

# PHILOSOPHY

**PHIL 101: Introduction to Philosophy**  
*Sex, Love, and Desire in Western Thought*  
**#10129 (3 credits)**

6:00 – 7:15 p.m. MW Dr. Rozelle-Stone

In this class, we will explore major philosophical questions and traditions through the topic of sex and love. We will give special attention to ancient and contemporary Western philosophical perspectives found in texts such as: Sappho's love poetry fragments, Plato's Symposium and Phaedrus, Simone de Beauvoir's Second Sex, Michel Foucault's History of Sexuality, and essays on religious love from Simone Weil's Waiting for God. Looking carefully at these writings on love, desire, and sex will provoke questions about human existence, the constitution of "reality," constructions of personal identity, the institution of marriage, beauty and aesthetics, power and norms, tensions between reason and emotion, and conceptions of good, evil, and suffering.

**PHIL 110: Introduction to Logic**  
**#10141 (3 credits)**

3:00 p.m. – 3:50 p.m. MWF Beltz

This course provides an examination of principles of logical reasoning. Students will study a variety of theories underlying critical thinking. This theoretical understanding will be applied to practical reasoning; giving students tools to evaluate arguments, determine soundness and consistency, and helping students understand their own reasoning processes. This course will explore multiple forms of logic, including formal and informal logic, deductive and inductive logic.

**PHIL 120: Introduction to Ethics**  
**#10136 (3 credits)**

4:30 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. MW Dr. Stone

This course is an introduction to philosophical ethics. Students who enroll will study the ethical theories of Aristotle (*Nicomachean Ethics*), Immanuel Kant (*Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals*), John Stuart Mill (*Utilitarianism*), Friedrich Nietzsche (*Genealogy of Morals*), and Hannah Arendt (*Responsibility and Judgment*).

**PHIL 120: Introduction to Ethics**  
**#10140 (3 credits)**

9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. TR Dr. Weinstein

Do you know what the right thing to do is in every situation? Are you sure that your morals will stand up to the rigors of adult life? Are you always giving advice to others but have trouble acting the way you should? Do you feel like your beliefs are right ones and everyone else should just follow your lead?

These are all common experiences of ethics, particularly when we act on instinct or based on what we've been taught by our parents or communities. But our ethics are not always right and our habits are often way off base. Introduction to Ethics is an opportunity to examine your moral beliefs and see if they stand up to scrutiny. It's also an opportunity to simply think about ethics in a way you never have before. Morality is incredibly interesting. It's worth exploring.

Join us as we figure out what the right thing to do is and whether there's even such a thing as "the right decision" in the first place. We'll explore the Good life and morality and we'll do it while developing writing and debate skills in a technology-friendly classroom.

**PHIL 282: Asian Philosophy**  
**#10142 (3 credits)**

2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. TR Dr. Lawrence

This class provides an introduction to selected examples of Asian philosophy, and then focuses on recent interpretations of their contemporary intellectual relevance. Topics to be considered include theories of consciousness and embodiment, knowledge, and reality. We will not merely study the various texts as interesting collections of foreign ideas, but will also endeavor to develop our own "dialogical" responses to them. There are no prerequisites for this course. This class satisfies the UND Essential Studies requirement for Global Diversity.

**PHIL 300: History of Philosophy I**  
*Modern Philosophy*  
**#10133 (3 credits)**

4:30 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. MW Dr. Rozelle-Stone

This course provides an introduction to philosophers and major questions from the Renaissance and Enlightenment periods (1500s-1700s). We will read short works by figures like Bacon, Descartes, Pascal, Hume, Kant, Wollstonecraft, and Voltaire, exploring themes such as: the relation between mind and body, free will, sense experience, personhood and consciousness, and skepticism regarding religious beliefs and miracles. In addition to discussing and holding formal debates about these ideas, we will consider 21<sup>st</sup> century versions and applications of Enlightenment themes through watching some films/episodes (for example, from the series *Black Mirror*), and reading a couple of articles on possibilities of machine and animal intelligence by philosophers like Daniel Dennett.

**PHIL 315: Philosophy of Race**

**#10143 (3 credits)**

6:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. MW Dr. Stone

This course will entail a thoroughgoing explication and examination of conceptualizations of race, or race-thinking. This will be followed by a critical analysis of the legacies of racism, racist ideologies, ethnic nationalisms, and colonialist empire building, including the continued manifestation of their negative consequences as well as new iterations in the contemporary world. Of particular interest will be understanding how major figures in the history of western philosophy contributed to the construction of the concept of race and even race supremacy (e.g. advocates of Enlightenment rationality such as Immanuel Kant and G.W.F. Hegel), which was and continues to be used to justify social, economic, political, and military practices. The primary course objective is to provide students with advanced theoretical tools for understanding and critically analyzing the powerful and divisive force of race-thinking within contemporary society. To achieve this objective, in addition to reading primary philosophical and academic works, students will engage relevant art and literature, popular entertainment media (including music, film, video games), and journalistic news reporting (print based, television, and social media).

# FALL 2018

## Philosophy and Religious Studies Course Offerings

No Prerequisites

Most Courses Fulfill  
Essential Studies  
Requirements

Merrifield Hall, Room 201  
276 Centennial Drive  
Grand Forks, ND 58202  
(701) 777-4236

<http://arts-sciences.und.edu/philosophy-religion/index.cfm>

### **355: Social and Political Philosophy #10144 (3 credits)**

12:30 – 1:45 p.m. TR Dr. Weinstein

Does equality mean treating everyone the same or does it mean helping people according to their specific needs? Does diversity mean focusing on people's common humanity or their differences? This course will look at what justice means in a diverse society including economic inequality, gender and sex diversity, religious disagreement, and racial and ethnic plurality. We will focus on contemporary philosophers (many of whom are still alive!), with emphasis on the American philosopher John Rawls, the most important political philosopher of the last fifty years.

## **RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

### **RELS 100: Introduction to Religious Studies #10016 (3 credits)**

9:00 a.m. - 9:50 a.m. MWF Dr. Miller

Religion is an important and powerful force in our world today. Regardless of whether or not we consider ourselves to be religious, we live in a global community where religion and ideas about religion affect the lives of most people on a regular basis. But what is this thing called "religion" and how might we approach a study of the topic from an academic perspective? In this course, you will be introduced to the key concepts and methods used in religious studies, so that you might be equipped to investigate "religion" and to understand better how it functions within our contemporary world.

### **RELS 102: Religions of Asia #10018 (3 credits)**

9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. TR Dr. Lawrence

An introduction to the characteristic beliefs and practices of selected religions that developed in Asia: Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Daoism and Shinto. We will devote special attention to scriptures and other classic literature of the traditions. Students will gain an appreciation of the vitality and enduring significance of each of the religions as a way of life for large numbers of people. **There are no prerequisites for this class, and it satisfies the UND Essential Studies Requirement for Global Diversity.**

### **RELS 220: Religion in America #10027 (3 credits)**

11:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m. MWF Dr. Miller

The love of money is not only the root of all kinds of evil, as 1 Timothy 6:10 warns us, but it also appears to be at the very heart of American religious life. The Prosperity Gospel, the commodification of spirituality, and the commercialization of religious holidays are only a few examples of the ways religion and money have become intertwined within our culture. In this course, we will critically examine how America's love affair with money has shaped and continues to shape our understanding of religion, religions, and the religious.

### **RELS 227: Mysticism and Spirituality #10025 (3 credits)**

11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. TR Dr. Lawrence

Introduces what is called mysticism and its place in world religions. After examining the history of the concept of mysticism, we will proceed to study expressions of mystical experience and practice in both Western and Asian religious traditions. Questions to be considered include the best methods for studying mysticism, whether there is a common core to mystical experiences in different religions, the psychology of mysticism, and the relations of mysticism to ethics. There are no prerequisites for this course.

### **RELS 355: Islam #10030 (3 credits)**

3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. MW Dr. Stone

This course will provide a scholarly introduction to the Islamic religious tradition. Students who enroll will study: the formative historical period of the founding of Islam, including the life of the Prophet Muhammad; ritual, theological, and philosophical developments; Islamic art and literature; Islamic pluralism; and methodological considerations in the study of Islam.