



PHIL. 100 - Introduction to Philosophy

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.)

A) Lec/Dis: M 6:00-8:30

Prof. : Kay Cho

B) Lec: MW 10:0-10:50/Dis: F 9, 10 or 10

Prof.: Georgette Sinkler

PHIL 101 - Critical and Analytical Reasoning

Prof.: Chen Liang

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

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.)



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. 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 11:00-11:50/Dis: F

10,11,11or12

Prof.: Nicholas Huggett

B) Lec/Dis: 6:00-8:30

Prof.: TBD

PHIL. 104 -Introduction to Political Philosophy

Lec: MW 12:00-12:50/Dis: F 11 or 12

Prof.: Anthony Laden

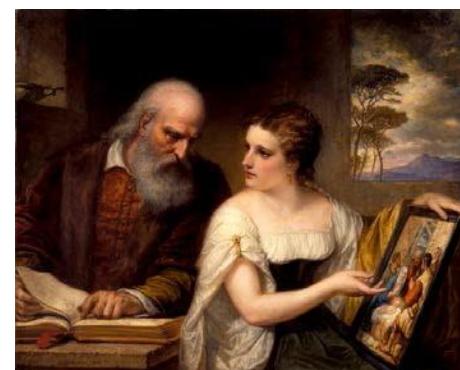
Is the US a democracy? In this class, we will put ourselves in a better position to answer that question by thinking about what makes a society and a government democratic. What does it mean for “the people” to “rule”? Who are “the people”? How do they rule? What else needs to be true of a society that is a democracy? Does what we do make a difference to the answer? (Satisfies Gen. Ed. Individual and Society or Understanding US Society).

PHIL 106 - What is Religion?

Lec: MW 9:30-10:20/ Dis: F 9 or 10

Prof.: Samuel 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 6:00-7:15

Prof.: Alessandro Moscaritolo

What, if anything, does hip hop have in common with classical music? What, if anything, does Leonardo da Vinci's 'Mona Lisa' have in common with a work of street art? In this course we will explore issues such as what art is, and why we value it, among others. We'll then bring our answers to these issues to bear on our experience of actual works of art in Chicago. This course satisfies the Creative Arts requirement.)

PHIL. 108- What is Freedom

Lec: MW 12:00-12:50/Dis: F 11, 12

Prof.: Atanacio Hernandez

Introduction to philosophy through an investigation of freedom. What is freedom, and why do we value it? Do we have free will? What limitations on individual freedom by society are legitimate? What is a free society? Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Lecture and one Discussion. (Gen. Ed.: This course satisfies the Individual and Society requirement.)

PHIL. 115- Death

Lec: TR 11:00-11:50/Dis F 10, 10, 11 or 12

Prof.: Constance 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.)

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. Constance Meinwald (meinwald@uic.edu)

PHIL. 116- Medical ethics

Lec/Dis: TR 8:00-9:15

Prof: Maria Mejia

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.: Daniel Sutherland

Almost everyone will agree that we have minds and we have bodies. What's less clear is exactly how our minds and bodies are related. Is there really just one thing with two ways of describing it? Or are there two very different things that may or may not interact with each other. In the first part of the course we will look at a range of answers to questions concerning the relation between mind and body and consider their strengths and weaknesses. One important activity involving both mind and body is the use of the senses to find out about the world around us. In the second part of the course we will be focused on questions concerning the individual senses from both a scientific and a philosophical perspective.

PHIL. 203- Metaphysics

Lec/Dis: MW 4:30-5:45

Prof.: Zac Harmon

Metaphysics is the study of ultimate reality. We will try to come to terms with exactly what that means over the course of the semester. Some questions we will consider include: Is there such a thing as objective truth? Do moral values exist outside of the mind or do we invent them? What is the nature of the self? How do we remain the same person over time? Do properties like "red" or "large" or "triangular" exist in reality or merely in our thought and speech? Does science tell us the true nature of reality, or should we use other methods to decide these questions? In this course, we will attend to what some of the most interesting and influential thinkers across history have had to say about these ideas.

PHIL. 204- Introduction to the Philosophy of Science

Lec/Dis: MW 3:00-4:14

Prof.: Deborah Haar

This course will be devoted to philosophical analysis of the issues that arise in an examination of the scientific enterprise. We will consider a wide range of standard fare, including scientific reasoning, the structure of scientific theories, the nature of scientific laws, the confirmation of hypotheses by evidence, scientific explanation, the realism/instrumentalism debate, logical empiricism, scientific revolutions and more.

PHIL. 210 - Symbolic Logic

Lec/Dis: TR 9:30-10:45

Prof.: Jon 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

Note: The course is designed as a continuation of Philosophy 102, and should be accessible to students who have mastered the material of that (or a similar) course. Students who have not taken Philosophy 102 at UIC should get in touch with me in the first week of classes or earlier.

PHIL. 220- Ancient Philosophy I: Plato and His Predecessors

Lec: TR 2:00-3:15

Prof.: Constance Meinwald

What does it take to live the good life? How is learning possible? What is the role of eros for human beings? Does our surrounding culture educate or corrupt us? Is psychic conflict possible, and if so is psychic harmony possible as well? Plato's works started dialogue on these questions that continues to this day; the course is designed to help you join in. Prerequisite: one previous course in philosophy (without which you will not receive the consent of the instructor.) Required text: PLATO Complete Works (ed. Cooper)

PHIL. 224- History of Modern Philosophy I: Descartes and His Successors

Lec: TR 3:30-4:45

Prof.: Tyler Hank

This course introduces students to the philosophy of Immanuel Kant and his radical thesis that experience is partly manufactured by the human mind. Students will read primary texts from Locke, Hume, Kant. We will be looking at commonalities and differences between these thinkers on topics such as knowledge, substance, causation, and freedom.

**NATIONAL STATISTICS show that
Philosophy students rule the LSAT,
GRE, and GMAT and are accepted at
a very high rate to medical school**

PHIL. 230- Topics in Ethics and Political Philosophy

Lec: MW 9:30-10:45

Prof.: Anthony Laden

What is justice? What might a just society look like, and what are some of the means of making our own society more just? We'll explore the relation of justice to other fundamental ideas in political philosophy like rights, equality, and democracy. The aim will be to think clearly about these concepts in order to think about pressing social and political questions: e.g. education and opportunity, taxation and the concentration of wealth, social movements and democratic change.

PHIL. 241 - Philosophy of Religion

Lec/Dis: MW 9:30-10:45

Prof.: Dhruv Nagar

In this course we will explore the various ways in which selfhood and subjectivity have been understood, imagined, constructed and theorized in the religious and philosophical traditions of Hinduism and Buddhism. Beginning with the early articulations of the self in the "pre-philosophical" sources of the Upanisads, Brāhmaṇas and the Pali Buddhist canon, we will move on to the systematic analysis and theorization of selfhood in such traditions as Advaita Vedānta, Mahāyāna Buddhism, Nyāya, and Sāṅkhya-Yoga, where some of the mature debates regarding the nature and existence of the self will be investigated. We will also have the opportunity to explore the self in narrative, especially the Mahābhārata and Rāmāyaṇa, as well as in its construal in ethics and religious praxis, and its relationship with the divine, with nature and other living beings.

PHIL. 402- Topics in Philosophy of Mind

Lec/Dis: T 3:30-6:00

Prof.: Will Small

Some philosophers have argued that we know our own minds better than we know anything else. Is this true? How do we know our own minds? How does the way(s) in which we know our own minds differ from the way(s) in which we know the minds of others? Do we know about each aspect of our mental lives (e.g. beliefs, desires, emotions, pains) in the same way, or are there different routes to these different aspects of self-knowledge? Do we have knowledge of ourselves of a distinctive kind that goes beyond our present mental states—for instance, to our physical actions, or to our character traits? Is self-knowledge knowledge of a persisting self? Readings from the history of philosophy and contemporary authors.

Pre-requisites: This is an upper-level philosophy seminar. A prior course in theory of knowledge (epistemology) or philosophy of psychology/mind is recommended, but not required.

PHIL. 410- Introduction to Formal Logic

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

Prof.: Jon 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. 424- Kant

Lec/Dis: R 3:30-5:50

Prof.: Daniel Sutherland

Intensive study of Kant's metaphysics and theory of knowledge with main reading drawn from the Critique of Pure Reason

PHIL. 425- Studies in Nineteenth-Century Philosophy

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

Prof.: Samuel Fleischacker

We will focus this semester on the work of Søren Kierkegaard, and especially the two books in which he lays out most fully his defense of a paradoxical, faith-based Christianity - Philosophical Fragments and the Concluding Unscientific Postscript. Kierkegaard was a remarkable writer and a remarkable thinker, with a wide-ranging influence on both religious and non-religious philosophers in the twentieth century. Among other things, he challenges the very practice of philosophy itself: at least when it is separated from the way we actually conduct our lives.