PHILOSOPHY

FALL 2023

PHIL 100

Introduction to Philosophy

A survey of traditional problems concerning the existence and nature of God, freedom, justification, morality, etc. Readings from historical or contemporary philosophers. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Discussion and one Lecture. *Gen. Ed.: Individual & Society*

Prof. Georgette Sinkler | MW 12-12:50 PM
Discussion Sections: F 12-12:50, 1-1:50 PM

PHIL 101

Critical and Analytical Reasoning

Practical course designed to improve student reasoning skills useful for life, college coursework, and standardized tests like MCAT, GRE, LSAT. Emphasis is on developing skill at evaluating, formulating and presenting arguments. Course is offered in both face-to-face and online formats. Check the class schedule for details on specific sections. Note: the online format involves heavy computer usage; computer and internet access are required. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Discussion and one Lecture. *Gen. Ed.: Individual & Society*

In-person Prof. John Whipple | MW 11-11:50 AM
Discussion Sections: F 12-12:50, 1-1:50 PM
ONLINE | ASYNCH LECTURE
SYNCH SECTIONS: T 4-4:50, W 4-4:50, R 1-1:50, F 1-1:50 PM

PHIL 102

Introductory Logic

Sentential logic: representation of English using truth-functional connectives, decision methods, natural deduction techniques. Introduction to predicate logic: representation of English using quantifiers. Course is offered in both face-to-face and online formats. Check the class schedule for details on specific sections. Note that the online format involves heavy computer usage; computer and internet access are required. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Discussion and one Lecture. *Gen. Ed.: Natural World (No Lab); also fulfills LAS Quantitative Reasoning requirement*

In-person Prof. Daniel Sutherland | MW 12-12:50 PM
Discussion Sections: F 12-12:50, 1-1:50 PM
ONLINE | ASYNCH Lecture
SYNCH Sections: T 4-4:50, W 4-4:50, R 1-1:50, F 1-1:50 PM

PHIL 104

Introduction to Political Philosophy: What is Democracy?

Is the US a democracy? That depends on what a democracy is. In this class, we will try to figure that out, looking at various answers to 3 key questions: What does it mean for "the people" to "rule"? Who are "the people"? How do they rule? Students will also learn the core building blocks for doing philosophy: identifying, understanding and evaluating claims, concepts and arguments.

Gen. Ed.: Individual & Society or Understanding US Society

Prof. Anthony Laden | MW 10-10:50 AM Discussion Sections: F 10, 11

PHIL 110

Philosophy of Love and Sex

What does it mean to love someone? Are romantic relationships more valuable than friendships? What is the relationship between sex and romantic love? Is sexual objectification always wrong? This course will examine these and related philosophical questions about love and sex. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Discussion and one Lecture. *Gen. Ed.: Individual & Society*

Prof. Annette Martín | MW 1-1:50 PM
Discussion Sections: F 9-9:50, 10-10:50 AM, 12-12:50 and 1:50 PM

PHIL 115

Death

Philosophical examination of our attitudes towards death. Our attitudes towards mortality and immortality; definitions of death; treating others as persons; our attitudes towards life, quality of life issues, suicide, rights of the dying. Course Information:This is course is online. Note that the online format involves heavy computer usage; computer and internet access are required. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Discussion/Recitation and one Lecture. *Gen. Ed.: Individual & Society*

ONLINE | ASYNCH LECTURE
Prof. TBD
SYNCH Sections: T 4-4:50, W 4-4:50, R 1-1:50, F 1-1:50 PM

PHIL 116

Biomedical Ethics

Moral issues that may arise in biomedical research and practice and the use of principles from general ethics to address them. Topics may include euthanasia, paternalism, allocation of medical resources, and healthcare disparities.

Prof. TBD | TR 8-9:15 AM

PHIL 201

Theory of Knowledge

Basic issues concerning knowledge, such as knowledge of the external world, other minds, scientific laws, and necessary truths. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): One non-logic course in philosophy; or consent of the instructor.

Prof. TBD | TR 3:30-4:45 PM

PHIL 202

Philosophy of Psychology

Almost everyone agrees 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 and how do they interact? We will also focus on questions concerning the senses from both a scientific and a philosophical perspective.

Prof. Daniel Sutherland | MW 9-9:50 AM
Discussion Sections: F 8-8:50, 9-9:50 AM

Questions? Need advice about courses? Contact:

- Your favorite instructor
- Director of Undergraduate Studies Prof. Will Small (wsmall@uic.edu)
- Philosophy Advisor Albert Hernandez (ahern093@uic.edu)

PHIL 203

Metaphysics
Philosophical issues concerning free will, causation, action, mind and body, identity over time, God, universals and particulars. Emphasis varies from term to term. Prerequisite(s): One course in philosophy or consent of the instructor.
Prof. TBD | 3-4:15 PM

PHIL 204

Introduction to the Philosophy of Science
The nature of scientific observation, explanation, and theories; confirmation of laws and theories; the relation between the physical and social sciences. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): One non-logic course in philosophy; or junior or senior standing in the physical, biological, or social sciences; or consent of the instructor.
Prof. TBD | TR 2-3:15 PM

PHIL 206

Introduction to the Philosophy of Language
Philosophical issues concerning meaning, the relationship between language and thought, how language is to be distinguished from other forms of communication, and how truth relates to meaning. Recommended background: One non-logic course in philosophy.
Prof. TBD | TR 11-12:15 PM

PHIL 210

Symbolic Logic
The focus of this course will be first-order quantification theory. We will begin by reviewing truth-functional logic, treating it in a somewhat more abstract and rigorous way than in PHIL 102. We will then introduce quantifiers and their use to symbolize English sentences. We will set up a natural deduction system for first-order logic and consider meta-theoretical questions that arise about such a system—in particular, its soundness and completeness.
Prof. Nick Huggett | ASYNCH Lecture
Discussion: R 12:30-1:45PM

PHIL 223

History of Modern Philosophy I: Descartes and His Successors
Introduction to Descartes and some of his successors in the early modern period. Prerequisite(s): One non-logic course in philosophy; or consent of the instructor.
Prof. John Whipple | MW 9:30-10:45 AM

PHIL 230

Animal Ethics
How should we treat animals? May we eat them? Use them in scientific experiments? And what do we mean by “animals,” anyway? How should we understand what they are alongside what we are? We will consider various philosophical responses to these and related questions, as well as treatments of the issues in literature and film.
Instructor: Alex Sarappo | MW 4:30-5:45 PM

PHIL 300

Fundamentals of Philosophical Discourse
An intensive course for philosophy majors or minors aimed at introducing and developing skill in philosophical writing and oral presentation. Prerequisite(s): Major or minor in philosophy; at least one non-logic 200-level philosophy course; or approval of the instructor.
Prof. Rachel Goodman | MW 9:30-10:45 AM

PHIL 403

Agency, Autonomy, Accountability
What is the difference between those events in a person’s history that manifest agency and those that she merely undergoes? When and why are we accountable/responsible for our actions? When and how do factors like coercion, deception, and ignorance reduce or remove autonomy and/or accountability? Do autonomous agency and moral responsibility require “freedom of the will”? Are they compatible with what science teaches us?
Prof. Will Small | T 3:30-6 PM

PHIL 406

Wittgenstein’s Philosophy of Language
Ludwig Wittgenstein was one of the most influential philosophers of the 20th Century. His later philosophy is notoriously difficult to interpret. Though its topics are of central concern to 'analytic' philosophy, it is written in seemingly loosely connected, often cryptic, remarks. In this course we will closely examine the later Wittgenstein’s contributions to the philosophy of language. We will explore his rejection of the 'Augustinian' picture of language, his introduction of the idea of a 'language game', his argument that there could not be a 'private language', his discussion of the nature of 'rule-following', and his discussion of certainty and scepticism. In addition to reading primary texts, and commentaries on them, we look at the work of contemporary philosophers who have picked up Wittgensteinian themes and problems.
Prof. Aidan Gray | TR 2-3:15 PM

PHIL 429

Special Studies in the History of Philosophy
Advanced study of a historical school, period, or the development of a historical theme. May be repeated if topics or figures vary. Approval to repeat course granted by the department.
Prof. Georgette Sinkler | MW 9:30-10:45 AM

PHIL 432

Philosophy and Colonialism
This course will first consider ways in which Western philosophers have reacted to and/or been impacted by colonialism, since 1500 – whether speaking up against it or subtly or not so subtly building colonialist attitudes into their moral and political views – then turn to examine the notion of colonialism itself and ask how it should be defined. Readings from Francesco de Vitoria, John Locke, Adam Smith, Immanuel Kant, John Stuart Mill, Charles Mills, and others.
Prof. Sam Fleischacker | R 3:30-6 PM