



PHIL. 100 – Introduction to Philosophy

A general introduction to some central questions, methods and texts of philosophy. Different sections take up different questions. (Gen. Ed. : This course satisfies the Individual and Society requirement).

Lec: MW 10:00-10:50/Dis :F 9 or10 Prof. G. Sinkler

Let's suppose that you go to a movie: Could you have chosen to do something else instead? Under what circumstances might you be morally justified in killing an innocent person? Can an all-good God exist even though our world is full of horrendous evils? Do you know that you exist? This course will introduce you to the ways some philosophers have approached these sorts of questions. Through guided study of their work, you will develop the skills and insights needed to formulate and defend your own answers to these and many other philosophical questions. (Gen. Ed. : This course satisfies the Individual and Society requirement).

Lec/Dis: M 5:30-8: Instructor and topics Instructor TBD

PHIL 101: Critical and Analytical Reasoning Thinking

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).

Lec: MW 9:00-9:50/Dis: F 8, 9 or 10 – Prof. J. Whipple

Lec/Dis T: 5:30pm-8:00pm Instructor TBD

PHIL 102: Introduction to Logic

Logic concerns the forms of good reasoning. This course enables you identify the logical form of arguments and sort out which are valid and which are not. It will also teach you to analyze logical proofs built out of a series of logical inferences. This in turn will improve your ability to think critically and evaluate the reasons people give to do or believe something. It will contribute to your critical reasoning abilities and thereby help you, whatever topic, major, or career you pursue. Natural World - no lab course. (Gen. Ed.: This course satisfies the Quantitative Reasoning requirement).

Lec: MW 10:00-10:50/Dis: F 9, 10 or 11 Prof. D. Sutherland

Lec/Dis: W 5:30pm – 8:00pm Instructor TBD

PHIL 103: Introduction to Ethics

Lec/Dis: TR 11:00am- 12:15pm Instructor TBD

What is happiness? How important is it? We will look at a variety of definitions of happiness, and views of how it is connected to being a good person, and having a good life. (Gen. Ed. : This course satisfies the Individual and Society requirement).

PHIL. 105 – Science and Philosophy

Lec/Dis: TR 12:30-1:45 Instructor TBD

Scientific knowledge is crucial to our world, shaping work and leisure, the personal and the social. But how is a good scientific argument made? How do we distinguish science from non-science? Astronomy from astrology? How do we recognize and resist human biases in science? How does the media (mis-)represent science? Exploring these and other questions will help students better understand the nature and role of science. Suitable for science and non-science students alike. (Gen. Ed.: This course satisfies the Natural World requirement-No Lab course).

PHIL. 107 – What is Art?

Lec/Dis: MW 3:00-4:15 Instructor TBD

What is art? Why do we value it? How is the category of art determined? Why are some things considered art, while other things are not? 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 actual works in Chicago. (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@las.uic.edu), or DUS Prof. John Whipple (jwhipple@uic.edu)



PHIL. 110 – Philosophy of Love and Sex

Lec/Dis: TR 3:30-4:45 Instructor TBD

What is it to love someone as a lover rather than a parent, sibling, or friend? What is the nature of sexual desire; how does it relate to love, to sexual activity and pleasure? WARNING: Among the topics that may be discussed are sexual intercourse of various sorts, perversion, masturbation, trans-gender identity, homosexuality, prostitution, pornography, pedophilia, incest, bestiality, and rape. . (Gen. Ed. : This course satisfies the Individual and Society requirement).



PHIL. 115 – Death

Lec: MW 11:00-11:50/Dis: F 10 or 11 Prof. C. Meinwald

We will all inevitably face death. What does this mean for us? It 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

Lec: MW 11:00-11:50/ Dis: F 9, 10 or 11 Prof. D. Hilbert

Moral issues as they arise in medical contexts, including such topics as abortion, euthanasia, paternalism, allocation of medical resources, and psychiatric issues.

PHIL. 201 Theory of Knowledge

Lec/Dis: TR 11-12:15 Instructor TBD

Basic issues concerning Knowledge of the external world, other minds, scientific laws, and necessary truths

PHIL. 202 – Philosophy of Psychology

Lec/Dis: 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. 204 – Introduction to the Philosophy of Science

Lec: MW 12:00-12:50/ Dis: F 12 Instructor TBD

Science is our best source of knowledge of the world and how it works and it is able to supply that knowledge because it operates in accordance with a unique method. 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. 210 – Symbolic Logic

LecDis: TR 9:30-10:45 Prof. J. Jarrett

This course provides a review of truth-functional logic (the main focus of Philosophy 102, which is a prerequisite for this course) and a thorough treatment of the principles (regarding semantics and formal proof) of first-order predicate logic (“quantification theory”) with identity. We will examine a handful of more advanced topics as time permits. Natural World-No Lab Course.



PHIL. 223 – History of Modern Philosophy I: Descartes and His Successors

Lec MW 12:00-12:50/Dis: F 12:00-12:50 Prof. J. Whipple

What are the limits of human knowledge? What is the nature of physical substance? What is the nature of the mind? What is the relation between my mind and my body? Is it possible to prove that God exists? These are some of the questions that preoccupied the philosophers of early modern Europe that we will be studying in this course. We will focus on the thought of two of the most important thinkers of the period: Rene Descartes and John Locke.

PHIL. 230 – Ethics and Political Philosophy

Lec/Dis TR 11-12:15 Prof. S. Fleischacker

“Tell me what democracy looks like!” Do you really want to know? Well then, this class is for you. We will discuss what the “will of the people” might look like, what it means for a government to represent that will, why and how democracies require the protection of individual rights, and in what realms democratic governance is appropriate. (Should companies be run democratically? Schools?) Readings from John Locke, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, James Madison, John Rawls and Nancy Rosenblum, among other authors.

PHIL. 241 – Philosophy of Religion

Lec: MW 1:00-1:50/Dis F 1:00-1:50 Prof. G. Sinkler

The course will explore several religious themes from a philosophical perspective: Human knowledge of the divine (faith vs. reason), God's nature & existence, God & morality, God & human suffering; Religious Pluralism. Prerequisite: One course in philosophy.

PHIL. 300 – Fundamentals of Philosophical Discourse

Lec/Dis: TR 12:30-1:45 Prof. A. Laden

Fundamentals of Philosophical Discourse, TR 12:30-1:45, Prof. A. Laden Do you ever feel, while writing a paper, that you don't really know what you are doing, or what, exactly, your teachers are looking for? Then this course is for you. Learn to write and talk about writing with clarity and confidence. Learn to present ideas and arguments with the same ease as when you talk about physical objects. Get detailed weekly feedback and coaching on your writing, and all aspects of writing philosophy papers.

PHIL. 403 – Metaphysics

Lec/Dis R 3:30-6:00pm Prof. M. Almotahari

Metaphysics is about some of the most general and abstract features of the world: existence, identity, the part-whole relation, necessity, contingency, freedom, etc. In this course, we'll focus on metaphysical puzzles arising from the interaction between our naive opinions, science, and logic. Can we solve the puzzles in a way that leaves each intact?

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

PHIL. 404 – Philosophy of Science

Lec/Dis: TR 2:00-3:15 Prof. J. Jarrett

This class is devoted to an exploration of philosophical issues arising in connection with quantum mechanics. It is intended to be of interest (and accessible) to graduate students and advanced undergraduates in philosophy as well as to those in physics. As far as technical material is concerned, the course will be largely self-contained. We will develop in class a good bit of formal machinery in order to give suitably precise characterizations of matters of interest, but **no extensive special background in the subject will be presupposed**. We will focus on questions that arise in the attempt to give an adequate elucidation of the logical and conceptual structure of the theory, questions that appear most dramatically in connection with such topics as Bell's Theorem and the infamous measurement problem. These questions challenge our most fundamental ideas about the structure of our world and our place in it; and the principal goal of the course is to provide formulations of such questions in a manner that affords the student a genuine understanding of what is at stake in debates over the “interpretation” of quantum mechanics.

PHIL 428 – Topics in Ancient Philosophy

Lec/Dis: T 3:30-6:00pm Prof. C. Meinwald

Some central themes in Plato. To be chosen from among the following: the good life, eros, the arts, psychology, the theory of forms.