

Self-evaluation of courses taught, 2019

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(1) Intro to Philosophy (PHI 1103-201), spring of 2019. This course, which had eight enrolled students (two of whom failed and none of whom earned an A) did not go that well. Two students made significant progress over the course of the semester, but most of the others were unprepared for and unwilling to buy into a reading-based, “non-powerpoint” course. In contrast, this course went fine in the Spring of 2018 and so far it has been going well in the Spring of 2020. Hence, I think that the spring 2019 course was just an unfortunate anomaly.

(2) Intro to Logic (PHI 1113-201), fall of 2019. For this course, I used an open-source textbook that I revised (and am continuing to revise), *forallx: the Mississippi State edition* (<http://blog.loighic.net/forallx-the-mississippi-state-edition>). Using that as the textbook worked well, and since it is freely available to others and designed to be used with the free software package Carnap (<https://carnap.io/>), it’s possible that faculty at other institutions may use it in the future.

Beyond the textbook, the course went well. On balance, the students seemed to like the group-focused format of the class meetings. And about half of the students participated regularly in a weekly study session that we set up. Those sessions helped the students with the material, and more generally, they also created a nice opportunity for the students to engage with each other in an intellectual way outside of the classroom.

(3) Business Ethics (PHI 3013-201), spring and fall of 2019. Overall, I believe that this course went fine both times that I taught it in 2019. The size of the classes (six and five students enrolled) put more of a burden on the students to be prepared and continuously participate in every class meeting than I would have liked, but pretty much across the board (with one notable exception), they did well.

One of the readings that I use in this course (“What Is Ethics Anyway?”) was published in *The Montreal Review* in July of 2019. I also presented, at a conference in March 2019, one of the papers that the students read in the “business and the environment” section of this course.

In May 2019, Alana Knowles graduated with a minor in philosophy.