PHILOSOPHY

Fall 2017 (2178) **UNDERGRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

OLIVERO PHI 101 E: INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY MON, WED & FRI · 12:20 PM-1:10 PM This course is a basic introduction to philosophy. The red thread of the course is constituted by arising a philosophical meditation around the following question: Is the universe a simulation? Over the duration of the semester, it will be mainly analysed the so-called "simulation argument": the hypothesis according to which we are currently living in an "ancestor simulation" run by a future, post-human society. This hypothesis is becoming everyday more plausible as the recent scientific research goes on. Nonetheless, such a thesis is definitely not new. Its history can be tracked back in the arguments of ancient philosophers like Plato's myth of the cavern, in the modern Descartes's method of doubt, in Schopenhauer's Maya veil until Putnam's thought experiment of brains in a vat. The course aims to give an overview of those arguments and to compare them to the most contemporary ones, in order to see whether or not important changes in answering such a crucial question took place over time.

PHI 101 F: INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY

This course is a basic introduction to philosophy. The red thread of the course is constituted by arising a philosophical meditation around the following question: Is the universe a simulation? Over the duration of the semester, it will be mainly analysed the so-called "simulation argument": the hypothesis according to which we are currently living in an "ancestor simulation" run by a future, post-human society. This hypothesis is becoming everyday more plausible as the recent scientific research goes on. Nonetheless, such a thesis is definitely not new. Its history can be tracked back in the arguments of ancient philosophers like Plato's myth of the cavern, in the modern Descartes's method of doubt, in Schopenhauer's Maya veil until Putnam's thought experiment of brains in a vat. The course aims to give an overview of those arguments and to compare them to the most contemporary ones, in order to see whether or not important changes in answering such a crucial question took place over time.

OLIVERO

PHI 101 K: INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY

Problems concerning knowledge, mind, freedom, religion, and morality. Reading and discussion of primary sources.

PHI 101 N: INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY

ODITO TUES & THURS · 8:00 AM-9:15 AM This course is an introduction to philosophy that will cover some of the basic topics and texts in the history of philosophy. Some of the main areas that will be covered are metaphysics, epistemology and ethics. Students should leave this course with a mastery of basic philosophical concepts and arguments, as well as a better appreciation for their world.

PHI 101 Q: INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY

GOMEZ MENA TUES & THURS · 12:30 PM-1:45 PM This course is a basic introduction to philosophy. Over the duration of the semester students will be introduced to mainstream analytic philosophical discourse and problems. The course is divided into 5 sections, each representing a major area of philosophical discourse: 1) Logic and Argument Forms, 2) Philosophy of Religion/Metaphysics, 3) Epistemology, 4) Philosophy of Mind, and 5) Ethics. Sstudents will be expected to become familiar with these areas of philosophy and to engage in discussions about the philosophical problems encountered in each section. I expect all students to take the material seriously, to come to class ready to participate in discussion, and to be ready to ask meaningful questions regarding the philosophical problems presented in the text. Students should note that although philosophy can be highly intriguing, it is also in its very nature, a far more difficult subject than is commonly anticipated. Students should be aware of this going in to the course. Students will be required to engage in complex reasoning and will be expected to analyze numerous arguments. Often, students will need to suspend their own beliefs in order to properly appraise philosophical arguments, or to consider solutions to various philosophical problems. In short, the course is designed to sharpen students' reasoning skills.

PHI 101 T: INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY

This course deals with traditional philosophical questions including the following: What is truth? What can I know? is there a God? Does Life Have a Meaning? Are we really free or are we controlled by past events? How should I live my life? What are the legitimate functions of government? What is a mind? Is it different from a brain? What is good scientific reasoning?

ERWIN

PHI 101 V: INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY

SCHUMMER TUES & THURS · 7:50 PM-9:05 PM Problems concerning knowledge, mind, freedom, religion, and morality. Reading and discussion of primary sources.

PHI 109 Y/Y1: SUPERHUMAN MIND

Cases of people who became geniuses by accident, human echolocation, lucid dreaming, synthetic telepathy used to move objects with the mind, and more, will be used to shed light on basic concepts in philosophy, such as the concept of mind, the concept of intelligence and the concept of human agency and human capacity.

PHI 110 C: CRITICAL THINKING

MON, WED & FRI · 10:10 AM-11:00 AM SCHUMMER Principles of sound reasoning; the construction and evaluation of arguments in everyday contexts and the assessment of evidence.

PHI 115 B: SOCIAL & ETHICAL ISSUES IN COMPUTING

MON, WED & FRI · 9:05 AM-9:55 AM LOCKE The primary goal of this course will be to explore the social and ethical implications of humanity's relationship with, and increasing dependence on, computing technology. We will develop skills needed for ethical decision making in the context of technology. Such skills include recognizing socially and ethically relevant features of real-life scenarios, asking ethically relevant questions regarding those features, and then arguing for an answer. We will start by learning basic skills needed for the critical analysis and formation of arguments. Then we will briefly introduce the basic elements of ethical theorizing and survey major moral principles. We will dig into specific social and ethical problems that arise in the context of technology and computing. We will look at the relationship between privacy and the collection and use of data on the internet, the relationship between free speech and online platforms such as twitter, attempts to evaluate and control information found on the web (e.g. the recent phenomena of fake news), and the social implications of how computing is structured (e.g. net neutrality). As we dig into partic-

BROGAARD

TUES & THURS · 5:00 PM-6:15 PM

ONLINE COURSE

HAUPTFELD

MON & WED · 6:25 PM-7:40 PAM

MON, WED & FRI · 1:25 PM-2:15 PM

ular issues in technology, we will also explore relevant philosophical ideas including rights, identity, social structure, evidence, justified beliefs, and skepticism.

PHI 130 A: CONTEMPORARY MORAL ISSUES **BOZZA FRANCISCO** MON, WED & FRI · 9:05 AM-9:55 AM This course is an introduction to applied or practical ethics. The main goal of the course will be to introduce the students to several contemporary moral problems. We will be discussing questions such as: Is abortion is morally permissible? Do non-human animals have rights? Is there is a right to immigrate? As these are open questions, i.e. questions to which there are no consensual answers among the experts, we will be looking at different responses to them and the main arguments for, and objections against, each response, so that students can evaluate for themselves the merits of the different positions and form their own opinion about these issues. In addition to the applied ethical problems, this course will also provide a brief introduction to some classical meta-ethical problems, which includes questions like: Are moral rules are relative to cultures? Are moral judgments subjective expression of emotions or objective statements of facts? Finally, we will also have a brief introduction to the most prominent normative ethical theories, which includes utilitarianism, deontologism, social contract theory, among others. Familiarity with these meta-ethical problems and normative ethical theories will provide resources for students to evaluate the specific moral issues that we will be discussing in the class.

PHI 130 E: CONTEMPORARY MORAL ISSUES LECTURER MON, WED & FRI · 12:20P PM-1:10 PM An examination of the philosophical problems which arise in connection with such moral and social issues as abortion, war, suicide, civil disobedience, racial discrimination, the death penalty, and the right to privacy.

PHI 130 J: CONTEMPORARY MORAL ISSUES

This course is designed to introduce you to some of the central issues and theories within the philosophical discipline of normative ethics and to do so in a way that will allow you to properly engage with the most pressing moral issues that we face today. What is the right thing to do? Is our society just? What things are valuable? These are all questions within moral philosophy. The ways in which we answer such questions have important bearings on our evaluations regarding issues like racism, euthanasia, terrorism, abortion, human enhancement, etc. In this class, you will learn the most prominent ethical theories. The hope is to be able to use the principles involved in these theories in a way that will allow you to formulate rational positions on such matters.

ASCHLIMAN

PHI 130 L: CONTEMPORARY MORAL ISSUES CANTALAMESSA MON, WED & FRI · 7:50 PM—9:05 PM

An examination of the philosophical problems which arise in connection with such moral and social issues as abortion, war, suicide, civil disobedience, racial discrimination, the death penalty, and the right to privacy.

PHI 130 U: CONTEMPORARY MORAL ISSUES

An examination of the philosophical problems which arise in connection with such moral and social issues as abortion, war, suicide, civil disobedience, racial discrimination, the death penalty, and the right to privacy.

KAZAKLI

LOCKE

PHI 210 F: SYMBOLIC LOGIC

This course will cover sentential logic and monadic predicate logic. We will do this in three parts. The first part of the course will cover sentential logic and proof methods. We will start by introducing a distinction between inductive and deductive arguments, and we will also discuss the difference between sound and valid arguments. After that we will examine the structure of sentential logic, learn how to compute truth values for the operators of sentential logic, and we will learn how to symbolize English sentences using the language of sentential logic. Then we will learn how to construct truth tables, and we will learn how to use them to test sentence forms for consistency and argument forms for validity. In the second part of the course, we will move into various proof methods used in symbolic logic. Finally, in the third part of the course, we will look at predicate logic involving quantifiers and the proof methods used in predicate logic. Throughout the course philosophical questions regarding the relationship between formal logic, natural language, and everyday reasoning will be addressed.

PHI 210 R: SYMBOLIC LOGIC

Logic is the basic scaffolding upon which all theoretical representations of the world are built. Science, mathematics, and reasoning itself are impossible unless undergirded by some form of logic. In this course the student will be introduced to some of the most basic formal logical systems: classical propositional and first-order logic. In the first portion of the course students will learn how to derive theorems within these systems themselves. Students will then learn about the proof-theoretic and semantic properties of these formal systems, and will be introduced to the concepts of validity, soundness, and completeness. Finally, students will be given a brief introduction to some higher-order and non-classical logics.

PHI 215 B: LOGIC & LAW

This course will cover the principles and techniques of logic applied to legal reasoning. Approximately the first half of the semester will be devoted to applying the relevant principles to LSAT logic games. The second half of the semester will be devoted to examining the role of deductive and inductive logic in the context of legal reasoning. This will include the application of legal rules (syllogistic reasoning) and the application of precedents (analogical reasoning). This will also involve examining the role that interpretation of legal statutes and texts plays in legal reasoning, as well as whether and how precedents can be binding in legal decision-making. This course is ideal for students planning to attend law school, and offers familiarity with the types of reasoning and argumentation encountered in the study of law. the next step be? What should we strive for? Many theorists call for "gender equality." But what is that? Does the fair treatment of people require us to eliminate gender differences or, on the contrary, to emphasize and embrace them introducing basic deductive and inductive logic. We will then briefly discuss the elements of logic involved in the LSAT exam.

PHI 244 Q: PHILOSOPHY OF EMOTIONS **EVNINE** TUES & THURS · 12:30 PM-1:45 PM What is an emotion, how does it differ from a mood or a feeling? What is the role of emotions in a person's life and what place do they have in public discourse? We will look at different general theories of the emotions, and also look in depth at some specific emotions. We shall also examine the place of emotion in art and the relation of emotion to language.

PHI 271 D: ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY

ALVES MOREIRA MON, WED & FRI · 11:15 AM-12:05 AM This class gives an overview of Ancient Philosophy. It has three sections. The first section focuses on those who may be called Plato's enemies —poets (especially, Homer) and those who believed that poetry provided knowledge; the pre-Socratics, such as

MON, WED & FRI · 1:25 PM-2:15 PM

TUES & THURS · 6:25 PM-7:40 PM

MUSGRAVE

CORRIGAN

MON, WED & FRI · 9:05 AM—9:55 AM

TUES & THURS · 2:00 PM-3:15 PM

MON & WED · 5:00 PM-6:15 PM

Heraclitus and Parmenides; and the Sophists, like Protagoras and Gorgias. In the second section, we will approach The Republic in spelling out Plato's responses to his enemies. The third section discusses Aristotle. This is someone who may be described as an ambiguous friend of Plato. In this last section, we will study some chapters of Aristotle's Metaphysics, focusing on the passages that indicate in which sense Plato and Aristotle agreed, but disagreed with one another. Here are some questions that will be considered in the class. Does poetry provide knowledge? Can poetry teach us to be better people? What is the One? What is the Multiple? What is rhetoric? Can rational dialogue and powerful persuasion be differentiated? What is the form of the good? How can we know it? Should we live in accordance with the form of the good? How can friends and enemies be differentiated? Do all people desire to know? Are there first principles? What is a science of being qua being?

PHI 330 Q: ETHICS SLOTE TUES & THURS · 12:30 PM-1:45 PM This course will introduce students to ethical theory through its history. We will be reading Aristotle, Kant, Hume, the Utilitarian J. J. C. Smart, the feminist Carol Gilligan, and the contemporary ethical thinker Bernard Williams. All of these readings will be approached with an eye to how they cast light on contemporary issues in moral philosophy. But we will also be relating our discussion of Western thinkers to developments in other parts of the world, especially China.

PHI 332 G: PHILOSOPHY OF LAW CORRIGAN MON, WED & FRI · 2:30 PM-3:20 PM

ROWLANDS

An examination of basic philosophical issues concerning the nature and function of law, with particular attention to the legal system of the United States.

PHI 337 P: ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS

Theoretical and practical issues in the field of environmental ethics.

PHI 339 Y/Y1: PHILOSOPHY OF LOVE BROGAARD In this course we will look at love from different ethical, psychological and neuroscientific perspectives. Among other things we will look at what distinguishes different kinds of love from each other, how love is manifested psychologically and neuroscientifically, what chemicals drive feelings of love and obsession and why it can be so difficult to recover from a breakup. The course can satisfy the Introduction to Philosophy cognate and the Ethics in Society cognate, if you use a cognate substitution form. This is a writing course.

PHI 340 S: THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE CHUDNOFF TUES & THURS · 3:30 PM-4:45 PM Works on the theory of knowledge aim to address questions such as these: Can we be certain of anything? Must I be able to prove something before it is rational for me to believe it? How does perception put us into contact with the world around us? What grounds do we have for trusting what others say? In this course we will discuss classic and contemporary readings that address these and other questions. Topics will include: skepticism, the nature of knowing, rationality, inference, sensory perception, and testimony.

PHI 341 T: PHILOSOPHY OF LANGUAGE HILPINEN TUES & THURS · 5:00 PM-6:15 PM A study of selected questions about linguistic and nonlinguistic signs and their use, meaning, and objects on the basis of the works of Charles S. Peirce, Gottlob Frege, Alexius Meinong, Edmund Husserl, and some 20th century authors. Individual terms, predicative expressions, and propositional signs. Speech acts. The concepts of sense and reference. How do signs represent or stand for their objects? Iconic and indexical signs. The objects and interpretants of signs. Immediate and dynamical objects. What makes a proposition true or false? On the ontology of words and other signs.

PHI 343 R: PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE ERWIN

Scientific theories and their relation to evidence; experimentation and its logic; explanation, the rationality of science and the growth of scientific knowledge.

PHI 344 P: PHILOSOPHY OF MIND LANDERS TUES & THURS · 11:00 AM-12:15 PM The nature of mind and mental acts, events, and states and their relations to physical states of the brain and body and to behavior.

PHI 345 O: METAPHYSICS The basic structure and kinds of constituents of the world.

BROGAARD/LOPEZ PHI 348 O: PERCEPTION, COGNITION & THE BRAIN TUE & THUR · 9:30 AM -10:45 PM This course is an introduction to cognitive science taught on a level accessible to people in the humanities, the fine arts and the behavioral sciences. There will be a special focus on problems of potential interest to students whose area of specialization is not directly related to cognitive science. We will look at recent theories of how the mind processes ethical issues, love, literature, art and religious and spiritual experiences. The course will also provide an overview of the methodology of cognitive science that will allow students to draw on results from this cutting-edge area and make empirically-inspired arguments within their own field of study. No prerequisites required.

PHI 381 O: EXTENTIALISM

The basic structure and kinds of constituents of the world.

TUES & THURS · 6:25PM—7:40 PM PHI 533 U: POLICTICAL PHILOSOPHY SLOTE This course will deal with issues of social justice from a contemporary perspective. Rawls's work has had more influence than any other recent work on justice, and the course will revolve around his work and around responses to it that have been made by recent feminists, libertarians, care ethicists, and communitarians. Readings will include different works by

Rawls and also work by Susan Moller Okin, Michael Sandel, Robert Nozick, and others critical of Rawls's approach.

ONLINE COURSE

TUES & THURS · 11:00 AM-12:15 PM

TUES & THURS · 2:00 PM—3:15 PM

TUES & THURS · 9:30 AM-10:45 AM



TUES & THURS · 9:30 AM-10:45 AM

B. BALCERAK JACKSON

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PHI 540 Q: EPISTEMOLOGY

BROGAARD/CHUDNOFF Sensory perception is our most basic way of learning about the world. The traditional view is that it reveals "low level" features of our immediate environment such as shapes, colors, textures, locations, and motions. Recent work in philosophy and psychology challenge this view and suggests that sensory perception can give us "high level" information about natural kinds, artifacts, opportunities, causal relations, animacy, emotions, meanings, values, and moral obligations. In this seminar we will begin by reviewing background literature on perception in psychology, theory of knowledge, and philosophy of mind, and then we will explore the prospects of different sorts of high level perception and what bearing they might have on the structure of knowledge.

PHI 553 5Q: PHILOSOPHY & FILM

Combining readings in philosophy and film theory and criticism with close analysis of selected films, this course is premised on a conviction in the potential fruitfulness, bothfor film studies and philosophy, of thinking philosophically about the ontology of the medium, the history and the art of film, the ways we experience movies, and their impact on our lives. A main focus will be on the writings of Stanley Cavell-the most important author in the Anglo/American philosophical tradition to make writing about film a substantial part of his philosophical project-and philosophical responses by to his work.

PHI 582 4J: HISTORY OF ANALYTIC

A study of the origins of the so-called analytic philosophy in the late 19th century and some developments in analytic philosophy from the 1880's until the end of the 20th century. A discussion of selected topics and problems in philosophical logic, the philosophy of language and the theory of signs (semiotics), epistemology, metaphysics, and moral philosophy. Philosophy as conceptual investigation. Conceptions of philosophical analysis. Signs, meaning and reference. Knowledge and belief. On moral concepts and discourse; interests, values and norms. Analytic philosophy before the 19th and 20th century analytic philosophy.

TUES & THURS · 12:30 PM-1:45 PM

ROTHMAN

HILPINEN

WED · 5:00 PM-7:30 PM

TUES & THURS · 12:30 PM-3:00 PM