an analysis of post-slavery racial oppression, on the other. Some of the authors we'll read include: Bernard Boxill, Angela Davis, Fredrick Douglass, W.E.B. Du Bois, C.L.R. James, Charles Mills, Robert Nozick and Jeremy Waldron. (A)

Instructor(s): Tyler Zimmer Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 37379, RDIN 27379, CRES 27379

**PHIL 27523. Reading Kierkegaard. 100 Units.**

This will be a discussion-centered seminar that facilitates close readings some Kierkegaard texts: *The Present Age*, *Fear and Trembling*, *Sickness Unto Death*, and *The Lily of the Field and the Bird of the Air*. We shall consider both the issues and arguments as well as Kierkegaard's forms of writing and manners of persuasion. Students will be expected to write comments each week and to read the comments of others. Our reading each week will be determined by the pace of the group.

Instructor(s): Jonathan Lear Terms Offered: Winter 2024

Prerequisite(s): This seminar is intended for undergraduate majors in Philosophy and Fundamentals and for graduate students in Social Thought and Philosophy. Permission of Instructor required.

Equivalent Course(s): SETH 27523, SETH 37523, PHIL 37523, FNDL 27523

**PHIL 28101. Appearance and Reality: Perspectives Across Philosophical Traditions. 100 Units.**

Is the world really as it appears to be in everyday experience, or is the world of everyday experience really a world of mere appearances, radically unlike the reality that lies behind it? This is arguably the most fundamental philosophical question that one can ask, and it has occupied a central place in perhaps every philosophical tradition that has arisen across the globe. In this class, we will consider how this question arises across two distinct philosophical traditions—Classical and Modern European Philosophy, on the one hand, and Classical Indian philosophy, on the other—seeking to compare and contrast the different philosophical impulses, approaches, and answers to this question across these traditions. Historical readings will be from key figures in the different philosophical canons, such as Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, Hume, and Kant in Europe, and Vasubandhu, Dharmakīrti, Nāgārjuna, Candrakīrti, and Śāṅkara in India. Historical readings will be supplemented by works by contemporary philosophers. (B)

Instructor(s): Ryan Simonelli Terms Offered: Spring

**PHIL 28202. Hegel's Phenomenology of Spirit. 100 Units.**

A study of Hegel's *Phenomenology of Spirit* and its topics, including knowledge, self-consciousness, desire, culture, morality, religion, art, and the character of phenomenological investigation. (B) (IV)

Instructor(s): Thomas Pendlebury Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): SETH 38202, SETH 28202, PHIL 38202

**PHIL 28203. Hegel's Philosophy of Right. 100 Units.**

We will study Hegel's *Elements of Philosophy of Right*. The book is an absolute classic of practical philosophy. Its ambition is nothing less than to provide a systematic treatment of the unity of action theory, ethics and political philosophy. Hegel's theory is considered by many as the highpoint and completion of practical philosophy in the post-Kantian German Idealism. And it is essential for the development Marxism and Critical Theory. It is a crucial treatise to study - not only for those interested of the history of ethics and political theory, but for anyone reflecting on the logic and origins of the kind of society we live in. At the same time, the book is hardly an easy read. For one, the genre of text is quite peculiar: it was written for as a condensed "Leitfaden" for the students listening Hegel's lectures. Moreover, the range of topics discussed under the heading of the *Philosophy of Right* - as well the order in which they are presented - seems quite from a contemporary perspective. Hegel's guiding thought is that the power of practical reason and freedom can only be understood through its actuality. What stands at center of his treatise is thus the idea of practical reality, encapsulated in his famous slogan that "the rational is actual and the actual is rational." Hegel's point is that the domain of the practical is a stratum of being that is not a reality given to the mind, but one that reason apprehends as its own work in virtue of bringing it into being.

Instructor(s): Matthias Haase Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 38203, FNDL 28204

**PHIL 28504. Matter and Form. 100 Units.**

This course will investigate the metaphysical concept of "hylomorphism." Hylomorphism is the idea that the unity and intelligibility of something can be understood principally through an analysis into form and matter, or into the actualization of a potentiality. The aim of the course will be to understand what philosophical questions and problems hylomorphism tries to answer, from its origins in Aristotle's physics to Kant's use of the concept in his discussions of cognition and action. (B)

Instructor(s): Arnold Brooks Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 38504

**PHIL 29200. Junior Tutorial. 100 Units.**

Junior/Senior Tutorial. For topic and other information, please visit <https://philosophy.uchicago.edu/courses>.

Instructor(s): Autumn 2023 Marguerite Sandholm (Topic: Conceptions of Self) Spring 2024 Michael Morgan (Topic: Kierkegaard's Concluding Unscientific Postscript) John Muller (Topic: The Meaning of Disability) Terms Offered: Autumn Spring  
 Prerequisite(s): Open only to intensive-track and philosophy majors.  
 Note(s): Junior and Senior sections meet together. No more than two Tutorials may be used to meet program requirements.

**PHIL 29300. Senior Tutorial. 100 Units.**

Junior/Senior Tutorial. For topic and other information, please visit <https://philosophy.uchicago.edu/courses>.  
 Instructor(s): Autumn 2023 Marguerite Sandholm (Topic: Conceptions of Self) Spring 2024 Michael Morgan (Topic: Kierkegaard's Concluding Unscientific Postscript) John Muller (Topic: The Meaning of Disability) Terms Offered: Autumn Spring  
 Prerequisite(s): Open only to intensive-track and philosophy majors.  
 Note(s): Junior and Senior sections meet together. No more than two Tutorials may be used to meet program requirements.

**PHIL 29408. Intuitionistic Logic. 100 Units.**

This course will be an introductory survey of the philosophical and mathematical foundations of intuitionistic logic, perhaps the most serious rival to classical logic. We will pay attention to its philosophical motivations, especially by examining some of the more philosophical works of Brouwer. The course will also involve a mathematically rigorous presentation of the metatheory of intuitionistic logic, using forcing and Kripke frames.  
 (B) (II)  
 Instructor(s): Kevin Davey Terms Offered: Winter  
 Prerequisite(s): Students should have completed Elementary Logic, or a similar class in the mathematics department.  
 Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 39408

**PHIL 29601. Intensive Track Seminar. 100 Units.**

Title: Philosophy and Fiction In this course we will try to make sense of fiction using the techniques of philosophy. What is the 'logic' of fictional discourse? What makes a work, a work of fiction? (Is it the intentions of the author?) What is the metaphysical status of fictional characters? How does the making and consuming of fiction relate to other practices in human life-for example, playing games and lying? How can we be emotionally affected by fiction when we know it is fiction? We will read a variety of texts on these subjects, but the focus will be on work in the analytic tradition.  
 Instructor(s): Benjamin Callard Terms Offered: Autumn  
 Prerequisite(s): Open only to third-year students who have been admitted to the intensive track program.

**PHIL 29700. Reading and Research. 100 Units.**

Reading and Research.  
 Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter  
 Prerequisite(s): Consent of Instructor & Director of Undergraduate Studies. Students are required to submit the college reading and research course form.

**PHIL 29901. Senior Seminar I. 100 Units.**

Students writing senior essays register once for PHIL 29901, in the Autumn Quarter, and once for PHIL 29902, in the Winter Quarter. The Senior Seminar meets for two quarters, and students writing essays are required to attend throughout.  
 Instructor(s): Hannah McKeown; Tyler Zimmer; Dan Brudney; Melina Garibovic Terms Offered: Autumn  
 Prerequisite(s): Consent of Director of Undergraduate Studies.  
 Note(s): Required and only open to fourth-year students who have been accepted into the BA essay program.

**PHIL 29902. Senior Seminar II. 100 Units.**

Students writing senior essays register once for PHIL 29901, in the Autumn Quarter, and once for PHIL 29902, in the Winter Quarter. The Senior Seminar meets for two quarters, and students writing essays are required to attend throughout.  
 Instructor(s): Hannah McKeown; Tyler Zimmer; Dan Brudney; Melina Garibovic Terms Offered: Autumn Winter  
 Prerequisite(s): Consent of Director of Undergraduate Studies.  
 Note(s): Required and only open to fourth-year students who have been accepted into the BA essay program.

**PHIL 29913. Ancient Greek Philosophy of Race and Ethnicity. 100 Units.**

This course will introduce students to race and ethnicity as topics of interest to ancient Greek philosophers, primarily Plato and Aristotle. We will look at the ways that Plato and Aristotle ask and address philosophical questions about human difference that approximate the modern concepts of race and ethnicity, such as the notion of a "barbarian", mythologies of ancestry, the role of shared language, culture, and political forms versus genealogy, and the association of character traits and political capacities with groups of people. We will also consider relevant connections to other perceived forms of difference, such as gender, sexuality, and political status (e.g. slave, resident non-citizen). Since they are often relevant to how Plato and Aristotle address these issues, we will also consider relevant texts from the broader Greek intellectual world: medicine, drama, ethnography, and oratory. Finally, we will consider methodological issues, such as whether it is meaningful to

talk about "race" in Greek antiquity, how it might differ from "ethnicity", and how classicists, historians, and philosophers interested in this study can be misled by their own prejudices. (A) (III)

Instructor(s): John Proios Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): Some familiarity with ancient Greek philosophy is expected.

Equivalent Course(s): RDIN 39913, PHIL 39913, CRES 22913, RDIN 29913

## PHILOSOPHY COURSES

### **PHIL 20005. Thomas Aquinas's Philosophy of Love. 100 Units.**

Thomas Aquinas is sometimes labeled an "intellectualist," because of the priority that he assigns to intellect or reason in human life. Nevertheless he treats love as a fundamental principle, not only of human life but of absolutely all life and even all reality, and he thought and wrote extensively about it. In this course we will read and discuss sizeable passages, from several of his works, concerning the nature of love in general, its various kinds, its causes and effects, how it exists in different subjects - human, angelic, divine, and even non-rational - and what it has to do with morality, virtue, and happiness. As regards the history of the topic, the we shall especially want to consider how Aquinas's thought on love relates to that of Aristotle and to the Platonic tradition. (A)

Instructor(s): S. Brock Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): Completion of the general education requirement in humanities is required.

### **PHIL 20012. Accelerated Introduction to Logic. 100 Units.**

This course provides an introduction to logic for students of philosophy. It is aimed at students who possess more mathematical training than can be expected of typical philosophy majors, but who wish to study logic not just as a branch of mathematics but as a method for philosophical analysis. (II)

Instructor(s): Anubav Vasudevan Terms Offered: Autumn

Prerequisite(s): While no specific mathematical knowledge will be presupposed, some familiarity with the methods of mathematical reasoning and some prior practice writing prose that is precise enough to support mathematical proof will be useful.

Note(s): Students may count either PHIL 20012 or PHIL 20100, but not both, toward the credits required for graduation.

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 30012

### **PHIL 20100. Introduction to Logic. 100 Units.**

An introduction to the concepts and principles of symbolic logic. We learn the syntax and semantics of truth-functional and first-order quantificational logic, and apply the resultant conceptual framework to the analysis of valid and invalid arguments, the structure of formal languages, and logical relations among sentences of ordinary discourse. Occasionally we will venture into topics in philosophy of language and philosophical logic, but our primary focus is on acquiring a facility with symbolic logic as such.

Instructor(s): Winter 2024: Molly Brown (200/300); Ryan Simonelli (200/300) Terms Offered: Winter

Note(s): Students may count either PHIL 20100 or PHIL 20012, but not both, toward the credits required for graduation.

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 30000, CHSS 33500, HIPS 20700

### **PHIL 20114. Dialectics: Kant and Hegel. 100 Units.**

Traditionally, contradiction is taken to be possible only as the disagreement between two judgments at least one of which is false. In the Transcendental Dialectic of the Critique of Pure Reason Kant claims to have discovered in us an ineliminable proclivity for holding contradictory metaphysical views. Hegel praises Kant for this discovery but criticizes him for locating the origin of this proclivity merely in us and not also in the things as they are in themselves. Breaking with tradition, Hegel thus holds that there are contradictions that are not merely subjectively, but also objectively necessary. In this class we reconstruct and discuss the arguments for each view. For both Kant and Hegel, the dialectic implies a certain conception of the unity of theoretical and practical reason; special attention will be given to this implication and to the difference between the Kantian and the Hegelian conception of this unity. (A) (B) (IV)

Instructor(s): Wolfram Gobsch Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): Introduction to Logic.

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 30114

### **PHIL 20128. Mathematics in Plato. 100 Units.**

This course explores the role that mathematics plays in Plato's philosophy with a special focus on the concept of incommensurability. We will be reading Platonic dialogues in which mathematical practice figures prominently and our goal will be to inquire into the ways that mathematical practice is similar to philosophical practice and the ways it can serve as a useful exemplar. We will also inquire into the ways that mathematics falls short of philosophy, which will give us a better sense of what the philosophical goals are. Finally, we will consider the challenges presented by mathematical incommensurability and we will investigate the ways that this concept is appropriated by Plato for philosophical purposes. Texts will include: Meno, Republic 5-7, Timaeus, Theaetetus, Statesman. We will read some secondary literature on Plato (e.g. S. Menn, H. Benson, T. Echterling) and on the mathematics of the time (W. Knorr, J. Klein) but not every time. (B)

Instructor(s): Ermioni Prokopaki Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): No mathematical background required, no prior familiarity with Plato required, no Greek required.

**PHIL 20218. Introduction to the Philosophy of Life and Death. 100 Units.**

The focus of this course will be how philosophy arises in response to problems in the conditions of human life, especially our mortality and the prevalence of social injustice. Every one of us will die one day; and every one of us suffers from and/or helps perpetuate some form of injustice. These can be sources of alienation, suffering, and bad choices; they can also be sources of conviction, bravery, and wisdom. We will aim to understand how philosophy fits into this picture, and especially how a person can use philosophy to find meaning for their life in relation to both death and injustice. Topics will include how the fear of death affects us in life, the prospect of "critical" consciousness in relation to death, and understanding the political dimensions of life and death. We will discuss ancient texts and figures, such as Plato's Socrates and the Buddha, as well as contemporary philosophical work and social issues in the US and elsewhere.

Terms Offered: Summer

**PHIL 20307. Kant on Moral Meaning. 100 Units.**

Kant is known mostly as a moral theorist. In that capacity, he argued that morality was a matter of pure practical rationality and that we are unconditionally obligated to a moral law, the categorical imperative. But Kant also noted that we do not experience our moral lives in those theoretical terms, and in several texts, he explored the various ways in which our moral vocation is ordinarily experienced, what it means to us, and how it comes to matter to us. In that context, he discusses such topics as conscience, virtue and the formation of character, moral education, whether human beings are radically evil, how the claims of morality fit into a human life as a whole, and the possibility of a moral community. These themes will comprise the topics of this seminar. The texts will include sections from his Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals, his Doctrine of Virtue, his Lectures on Ethics, Religion Within the Limits of Reason Alone, and essays on the problems of casuistry.

Instructor(s): Robert Pippin Terms Offered: Winter. Winter 2024

Prerequisite(s): Everyone needs the instructor's permission to register.

Equivalent Course(s): SETH 50307, SETH 20307, PHIL 50307

**PHIL 21000. Introduction To Ethics. 100 Units.**

In this course, we will read, write, think, and talk about moral philosophy, focusing on Immanuel Kant's Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals and work by John Stuart Mill. We will work through our texts with care. Neo-Kantianism is a prominent contemporary form of moral theory. We will use Kant to develop a critique of neo-Kantianism as we go along. We will look at influential criticisms of utilitarianism in the concluding weeks of the term, and we will need to ask ourselves whether either of them applies to the version of utilitarianism developed by John Stuart Mill. (A)

Instructor(s): Candace Vogler Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): FNDL 23107, HIIPS 21000

**PHIL 21002. Human Rights: Philosophical Foundations. 100 Units.**

In this class we explore the philosophical foundations of human rights, investigating theories of how our shared humanity in the context of an interdependent world gives rise to obligations of justice. We begin by asking what rights are, how they are distinguished from other part of morality, and what role they play in our social and political life. But rights come in many varieties, and we are interested in human rights in particular. In later weeks, we will ask what makes something a human right, and how are human rights different from other kinds of rights. We will consider a number of contemporary philosophers (and one historian) who attempt to answer this question, including James Griffin, Joseph Raz, John Rawls, John Tasioulas, Samuel Moyn, Jiewuh Song, and Martha Nussbaum. Throughout we will be asking questions such as, "What makes something a human right?" "What role does human dignity play in grounding our human rights?" "Are human rights historical?" "What role does the nation and the individual play in our account of human rights?" "When can one nation legitimately intervene in the affairs of another nation?" "How can we respect the demands of justice while also respecting cultural difference?" "How do human rights relate to global inequality and markets?" (A) (I)

Instructor(s): Ben Laurence, Pozen Center for Human Rights Instructional Professor Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 31002, HIST 29319, HIST 39319, MAPH 42002, HMRT 31002, HMRT 21002, INRE 31602

**PHIL 21203. Introduction to Philosophy of Law. 100 Units.**

This course will be an introduction to the philosophy of law. The first third will cover some historical classics: Plato's Crito, and selections from Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics, Kant's Doctrine of Right, Hegel's Outline of the Philosophy of Right, and Austin's The Province of Jurisprudence Determined. The second third of the course will cover some classics of postwar Anglo-American jurisprudence, including selections from H.L.A. Hart, Ronald Dworkin, Richard Posner, and Ernest Weinrib. The final third of the course will explore in a little further detail philosophical problems that arise in the following areas: the philosophy of tort law, theories of constitutional interpretation, and feminist jurisprudence. (A)

Instructor(s): Lisa Van Alstyne Terms Offered: Winter

**PHIL 21204. Philosophy of Private Law. 100 Units.**

This course will be on the part of the law known as private law - the part that adjudicates disputes between private citizens where one person is alleged to have suffered harm through the wrongdoing of another. Among the questions with which we will be concerned are the following: What constitutes a legal harm in such a context? What, in the eyes of the law, counts as one person being the cause of another person's suffering? What sort of redress or compensation may one justifiably seek for such suffering? Who has a right to decide such

questions? What justifies the use of sanction or force - and when is it justified - in the enforcement of such legal decisions? The first half of this course will present a selective historical genealogy of our contemporary understanding of how to go about answering such questions. The second half of the course will be on contemporary theories of private law. The historical portion of the course will begin by examining the origins of the modern distinction between private and public law in Aristotle's ancient distinction between corrective and distributive justice. Next we will briefly consider what private legal adjudication looks like in the absence of the state, first by reading an Icelandic Saga and then by watching John Ford's classic western *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valence*. (A)

Instructor(s): Lisa Van Alstyne Terms Offered: Spring

**PHIL 21207. Ecocentrism and Environmental Racism. 100 Units.**

The aim of this course is to explore the tensions and convergences between two of the most profoundly important areas of environmental philosophy. "Ecocentrism" is the view that holistic systems such as ecosystems can be ethically considerable or "count" in a way somewhat comparable to human persons, and such a philosophical perspective has been shared by many prominent forms of environmentalism, from Aldo Leopold's *Land Ethic* to Deep Ecology to the worldviews of many Native American and Indigenous peoples. For some prominent environmental philosophers, a commitment to ecocentrism is the defining test of whether one is truly an environmental philosopher. "Environmental Racism" is one of the defining elements of environmental injustice, the way in which environmental crises and existential threats often reflect systemic discrimination, oppression, and domination in their disproportionate adverse impact on peoples of color, women, the global poor, LGBTQ populations, and Indigenous Peoples. Although historically, some have claimed that ecocentric organizations such as Greenpeace have neglected the problems of environmental injustice and racism in their quest to, e.g., "save the whales," a deeper analysis reveals a far more complicated picture, with many affinities and alliances between ecocentrists and activists seeking environmental justice. (A)

Instructor(s): Bart Schultz Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): CRES 21207, ENST 21207, PLSC 21207, HMRT 21207, MAPH 31207, CHST 21207

**PHIL 21218. Being and Goodness: Varieties of Constitutivism. 100 Units.**

In contemporary meta-ethics, Constitutivism figures as an alternative to the familiar opposition between Realism and Non-Cognitivism. The fundamental norms to which we are subject in acting are not independent of our agency. Yet they are the objects of knowledge. They are internal to what we are. We will look at the recent debate on how such a view is to be spelled out and whether it provides viable alternative to Realism and Non-Cognitivism. Which characterization of us allows the derivation of substantive normative principles: the abstract concept of an agent or the concrete concept of a human being? What is the logical grammar of the relevant sortal concept? And how does our knowledge of our kind enter into its characterization? Readings will include texts by David Enoch, Christine Korsgaard, David Velleman, Philippa Foot, Michael Smith, Judy Thompson and Michael Thompson.

Instructor(s): Matthias Haase Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 31218

**PHIL 21423. Introduction to Marx. 100 Units.**

This introduction to Marx's thought will divide into three parts: in the first, we will consider Marx's theory of history; in the second, his account of capitalism; and in third, his conception of the state. (A)

Instructor(s): Anton Ford Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): FNDL 21805

**PHIL 21426. Marx's Theory of Class. 100 Units.**

The topic of this course is Karl Marx's theory of socio-economic class. Its purpose is to gain insight into Marx's fundamental thesis that understanding classes helps us understand politics. Though it is one of the topics for which his name is most remembered, his view of class is often misrepresented. For instance, one might hear that, for Marx, there are just the two most famous classes of capitalist society-the so-called proletariat (workers) and the bourgeoisie (capitalists). Like classical economists before him and heterodox economists after him, however, Marx actually believes that modern societies consist of at least three classes: workers, capitalists, and landlords or rentiers, as well as other marginalized groups. And he even disaggregates those classes into the smaller groups which constitute them (e.g., productive and unproductive labor; industrial, commercial, and financial capital, etc.). By examining selections from his mature political-economic writings, we will reconstruct Marx's theory of social classes and consider his application of that theory in significant case studies such as the American Civil War. Themes which we will address include the relation between economy and politics, class and race, science and ideology, as well as agency and structure in historical development. Questions which we will ask include the advantages and disadvantages of Marx's view with an eye to contemporary questions.

Instructor(s): Daniel Burnfin Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): Some experience with philosophy would be helpful.

Note(s): Readings will be selections drawn from Marx's *Capital* (esp. volumes II and III), *Theories of Surplus Value*, *Grundrisse*, 18th Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte, and journalistic writings from the *Tribune*. (A)

**PHIL 21499. Philosophy and Philanthropy. 100 Units.**

Perhaps it is better to give than to receive, but exactly how much giving ought one to engage in and to whom or what? Recent ethical and philosophical developments such as the effective altruism movement suggest that relatively affluent individuals are ethically bound to donate a very large percentage of their resources to worthy



causes—for example, saving as many lives as they possibly can, wherever in the world those lives may be. And charitable giving or philanthropy is not only a matter of individual giving, but also of giving by foundations, corporations, non-profits, non-governmental and various governmental agencies, and other organizational entities that play a very significant role in the modern world. How, for example, does an institution like the University of Chicago engage in and justify its philanthropic activities? Can one generalize about the various rationales for philanthropy, whether individual or institutional? Why do individuals or organizations engage in philanthropy, and do they do so well or badly, for good reasons, bad reasons, or no coherent reasons? This course will afford a broad, critical philosophical and historical overview of philanthropy, examining its various contexts and justifications, and contrasting charitable giving with other ethical demands, particularly the demands of justice. How do charity and justice relate to each other? Would charity even be needed in a fully just world? (A)

Instructor(s): Bart Schultz Terms Offered: Winter

Note(s): This course will feature a number of guest speakers and be developed in active conversation with the work of the UChicago Civic Knowledge Project and Office of Civic Engagement. Students will also be presented with some practical opportunities to engage reflectively in deciding whether, why and how to donate a certain limited amount of (course provided) funding.

Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 21499, MAPH 31499, HMRT 21499

#### **PHIL 21506. Memory and Unity of a Person. 100 Units.**

In one of his most widely read pieces of writing—the chapter of his *Essay Concerning Human Understanding* called “Of Identity and Diversity”—John Locke writes: “[S]ince consciousness always accompanies thinking, and 'tis that, that makes every one to be, what he calls self; and thereby distinguishes himself from all other thinking things, in this alone consists personal Identity, i.e. the sameness of rational Being: And as far as this consciousness can be extended backwards to any past Action or Thought, so far reaches the Identity of that Person...” Locke’s theory of personal identity has puzzled, annoyed, and inspired readers since it was published in the second edition of his *Essay*, in 1694. In this course, we’ll be concerned to discover what sense (as well as what use) we can make of Locke’s odd-sounding suggestion—that a distinctive feature of persons is a capacity to extend consciousness backwards in time. In addition to Locke’s famous chapter on identity and some responses to it, we’ll read and discuss Wittgenstein (and probably Freud as well) on questions having to do with (what might be called) first-personal memory. Along the way, we’ll be thinking together about self-awareness, trauma, psychoanalysis, and other related topics. (B)

Instructor(s): David Finkelstein Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): One prior philosophy course.

#### **PHIL 21606. Justice at Work. 100 Units.**

This course combines economic theory (the theory of the firm), legal theory (labor law), and labor history, with political philosophy to examine questions of justice for workers that are often ignored in academic political philosophy. The course begins by considering very basic questions from economic theory, including what markets are, and why production in the economy is organized through firms, and what economists have to say about why firms are arranged so hierarchically. Given this background, we next turn to consider injustices at the work, including worker domination, exploitation, and the casualization of employment. We consider responses including universal basic income that decouples access to goods from work; worker organization and resistance through the labor movement and tools such as collective bargaining; and finally, the reorganization of the economy to foster either shared control over firms or worker cooperatives. Along the way we consider the right to strike, the connection of race and labor, and different visions of a more just future for workers. (A)

Instructor(s): Ben Laurence, Pozen Center for Human Rights Associate Instructional Professor Terms Offered:

Spring

Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 32210, HMRT 22210

#### **PHIL 21702. Moral Evil in German Idealism. 100 Units.**

In this class we explore the debate about moral evil in German Idealism. Kant teaches that the moral law is the law of freedom while also holding that immoral activity is entirely imputable to the subject and therefore free. How are the two claims compatible? We will reconstruct Kant’s own answer to this question as well as its discussion in Fichte, Schelling, and Hegel. And we will trace connections between the debate among the German Idealists and certain developments in contemporary moral constitutivism. Special attention will be given to Kant’s doctrine of radical evil, according to which actual immorality is a condition of human freedom, our capacity for moral goodness. We will examine Kant’s case for this doctrine and its role in the moral philosophies of Fichte, Schelling, and Hegel. (A) (IV)

Instructor(s): Wolfram Gobsch Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): One prior course in practical philosophy.

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 31702

#### **PHIL 21723. The Will: Aristotle, Augustine, Aquinas. 100 Units.**

Aristotle’s approach to ethics is sometimes termed intellectualist, meaning that it has no room for a notion of the will, understood as a principle of human action distinct from intellect or reason. Such a notion, it is said, gained currency only centuries later, at least partly through influences alien to Greek philosophy. St Augustine is often cited as one of the thinkers most responsible for the notion’s becoming prevalent. St Thomas Aquinas, however, presents a highly articulated theory of human action that appears to integrate a robust conception of the will, and one heavily indebted to Augustine, into a largely Aristotelian framework. We will read and discuss substantial



passages from these three authors bearing on the question of the will, in the hope that seeing them side by side can help to get at what they really mean and what the philosophical merits of their views are. (A) (IV)

Instructor(s): Stephen Brock Terms Offered: Autumn

Prerequisite(s): Undergraduates who are not Philosophy majors must obtain the instructor's consent.

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 31723

**PHIL 21730. Aristotle's Metaphysics. 100 Units.**

Aristotle's *Metaphysics* is one of the most difficult and rewarding texts in the philosophical tradition. It attempts to lay out the goals, methods, and primary results of a science Aristotle calls "first philosophy." First philosophy is the study of beings just insofar as they are beings (as opposed to physics, which studies beings insofar as they come to be, pass away, or change), and if completed it would stand as the most fundamental and general science. Our aim will be to understand: if and how such a science is possible, what the principles of such a science are, what being is, which beings are primary, and what are the causes of being qua being. We will discuss the *Metaphysics* as a whole, but focus on A-B, Γ, Z, H, Θ, and Λ. Our approach will be "forest," rather than "tree" oriented, preferring in most cases a coherent overview to close reading. (B) (III)

Instructor(s): Arnold Brooks Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): A background in ancient Greek philosophy (especially PHIL 25000: History of Philosophy I: Ancient Greek and Roman Philosophy) is recommended but not required.

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 31730

**PHIL 22000. Introduction to Philosophy of Science. 100 Units.**

We will begin by trying to explicate the manner in which science is a rational response to observational facts. This will involve a discussion of inductivism, Popper's deductivism, Lakatos and Kuhn. After this, we will briefly survey some other important topics in the philosophy of science, including underdetermination, theories of evidence, Bayesianism, the problem of induction, explanation, and laws of nature. (B) (II)

Instructor(s): Thomas Pashby Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): HIPS 22000, HIST 25109, KNOW 32000, HIST 35109, CHSS 33300, PHIL 32000

**PHIL 22100. Space and Time. 100 Units.**

This course is an introduction to some traditional philosophical problems about space and time. The course will begin with a discussion of Zeno's paradoxes. We will then look at the debate between Newton and Leibniz concerning the ontological status of space and time, and will examine reactions to this debate by physicists such as Mach. We will then go on to discuss the question of what sense is to be made of the claim that space is curved, looking at the work of Einstein. Students will be introduced to the basics of the special and general theories of relativity at a qualitative level. If time permits, we will also look at questions about the multiverse, and/or Boltzmann's conception of the arrow of time. (B) (II)

Instructor(s): Kevin Davey Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): CHSS 32100, HIPS 22100, PHIL 32100

**PHIL 22202. Modern Social Contract Theory. 100 Units.**

Since the 17th century, the social contract has been a central metaphor to characterize the conditions under which political authority is legitimate. However, the content of the social contract and its imagined mode of coming into being have varied widely. In this course we will try to delineate the conditions that might make the concept of a social contract a plausible way to justify political authority. We will read Hobbes, Rousseau, Kant, and Rawls. We will focus on these writers' conceptions of the person, on their views of how such conceptions generate specific institutional arrangements, and on their accounts of the justification of state power. (A)

Instructor(s): Dan Brudney Terms Offered: Winter

**PHIL 22277. The Philosophy of Thomas Kuhn. 100 Units.**

Thomas Kuhn was both an historian and a philosopher of science, with broader interests in philosophical issues pertaining to the nature of language, truth and knowledge - and, in particular, pertaining to questions concerning the possibility of communicability, commensurability, and inter-translatability across radically divergent conceptual schemes, theoretical frameworks, or grammatical/ linguistic structures. This course will be devoted to a close examination of the treatment of these topics in Kuhn's work. For purposes of orientation, we will begin with several class meetings in which we read his classic work *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*, first published in 1962, along with some of the central texts which figured in the controversies that book ignited in connection with the aforementioned topics. We will then examine some of the second thoughts Kuhn himself expressed concerning that work in scattered essays written between 1969 and 1977 (some of which are collected in *The Essential Tension*). The second half of the course will be on Kuhn's work from 1978 until his death in 1996, starting with the essays collected in *The Road Since "Structure"*, and further developed in *The Presence of Science Past* (his 1987 Shearman Lectures) and *The Plurality of Worlds* (his final unfinished magnum opus). (B) (II)

Instructor(s): James Conant Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): HIPS 22277, CHSS 32277, PHIL 32277

**PHIL 22702. Abortion: Morality, Politics, Philosophy. 100 Units.**

Abortion is a complex and fraught topic. Morally, a very wide range of individual, familial, and social concerns converge upon it. Politically, longstanding controversies have been given new salience and urgency by the Dobbs decision and the ongoing moves by state legislatures to restrict access to abortion. In terms of moral philosophy, deep issues in ethics merge with equally deep questions about the nature of life, action, and the body. In terms of political philosophy, basic questions are raised about the relationship of religious and moral beliefs to the

criminal law of a liberal state. We will seek to understand the topic in all of this complexity. Our approach will be thoroughly intra- and inter-disciplinary, drawing not only on our separate areas of philosophical expertise but on the contributions of a series of guest instructors in law, history, and medicine. (A)

Instructor(s): Jason Bridges, Dan Brudney Terms Offered: Autumn

Prerequisite(s): PQ: Third or fourth-year standing. Students should opt into a discussion section that fits their schedule.

Note(s): Philosophy majors: this course fulfills the practical philosophy (A) requirement.

Equivalent Course(s): BPRO 22700, HLTH 22700, HIPS 22701, HMRT 22702, GNSE 22705

#### **PHIL 22709. Introduction to Philosophy of Quantum Mechanics. 100 Units.**

In this class we examine some of the conceptual problems associated with quantum mechanics. We will critically discuss some common interpretations of quantum mechanics, such as the Copenhagen interpretation, the many-worlds interpretation and Bohmian mechanics. We will also examine some implications of results in the foundations of quantum theory concerning non-locality, contextuality and realism. (B) (II)

Instructor(s): Thomas Pashby Terms Offered: Autumn

Prerequisite(s): Prior knowledge of quantum mechanics is not required since we begin with an introduction to the formalism. Only familiarity with high school geometry is presupposed but expect to be introduced to other mathematical tools as needed.

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 32709, CHSS 32709, KNOW 22709, HIPS 22709

#### **PHIL 22819. Philosophy of Education. 100 Units.**

What are the aims of education? Are they what they should be, for purposes of cultivating flourishing citizens of a liberal democracy? What are the biggest challenges—philosophical, political, cultural, and ethical—confronting educators today, in the U.S. and across the globe? How can philosophy help address these? In dealing with such questions, this course will provide an introductory overview of both the philosophy of education and various educational programs in philosophy, critically surveying a few of the leading ways in which philosophers past and present have framed the aims of education and the educational significance of philosophy. From Plato to the present, philosophers have contributed to articulating the aims of education and developing curricula to be used in various educational contexts, for diverse groups and educational levels. This course will draw on both classic and contemporary works, but considerable attention will be devoted to the work and legacy of philosopher/educator John Dewey, a founding figure at the University of Chicago and a crucial resource for educators concerned with cultivating critical thinking, creativity, character, and ethical reflection. The course will also feature field trips, distinguished guest speakers, and opportunities for experiential learning. (A) (B)

Instructor(s): Bart Schultz Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 32819, EDSO 22819, PLSC 22819, CHDV 22819

#### **PHIL 22960. Bayesian Epistemology. 100 Units.**

This course will be an introduction to Bayesian epistemology. (B) (II)

Instructor(s): Mikayla Kelley Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): Introduction to Logic (PHIL 20100/30000) or its equivalent.

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 32960

#### **PHIL 23000. Introduction to Metaphysics and Epistemology. 100 Units.**

In this course we will explore some of the central questions in epistemology and metaphysics. In epistemology, these questions will include: What is knowledge? What facts or states justify a belief? How can the threat of skepticism be adequately answered? How do we know what we (seem to) know about mathematics and morality? In metaphysics, these questions will include: What is time? What is the best account of personal identity across time? Do we have free will? We will also discuss how the construction of a theory of knowledge ought to relate to the construction of a metaphysical theory—roughly speaking, what comes first, epistemology or metaphysics? (B)

Instructor(s): Benjamin Callard Terms Offered: Spring

#### **PHIL 23001. Paradoxes. 100 Units.**

Paradoxes are conflicts in our own thought. Many of the most fundamental, frustrating, disturbing, and exciting concerns in philosophy and the sciences are to be found where paradoxes arise. In this course we will investigate paradoxes in logic, in metaphysics, in ethics, in action theory, in epistemology, and elsewhere. We will also try to understand the nature and sources of paradox—since the very possibility of paradoxes is, itself, a paradox. (B)

Instructor(s): Arnold Brooks; Benjamin Callard Terms Offered: Spring

#### **PHIL 23022. Agency and Virtual Reality: A Technophilosophical Exploration. 100 Units.**

This will be an exploratory course in philosophy of action focusing on how modern virtual reality technologies impact traditional debates within the metaphysics of action. Thus, we will engage in what David Chalmers calls "technophilosophy": we will use new technologies to address old philosophical questions. In particular, we'll be concerned with traditional metaphysical questions about agency such as what is action, what is distinctive about human action in particular, how do we exert control in action, what is the role of the body in agency, and to what extent does our agency manifest in the mind. But we will look at these questions keeping in close view that it may be only a matter of time before the vast majority of our lives are spent in virtual reality. To give sufficiently robust answers to these traditional questions—answers which are sensitive to a technologically changing world—we thus need to consider technophilosophical questions such as: could there be genuine virtual action? Can we make sense of genuine action without bodily movement? Are all actions in virtual reality simply

mental actions? What are the limits of a human body, and could the human body extend into a virtual world? Are we responsible for what we do in virtual reality in the same way we are responsible for what we do in the real world? A previous course in philosophy of action would be helpful but is not necessary. (B) (II)

Instructor(s): Mikayla Kelley Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): At least one course in philosophy.

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 33022

**PHIL 23027. Philosophy of Animal Minds. 100 Units.**

How did minds evolve? How unique is the human mind in nature? Are humans the only species on this planet capable of thinking? What does this even mean? How could we tell? Can other species form beliefs and concepts about the world? Do some animals possess the capacity for language? Do other species have a rudimentary sense of morality? If so, what challenges would this raise toward traditional notions of "human nature"? Furthermore, what might these questions tell us about our moral obligations to other species? This class offers a detailed look into contemporary debates in the philosophy of animal minds. These debates are inherently multi-disciplinary, ranging from questions in evolutionary biology, cognitive science, developmental psychology, the philosophy of mind, and even questions about the future of artificial intelligence. (B)

Instructor(s): Molly Brown Terms Offered: Spring

**PHIL 23028. The Philosophy of Human-Animal Relationships. 100 Units.**

Intimate relationships - primarily relations of companionship - between humans and non-human animals are ubiquitous but not often the subject of philosophy. This is a shame, since such relationships are important and interesting, providing rich ground for philosophical reflection. In this course, we will philosophize about such relationships, drawing on memoir and film as well as academic philosophy. How, we will ask, are we to understand such relationships? What is their nature? How are they possible? And what do they demand of us? (A)

Instructor(s): Claudia Hogg-Blake Terms Offered: Winter

**PHIL 23405. History and Philosophy of Biology. 100 Units.**

This lecture-discussion course will consider the main figures in the history of biology, from the Hippocratics and Aristotle to Darwin and Mendel. The philosophic issues will be the kinds of explanations appropriate to biology versus the other physical sciences, the status of teleological considerations, and the moral consequences for human beings.

Instructor(s): R. Richards Terms Offered: Autumn

Note(s): For students taking PHIL 23405, the course is (B) (II).

Equivalent Course(s): HIST 35104, CHSS 37402, KNOW 37402, PHIL 33405, HIPS 25104, HIST 25104

**PHIL 23452. Freedom and Self-Consciousness. 100 Units.**

(B) (II)

Instructor(s): David Finkelstein Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): Two prior philosophy courses.

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 33452

**PHIL 23540. Other Minds. 100 Units.**

This will be a course on the problem of other minds. We will try to understand what the problem is supposed to be by considering two formulations of it. One formulation is epistemological and has to do with how we can know (1) that there exist others like oneself, and (2) about those particular others. Another formulation is conceptual and concerns the question of where one gets the idea of another subject. Readings will be from philosophy addressing these topics.

Instructor(s): Melina Garibovic Terms Offered: Spring

**PHIL 23544. Philosophy of Creativity. 100 Units.**

This course will be an exploration of the topic of creativity as it comes up in works of philosophy. We will consider the questions of how creative works are brought about and how (or whether) such works are understood.

Instructor(s): Melina Garibovic Terms Offered: Spring

**PHIL 23728. Are We Forced to Work?: Force, Work, and Human Rights. 100 Units.**

Most of us, most of the time, must show up to work every day in order to get the money we need to survive. Although this fact seems commonplace, it raises important questions about human rights and human freedom. Are people under capitalism forced to labor? What about people who perform dangerous jobs out of economic desperation? And, if people are forced to work, is that in any sense a violation of their rights? On the one hand, some argue that egalitarian societies should recognize a right not to work. On the other, some argue that people should have a right to perform work, or at least work that is meaningful and freely chosen. In this class, we will read, write, and think about what contemporary philosophers have to say about each of these questions.

Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 23728

**PHIL 24098. Character and Commerce: Practical Wisdom in Economic Life. 100 Units.**

Most of us seek to be reasonably good people leading what we take to be successful and satisfying lives. There is a mountain of evidence suggesting that most of us fail to live up to our own standards. Worse, we often fail to mark our own failures in ways that could help us improve ourselves. The context in which we try to live good lives is shaped by the vicissitudes of the global economy. The global economy is obviously of interest to

those of us studying economics or planning on careers in business. Aspiring entrepreneurs or corporate leaders have clear stakes in understanding practical wisdom in the economic sphere. But anyone who relies upon her pay - or someone else's - to cover her living expenses has some interest in economic life. In this course, we will bring work in neo-Aristotelian ethics and neo-classical economics into conversation with empirical work from behavioral economics and behavioral ethics, to read, write, talk, and think about cultivating wisdom in our economic dealings. While our focus will be on business, the kinds of problems we will consider, and the ways of addressing these, occur in ordinary life more generally - at home, in academic settings, and in our efforts to participate in the daily production and reproduction of sound modes of social interaction. (A)

Instructor(s): Candace Vogler Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): ECON 12300

#### **PHIL 24751. Advanced Topics in the Philosophy of Human Rights. 100 Units.**

In this course we will explore new and cutting edge philosophy of human rights. We will focus on three new books: Allen Buchanan's *The Heart of Human Rights*, Andrea Sangiovanni *Human Rights without Dignity*, and Pablo Gilabert's *Human Rights and Human Dignity*. Using these texts we will explore debates about questions like the following: does human dignity really provide the foundation for human rights? What is the relationship of human rights to equality and egalitarianism? What is the role of international human rights law in setting the agenda for the philosophy of human rights? How contextual are human rights norms? How does the theory of human rights relate to the practice of human rights?

Instructor(s): B. Laurence Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): Human Rights: Philosophical Foundations.

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 34751, HMRT 24751, HMRT 34751

#### **PHIL 25000. History of Philosophy I: Ancient Philosophy. 100 Units.**

An examination of ancient Greek philosophical texts that are foundational for Western philosophy, especially the work of Plato and Aristotle. Topics will include: the nature and possibility of knowledge and its role in human life; the nature of the soul; virtue; happiness and the human good.

Instructor(s): John Proios Terms Offered: Autumn

Prerequisite(s): Completion of the general education requirement in humanities.

Equivalent Course(s): CLCV 22700

#### **PHIL 25120. Introduction to Philosophy of Religion. 100 Units.**

This course explores the Western philosophical tradition of reasoned reflection on religious belief. Our questions will include: what are the most important arguments for, and against, belief in God? How does religious belief relate to the deliverances of the sciences, in particular to evolutionary theory? How can we reconcile religious belief with the existence of evil? What is the relationship between religion and morality? In attempting to answer these questions we will read work by Plato, Augustine, Anselm, Nietzsche, and Freud, as well as some recent texts. (B)

Instructor(s): Benjamin Callard Terms Offered: Winter

#### **PHIL 25405. Feminist Political Philosophy. 100 Units.**

Feminist political philosophy has a two-fold history: both as a persistent critique of canonical political philosophy, as well as generative of new models of justice altogether. This course will be an exploration of the two sides of the history of feminist political philosophy. We will begin with a survey of feminist critiques of the canon, including from liberal feminism, Black feminist philosophy, and Marxist feminist philosophy. We will then move on to the positive accounts that have come out of this tradition, asking whether new models of the state, of the person, and of gender are required in order to construct theories that adequately represent what justice requires in a world with gender-based oppression. We will read philosophers such as Rousseau, Marx, Engels, John Rawls, Susan Okin, Mary Wollstonecraft, Catherine Mackinnon, and Christine Delphy. (A)

Instructor(s): Tyler Zimmer Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 20108, HIPS 25405

#### **PHIL 25407. Pregnancy and Motherhood. 100 Units.**

Pregnancy, childbirth, and motherhood have been relatively neglected as topics for philosophical exploration, and yet they are ripe for philosophical inquiry from multiple angles, including metaphysics, epistemology, normative ethics, medical ethics, and social and political philosophy. Throughout our inquiry we will pay particular attention to the first-hand, embodied experiences of women. For example: What is it like to be pregnant? How can we make metaphysical sense of this experience? And how is it informed by the socio-political landscape? Moreover, what is the moral significance of giving birth, and what are the ethical and political requirements for a good birth? And finally, what does it mean to be a good mother, and how might this conception of motherhood play into women's oppression? These are just a few of the questions we will explore, placing philosophical texts alongside memoir and film.

Instructor(s): Claudia Hogg-Blake Terms Offered: Spring

#### **PHIL 25503. Junior Seminar: My Favorite Readings in the History and Philosophy of Science. 100 Units.**

This course introduces some of the most important and influential accounts of science to have been produced in modern times. It provides an opportunity to discover how philosophers, historians, anthropologists, and sociologists have grappled with the scientific enterprise, and to assess critically how successful their efforts have been. Authors likely include Karl Popper, Thomas Kuhn, Robert Merton, Steven Shapin, and Bruno Latour.

Instructor(s): R. Richards; E. Kern Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): HIPS 29800, HIST 25503

**PHIL 25605. Life and A Life. 100 Units.**

This course is about the aims of human life. We address the question through two contrasting conceptions of life: 1) life in the sense of an ongoing activity-and its associated values of pleasure, enlightenment, and happiness, and 2) life in the sense of a biographical story-and its associated values of achievement, glory, meaning, and purpose. We will attempt to understand how these two conceptions of life are compatible, and if one or the other is prior. Readings include: Aristotle, Nietzsche, Kierkegaard, William James, Bernard Williams, Iris Murdoch, and Jonathan Lear. (A)

Instructor(s): Arnold Brooks Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 35605, HIPS 25605, CHSS 35605

**PHIL 25712. Showing and Saying in the History of Philosophy. 100 Units.**

Wittgenstein describes the theory of what cannot be said by means of propositions but is only shown as 'the cardinal problem of philosophy.' We shall ask how can the notion of showing, which is not familiar from tradition, can be regarded as the cardinal concern of philosophy. We shall discuss traditional accounts of philosophical understanding (e.g., Plato's theory of form of the Good, Aristotle's account of the Nous of simples, Absolute Idealism) in light of 'the theory of what cannot be said but shown.'

Instructor(s): Irad Kimhi Terms Offered: Autumn, Autumn 2023

Prerequisite(s): Background in philosophy and logic for Undergraduates.

Equivalent Course(s): SETH 35712, SETH 25712, PHIL 35712

**PHIL 25713. Wittgenstein's Lecture on Ethics. 100 Units.**

This course will be devoted to Wittgenstein's 'Lecture on Ethics' (1929.) We shall study the lecture in the context of Wittgenstein's work on logic and the history of ethics.

Instructor(s): Irad Kimhi Terms Offered: Winter, Winter 2024

Prerequisite(s): Background in philosophy for Undergrads. Consent Required for Undergrads.

Equivalent Course(s): SETH 35713, SETH 25713, PHIL 35713

**PHIL 25823. Fascism. 100 Units.**

Developments in recent years have clearly shown a resurgent interest in "fascism". While it designates a phenomenon which might concern everyone, it is also a term used more often in the manner of an insult than a precisely defined concept. One might even say it is what W.B. Gallie once called an essentially contested concept-not because many claim it for themselves today, but on the contrary, because virtually everyone denounces it in their own specific way. In this course, students will consider what "fascism" means by engaging with several influential explanations of it. We will read and discuss more contemporary philosophical views (Stanley, Eco), historical perspectives and documents (Paxton), but also classic perspectives from political theory (Arendt), philosophy (Burnham), and critical theory (Horkheimer, Adorno, Pollock), as well as political economy (Neumann, Sohn-Rethel, Gerschenkron, Fraenkel, Kalecki). With an eye to its historical and contemporary applications, our purpose throughout will be to reconstruct the arguments which we will consider in order to develop a rigorous concept of "fascism". This course will be offered in English. Its only prerequisite is a non-dogmatic approach to reading and discussion.

Instructor(s): Daniel Burnfin Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 35823, GRMN 35823, HIST 22508, GRMN 25823, HIST 32508

**PHIL 26000. History of Philosophy II: Medieval and Early Modern Philosophy. 100 Units.**

A survey of the thought of some of the most important figures of the period from the fall of Rome to the Scottish Enlightenment. The course will begin with an examination of the medieval hylomorphism of Aquinas and Ockham and then consider its rejection and transformation in the early modern period. Three distinct early modern approaches to philosophy will be discussed in relation to their medieval antecedents: the method of doubt, the principle of sufficient reason, and empiricism. Figures covered may include Ockham, Aquinas, Descartes, Avicenna, Princess Elizabeth, Émilie du Châtelet, Spinoza, Leibniz, Abelard, Berkeley, Hume, and al-Ghazali.

Instructor(s): Thomas Pendlebury Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): Completion of the general education requirement in humanities required; PHIL 25000 recommended.

Equivalent Course(s): MDVL 26000, HIPS 26000

**PHIL 26520. Mind, Brain and Meaning. 100 Units.**

What is the relationship between physical processes in the brain and body and the processes of thought and consciousness that constitute our mental life? Philosophers and others have puzzled over this question for millennia. Many have concluded it to be intractable. In recent decades, the field of cognitive science--encompassing philosophy, psychology, neuroscience, computer science, linguistics, and other disciplines--has proposed a new form of answer. The driving idea is that the interaction of the mental and the physical may be understood via a third level of analysis: that of the computational. This course offers a critical introduction to the elements of this approach, and surveys some of the alternative models and theories that fall within it. Readings are drawn from a range of historical and contemporary sources in philosophy, psychology, linguistics, and computer science. (B) (II)

Instructor(s): J. Bridges; L. Kay; C. Kennedy Terms Offered: Autumn



Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 36520, NSCI 22520, PSYC 36520, COGS 20001, LING 26520, PSYC 26520, LING 36520

### **PHIL 26701. Descartes. 100 Units.**

René Descartes is widely regarded as a (and perhaps the) foundational figure in modern philosophy, and he made seminal contributions to mathematics, natural science, and metaphysics. In this course we will work towards attaining a synoptic view of his thought. Our work together will be structured around a close, systematic reading of his *Meditations on First Philosophy* (i.e., on metaphysics), although we will read widely in the Cartesian corpus. Topics to be discussed include substance and mode; the nature of body; mind-body union; sensation; motion; causation; God and the infinite; and the will, among others. We will occasionally look to the medieval tradition to which Descartes was indebted, as well as to responses to his work by his contemporaries. Secondary sources will include writings by Lilli Alanen, Christia Mercer, Tad Schmaltz, Dan Garber, Anat Schechtman, Paul Hoffman, Marleen Rozemond, and John Carriero. (B)

Instructor(s): Andrew Pitel Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): Open to undergraduate and MA students, and all others with consent.

Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 46701, PHIL 46701

### **PHIL 27000. History of Philosophy III: Kant and the 19th Century. 100 Units.**

The philosophical ideas and methods of Immanuel Kant's "critical" philosophy set off a revolution that reverberated through 19th-century philosophy. We will trace the effects of this revolution and the responses to it, focusing specifically on the influence of Kant's contribution to moral philosophy and its lasting influence on discussions of ethics and political philosophy. We will begin with a consideration of Kant's famous *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals*, in which he announces his project of grounding all ethical obligation in the very idea of a free will. We will then consider Hegel's radicalization of this project in his *Philosophy of Right*, which seeks to derive from the idea of freedom, not just formal constraints on right action, but a determinate, positive conception of what Hegel calls "ethical life". We will conclude with an examination of some important challenges to the Kantian/Hegelian project in ethical and political theory: Karl Marx's re-interpretation of the idea of freedom in the economic sphere; Mary Wollstonecraft and John Stuart Mill's radicalizations of the ideas of political liberty and equality; and the appropriation and critique of the Enlightenment rhetoric of freedom by writers on racial oppression including Frederick Douglass, W. E. B. DuBois, and Angela Davis.

Instructor(s): Matthew Boyle Terms Offered: Spring

### **PHIL 27303. The Principle of Sufficient Reason. 100 Units.**

The Principle of Sufficient Reason (PSR) is the principle according to which every truth or fact can be explained. Appeals to explicability are pervasive in our everyday reasoning as well as in philosophy and the sciences - for example, the view that consciousness is grounded in physical features of the world is motivated by the thought that otherwise consciousness would be inexplicable. However, while the thought that phenomena admit of explanation motivates a great deal of philosophy, contemporary philosophers on the whole reject the PSR. Their reasons for doing so are partly because the PSR is thought to have the following surprising consequences: that God exists; that everything that could possibly be true is not only actually true, but necessarily true (also known as necessitarianism); and that only one thing exists (also known as monism). In this course we will read, write, and think about the philosophical tradition of metaphysical rationalism that is characterized by its embrace of the PSR. Our course will divide into three sections. First, we will study the 'golden age' of metaphysical rationalism in the 17th century through the writings of Spinoza and Leibniz. From there, we will turn to the recent resurgence of interest in metaphysical rationalism within analytic metaphysics, much of which has been influenced by scholars working in 17th century philosophy. (B)

Instructor(s): Andrew Pitel Terms Offered: Autumn

Prerequisite(s): Open to undergraduate and MA students, and all others with consent.

Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 47303, PHIL 47303

### **PHIL 27326. Leo Strauss' Philosophical "Autobiography" 100 Units.**

Leo Strauss did not write an autobiography. However, he did mark out his path of thought through autobiographical reflections on the decisive challenges to which his oeuvre responded. The philosophically most demanding confrontation that Strauss presented on the question of how he became what he was is the so-called *Autobiographical Preface* of 1965, which he included in the American translation of his first book, *"Spinoza's Critique of Religion"* (originally published in 1930). Two decades earlier, in the lecture *The Living Issues of German Postwar Philosophy* (1940), he made a first autobiographical attempt to publicly ascertain himself and determine his position. And in 1970 he published the concise retrospective *A Giving of Accounts*. The seminar will make these writings - which illuminate the significance of Nietzsche and Heidegger for Strauss and address his early engagement with revealed religion and politics, in a constellation ranging from Hermann Cohen and Franz Rosenzweig to Karl Barth and Carl Schmitt - the subject of a close reading. Selected letters to Karl Löwith, Gershom Scholem and others will be used as supplementary texts.

Instructor(s): Heinrich Meier Terms Offered: Spring, Spring 2024

Prerequisite(s): Undergraduates Need the Instructor's Permission to Register.

Note(s): Monday/Wednesday, 10:30 a.m. – 1:20 p.m.\*, during the first five weeks of the term (March 18 – April 17, 2024). \* The time may be changed after the first session to 10:00 a.m. – 1:10 p.m.

Equivalent Course(s): SETH 27326, FNDL 27007, PHIL 37326, CLCV 27423, SETH 37326, CLAS 37423



**PHIL 27379. Reparations. 100 Units.**

This course focuses on reparations for racialized slavery in the United States. As we'll see, the debate over reparations raises a number of complex philosophical questions: what does it mean today to atone for hundreds of years of slavery, given that those who were enslaved, and those who enslaved other human beings, are now dead? Who today has an obligation to atone for it? What are they obligated to do? And, perhaps most importantly, who should have the authority to decide what successful atonement or reparation would look like? These questions arguably cannot be answered decisively without a precise accounting for the wrongs intrinsic to the institution of slavery, on the one hand, and an analysis of post-slavery racial oppression, on the other. Some of the authors we'll read include: Bernard Boxill, Angela Davis, Fredrick Douglass, W.E.B. Du Bois, C.L.R. James, Charles Mills, Robert Nozick and Jeremy Waldron. (A)

Instructor(s): Tyler Zimmer Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 37379, RDIN 27379, CRES 27379

**PHIL 27523. Reading Kierkegaard. 100 Units.**

This will be a discussion-centered seminar that facilitates close readings some Kierkegaard texts: *The Present Age*, *Fear and Trembling*, *Sickness Unto Death*, and *The Lily of the Field and the Bird of the Air*. We shall consider both the issues and arguments as well as Kierkegaard's forms of writing and manners of persuasion. Students will be expected to write comments each week and to read the comments of others. Our reading each week will be determined by the pace of the group.

Instructor(s): Jonathan Lear Terms Offered: Winter. Winter 2024

Prerequisite(s): This seminar is intended for undergraduate majors in Philosophy and Fundamentals and for graduate students in Social Thought and Philosophy. Permission of Instructor required.

Equivalent Course(s): SETH 27523, SETH 37523, PHIL 37523, FNDL 27523

**PHIL 28101. Appearance and Reality: Perspectives Across Philosophical Traditions. 100 Units.**

Is the world really as it appears to be in everyday experience, or is the world of everyday experience really a world of mere appearances, radically unlike the reality that lies behind it? This is arguably the most fundamental philosophical question that one can ask, and it has occupied a central place in perhaps every philosophical tradition that has arisen across the globe. In this class, we will consider how this question arises across two distinct philosophical traditions-Classical and Modern European Philosophy, on the one hand, and Classical Indian philosophy, on the other-seeking to compare and contrast the different philosophical impulses, approaches, and answers to this question across these traditions. Historical readings will be from key figures in the different philosophical canons, such as Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, Hume, and Kant in Europe, and Vasubandhu, Dharmakīrti, Nāgārjuna, Candrakīrti, and Śāṅkara in India. Historical readings will be supplemented by works by contemporary philosophers. (B)

Instructor(s): Ryan Simonelli Terms Offered: Spring

**PHIL 28202. Hegel's Phenomenology of Spirit. 100 Units.**

A study of Hegel's *Phenomenology of Spirit* and its topics, including knowledge, self-consciousness, desire, culture, morality, religion, art, and the character of phenomenological investigation. (B) (IV)

Instructor(s): Thomas Pendlebury Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): SETH 38202, SETH 28202, PHIL 38202

**PHIL 28203. Hegel's Philosophy of Right. 100 Units.**

We will study Hegel's *Elements of Philosophy of Right*. The book is an absolute classic of practical philosophy. Its ambition is nothing less than to provide a systematic treatment of the unity of action theory, ethics and political philosophy. Hegel's theory is considered by many as the highpoint and completion of practical philosophy in the post-Kantian German Idealism. And it is essential for the development Marxism and Critical Theory. It is a crucial treatise to study - not only for those interested of the history of ethics and political theory, but for anyone reflecting on the logic and origins of the kind of society we live in. At the same time, the book is hardly an easy read. For one, the genre of text is quite peculiar: it was written for as a condensed "Leitfaden" for the students listening Hegel's lectures. Moreover, the range of topics discussed under the heading of the *Philosophy of Right* - as well the order in which they are presented - seems quite from a contemporary perspective. Hegel's guiding thought is that the power of practical reason and freedom can only be understood through its actuality. What stands at center of his treatise is thus the idea of practical reality, encapsulated in his famous slogan that "the rational is actual and the actual is rational." Hegel's point is that the domain of the practical is a stratum of being that is not a reality given to the mind, but one that reason apprehends as its own work in virtue of bringing it into being.

Instructor(s): Matthias Haase Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 38203, FNDL 28204

**PHIL 28504. Matter and Form. 100 Units.**

This course will investigate the metaphysical concept of "hylomorphism." Hylomorphism is the idea that the unity and intelligibility of something can be understood principally through an analysis into form and matter, or into the actualization of a potentiality. The aim of the course will be to understand what philosophical questions and problems hylomorphism tries to answer, from its origins in Aristotle's physics to Kant's use of the concept in his discussions of cognition and action. (B)

Instructor(s): Arnold Brooks Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 38504

**PHIL 29200. Junior Tutorial. 100 Units.**

Junior/Senior Tutorial. For topic and other information, please visit <https://philosophy.uchicago.edu/courses>.  
 Instructor(s): Autumn 2023 Marguerite Sandholm (Topic: Conceptions of Self) Spring 2024 Michael Morgan (Topic: Kierkegaard's Concluding Unscientific Postscript) John Muller (Topic: The Meaning of Disability) Terms Offered: Autumn Spring

Prerequisite(s): Open only to intensive-track and philosophy majors.

Note(s): Junior and Senior sections meet together. No more than two Tutorials may be used to meet program requirements.

**PHIL 29300. Senior Tutorial. 100 Units.**

Junior/Senior Tutorial. For topic and other information, please visit <https://philosophy.uchicago.edu/courses>.  
 Instructor(s): Autumn 2023 Marguerite Sandholm (Topic: Conceptions of Self) Spring 2024 Michael Morgan (Topic: Kierkegaard's Concluding Unscientific Postscript) John Muller (Topic: The Meaning of Disability) Terms Offered: Autumn Spring

Prerequisite(s): Open only to intensive-track and philosophy majors.

Note(s): Junior and Senior sections meet together. No more than two Tutorials may be used to meet program requirements.

**PHIL 29408. Intuitionistic Logic. 100 Units.**

This course will be an introductory survey of the philosophical and mathematical foundations of intuitionistic logic, perhaps the most serious rival to classical logic. We will pay attention to its philosophical motivations, especially by examining some of the more philosophical works of Brouwer. The course will also involve a mathematically rigorous presentation of the metatheory of intuitionistic logic, using forcing and Kripke frames. (B) (II)

Instructor(s): Kevin Davey Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): Students should have completed Elementary Logic, or a similar class in the mathematics department.

Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 39408

**PHIL 29601. Intensive Track Seminar. 100 Units.**

Title: Philosophy and Fiction In this course we will try to make sense of fiction using the techniques of philosophy. What is the 'logic' of fictional discourse? What makes a work, a work of fiction? (Is it the intentions of the author?) What is the metaphysical status of fictional characters? How does the making and consuming of fiction relate to other practices in human life—for example, playing games and lying? How can we be emotionally affected by fiction when we know it is fiction? We will read a variety of texts on these subjects, but the focus will be on work in the analytic tradition.

Instructor(s): Benjamin Callard Terms Offered: Autumn

Prerequisite(s): Open only to third-year students who have been admitted to the intensive track program.

**PHIL 29700. Reading and Research. 100 Units.**

Reading and Research.

Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter

Prerequisite(s): Consent of Instructor & Director of Undergraduate Studies. Students are required to submit the college reading and research course form.

**PHIL 29901. Senior Seminar I. 100 Units.**

Students writing senior essays register once for PHIL 29901, in the Autumn Quarter, and once for PHIL 29902, in the Winter Quarter. The Senior Seminar meets for two quarters, and students writing essays are required to attend throughout.

Instructor(s): Hannah McKeown; Tyler Zimmer; Dan Brudney; Melina Garibovic Terms Offered: Autumn

Prerequisite(s): Consent of Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Note(s): Required and only open to fourth-year students who have been accepted into the BA essay program.

**PHIL 29902. Senior Seminar II. 100 Units.**

Students writing senior essays register once for PHIL 29901, in the Autumn Quarter, and once for PHIL 29902, in the Winter Quarter. The Senior Seminar meets for two quarters, and students writing essays are required to attend throughout.

Instructor(s): Hannah McKeown; Tyler Zimmer; Dan Brudney; Melina Garibovic Terms Offered: Autumn Winter

Prerequisite(s): Consent of Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Note(s): Required and only open to fourth-year students who have been accepted into the BA essay program.

**PHIL 29913. Ancient Greek Philosophy of Race and Ethnicity. 100 Units.**

This course will introduce students to race and ethnicity as topics of interest to ancient Greek philosophers, primarily Plato and Aristotle. We will look at the ways that Plato and Aristotle ask and address philosophical questions about human difference that approximate the modern concepts of race and ethnicity, such as the notion of a "barbarian", mythologies of ancestry, the role of shared language, culture, and political forms versus genealogy, and the association of character traits and political capacities with groups of people. We will also consider relevant connections to other perceived forms of difference, such as gender, sexuality, and political status (e.g. slave, resident non-citizen). Since they are often relevant to how Plato and Aristotle address these issues, we will also consider relevant texts from the broader Greek intellectual world: medicine, drama,

ethnography, and oratory. Finally, we will consider methodological issues, such as whether it is meaningful to talk about "race" in Greek antiquity, how it might differ from "ethnicity", and how classicists, historians, and philosophers interested in this study can be misled by their own prejudices. (A) (III)

Instructor(s): John Proios Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): Some familiarity with ancient Greek philosophy is expected.

Equivalent Course(s): RDIN 39913, PHIL 39913, CRES 22913, RDIN 29913

