

PHIL. 100 - Introduction to Philosophy

A) Lec: MW 10-10:50/Dis: F 9, 10, or 11 Prof. R. Goodman

This course is an introduction to philosophy. We will use two key texts from the history of philosophy (by Rene Descartes and David Hume) as our springboard to address a range of foundational, philosophical questions, which are still of interest to philosophers today. Some of the questions we will ask are: Can we have knowledge (of the external world, ourselves, and God)? If so, what are the ways we can acquire knowledge (for example, perception, testimony, reasoning)? Do we have evidence for our everyday beliefs? Is it allowable to form beliefs without evidence? What is a mind and how do our minds relate to our bodies? What is a person and what makes a person the same person over time? Is immortality possible or desirable? (Gen. Ed.: This course satisfies the Individual and Society requirement.)

B) Lec/Dis: M 5:30-8: Instructor and topics Tyler Hanck

The ancient Athenian teacher Epicurus once described philosophy as 'the search for mental health'. This introductory course in philosophy approaches the subject from this (un)surprisingly modern perspective of well-being. Topics to be covered include: the sources of human happiness; the badness of death; the nature of the soul and its relationship to the body; the significance of love and sex; and (last but not least!) the sneaking suspicion many people have about the meaninglessness and absurdity of life and all that it contains. (Gen. Ed.: This course satisfies the Individual and Society requirement.)

PHIL 101 - Critical and Analytical Reasoning

A) Lec: MW 11:00-11:50/Dis: F 10 or 11 Prof. J. Whipple

Succeed in college and beyond by learning critical thinking! Critical thinking will enable you to better understand, evaluate, and defend the beliefs that make up your worldview, as well as the competing beliefs offered by others. In this course, we will learn how to analyze, evaluate and criticize arguments. We will then apply these skills to various forms

of reasoning offered in academic and non-academic contexts. These are the skills you need to do well in college and to ace tests like the MCAT and the GRE (Gen. Ed.: This course satisfies the Individual and Society requirement.)

B) Lec/Dis T 5:30-8:00 Saja Parvizian

The subject of critical thinking concerns the skills, methods, and strategies needed for effectively evaluating and formulating arguments. Being able to identify both good and fallacious reasoning is not only useful for engaging arguments given in academic settings, but it is incredibly helpful for responding to arguments that we encounter in our day-to-day lives. In this course we will develop the logical skills necessary for evaluating philosophical arguments and more casual arguments that one might encounter in the media (i.e. news, pop culture, politics, etc.). More specifically we will learn the basics of deductive logic, inductive logic, formal fallacies, and informal fallacies. Then, we will apply these skills by evaluating various forms of reasoning offered in scientific, moral, and popular contexts. (Gen. Ed.: This course satisfies the Individual and Society requirement.)



PHIL. 102 - Introductory Logic

Information is all around you. It is stored in books, on computers, in the rings of a tree, in your brain. Logic is the study of the most basic property of information: that you can put two pieces of information together to make a new piece of information. This process is called inference and it is at the heart of what it means to be a thinker. In logic, we study inference by establishing precise rules for what makes a good inference. Our goal is to uncover and understand the hidden structure of information. In addition to the basic interest that this project has, it also has important practical benefits. In this course you will learn principles of inference that will be useful to you in any activity that requires careful thought. You will improve your ability to make and evaluate arguments, and you will gain a greater appreciation for precision in language. (Gen ed.: This course satisfies the Natural World requirement.)

A) Lec: MW 10:00-10:50/Dis: F 9 or 10 Prof. A. Gray

B) Lec/Dis W 5:30-8 Chen Liang

PHIL 104 - Introduction to Political Philosophy Lec/Dis TR 11:00-12:15 Nicolas Garcia Mills

What makes a society just? When, and why, are inequalities between rich and poor acceptable or legitimate? How do differences in wealth differ from other inequalities, for example, between lords and slaves? Do political laws and institutions enable our freedoms

individuals? Or does society limit or even rob us entirely of our individual freedom? In this course, we will tackle these and other related questions with the help of central figures in the history of social and political philosophy. Readings will tentatively include Locke, Rousseau, Marx and Rawls. (Gen. Ed.: This course satisfies the Individual and Society and U.S. Society requirements.)

PHIL. 106 - What is Religion?

Lec: MW 11:00-11:50/Dis: 10 or 11

Prof. S. Fleischacker

Why are people religious? Should they be religious? Just what is religion anyway? And what is its function in society, or in our individual lives? We will explore these questions from many different angles; students will be encouraged to develop their own views and argue for those views. Cross-listed with RELS 106. (Gen. Ed.: This course satisfies the Individual and Society requirement.)

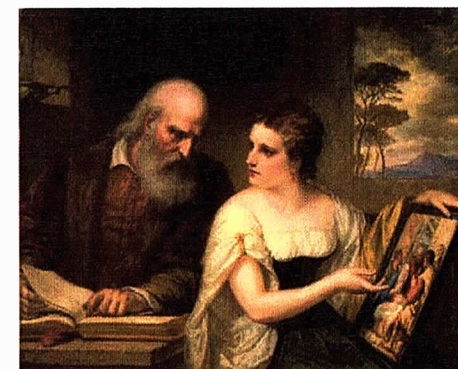
PHIL 107 - What is Art?

Lec/Dis: MW 3:00-4:15 Emily Lacy

What is art? What makes art good or bad? What should we do about works that we consider morally objectionable; should they count as art? Or not? Focusing mainly on the visual arts, we'll aim to bring abstract thinking about art to bear on our experience of works of art from history and current pop-culture. (Gen. Ed.: This course satisfies the Creative Arts requirement.)

NEED ADVICE ABOUT PHILOSOPHY

COURSES? Feel free to ask your favorite teacher, or Departmental Advisor Mr. Albert Hernandez (805 University Hall, ahern093@uic.edu), or DUS Prof. John Whipple (jwhipple@uic.edu)



PHIL. 115 - Death

Lec: MW 10-10:50/Dis F 9, 10, or 11

Prof. C. Meinwald

We will all inevitably face death. What does this mean for us? It is not obvious what attitude to take to either our own death or those of people we care about. In this class we will take a philosophical approach to death. We ask questions like: Is death always bad, and why? Is it rational to fear death? Would immortality be preferable? Can things that happen after we die affect us? Does death give meaning to life, or rob it of meaning? (Gen. Ed.: This course satisfies the Individual and Society Requirement.)

PHIL. 116 - Medical Ethics

A) Lec/Dis MWF 9:00-9:50 Zac Harmon

Should doctors ever be allowed to perform medical interventions without a patient's consent? Can a patient who refuses medical services be forced to undergo treatment? Is abortion a morally acceptable medical choice? What is the proper medical response to children dealing with "gender identity disorder" or to those born with bodies that do not fit the typical definition of male or female? How should we respond to disparities in access to quality health care among different sectors of our society? In this course, we will examine these and other questions related to the ethics of medical practice.

B) Lec/Dis TR3:30-4:45

Alessandro Moscaritolo

In this course, we will discuss moral issues as they arise in medical contexts, including such topics as abortion, euthanasia, paternalism, allocation of medical resources, and psychiatric issues.

PHIL. 202 - Philosophy of Psychology

Lec: MW 9:00-9:50/Dis: F 8 or 9

Prof. M. Almotahari

We consciously represent the way the world is and adjust our behavior accordingly. We are, in short, intelligent, thinking things. What does consciousness and mental representation involve? In the first part of the course, we will survey some of the most influential answers to this question. In the second part of the course, we will shift gears and explore the controversy between nativism and empiricism.

PHIL. 203 - Metaphysics

Lec/Dis TR 11:00-12:15 Brandon Kidd

Metaphysics is the study of the most general and most fundamental questions about the way things are. We will investigate issues of possibility, necessity, and causation. Part of the course will focus on the metaphysics of time and time travel.

PHIL. 204 - Introduction to the Philosophy of Science Lec/Dis MWF 11:00-11:50 Deborah Haar

Claim: Science is our best source of knowledge of the world and how it works. It is able to supply that knowledge because it operates in accordance with a unique method. In this course we will examine and evaluate this claim, addressing questions like: What is science? What is the scientific method? How reliable is the knowledge generated by science? How do fallible, sometimes irrational, scientists generate reliable knowledge?

PHIL. 206 Philosophy of Language Lec/Dis MWF

12:00-12:50 Prof. A. Gray

In this course we will address some important philosophical questions about language. We will examine the nature of communication and the difference between language and other systems of communication. We will examine how to describe the rules by which language works. We will examine the connection between language and logic. And we will look at how language is involved in the social, ethical, and political dimensions of our lives.

PHIL. 210 - Symbolic Logic

Lec/Dis TR 9:30-10:45 Prof. J. Jarrett

This course provides (1) a review of truth-functional logic, the main focus of Philosophy 102 (which is a prerequisite for this course), and (2) a thorough treatment of the principles regarding semantics and formal proof in first-order predicate logic ("quantification theory") with identity. We will examine a handful of more advanced topics as time permits. (Gen. Ed.: This course satisfies the Natural World requirement.)

PHIL. 221 - Ancient Philosophy II: Aristotle and His Successors Lec/Dis: TR 11:00-12:15 William Cochran

Aristotle discussed some of the most fundamental questions in nearly every area of philosophy: Why are things the way they are? What is knowledge, and how does it differ from experience and wisdom? What is truth? What does it mean for something to have a nature? How does something change from one thing into something else? Does time exist? What really does exist? What is God? What is the purpose of human life? How do we become good people? How do we make a decision? For what are we morally responsible? How should we organize ourselves into a political community? Aristotle's particular mode of philosophical thinking cuts across his discussions of all of these questions. Our aim in this course, therefore, is twofold: (1) come to an appreciation of Aristotle's way of thinking, and (2) understand and evaluate his answers to these and other questions. By engaging with Aristotle in these ways, we will hopefully develop our own philosophical thinking, too.

PHIL. 234 - Philosophy of Film Lec/Dis TR 3:30-4:45 Nicholas Curry

This class will engage with two kinds of questions about film. (1) Philosophy of film: What is the nature of film? Can movies be works of art? Why are movies popular when poetry, for example, isn't? (2) Philosophy in film: What values do *Wonder Woman* or *Get Out* teach? How are gender, sexuality, and race depicted in movies? We will discuss both types of question—and watch films.



NATIONAL STATISTICS SHOW that philosophy students rule the LSAT, GRE, and GMAT and are accepted at a very high rate to medical school!

PHIL. 401 - Theory of Knowledge

R 3:30-6:00 Prof. D. Sutherland

This course will focus on *a priori* knowledge – knowledge whose justification does not depend on particular sense experiences. Since before Plato, some philosophers have believed that we can know truths, even substantive truths about the world, simply by reflecting or reasoning, without depending on sense experience. Candidates for *a priori* knowledge include logic, mathematics, ethics, and metaphysics. The dominance of empiricism put *a priori* knowledge out of fashion, but it has received more interest in the last few decades. This course will look at Plato, Kant, and a few other philosophers and then look at contemporary debates concerning *a priori* knowledge.

PHIL. 410 - Introduction to Formal Logic

TR 12:30-1:45 Prof. J. Jarrett

In contemporary philosophy much use is made of technical machinery of various sorts. Many topics in metaphysics, epistemology, and the philosophy of science, for example, rely on a familiarity with tools from logic, mathematics, probability theory, etc. In this course we will focus on developing a good understanding of these tools.

PHIL. 425 - Nineteenth-Century Philosophy

TR 2-3:15 Prof. S. Sedgwick

Our topic this term will be "Practical Agency: Kant versus Nietzsche" What is it to be a practical agent? Do we have freedom, and if so, what is its nature? In this course, we will consider these questions by studying classical texts of two central German philosophers of the late 18th and 19th centuries. We will begin with a sympathetic and in depth study of Kant's moral philosophy, then move on to consider Nietzsche's radically different approach.

Principal texts: Kant's *Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals*, *Critique of Practical Reason*. Nietzsche's *Genealogy of Morals*. Prerequisite(s): One 200-level course in philosophy or consent of the instructor.

PHIL. 433- Social/Political Philosophy

T 3:30-6:00 Prof. S. Fleischacker

What is equality? Why believe human beings are equal? What does equality demand of us? We will examine these questions via classic texts by Hobbes, Locke and Kant as well as such contemporary philosophers as Elizabeth Anderson, Gerald Cohen, Ronald Dworkin and Jeremy Waldron.