

PHIL 101
INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY
#21165 (3 credits)
M/W 4:00 – 5:15pm
Dr. Stone

In his graphic novel *Unflattening*, Nick Sousanis illustrates how contemporary humanity has become one-dimensional or “flat.” He vividly depicts how a life lived without philosophy—or as Socrates put it, “an unexamined life”—is vulnerable to oppressive, dehumanizing, and alienating conditions. In this course, students will study philosophical examinations of the human condition and arguments for new ways of seeing and how to “unflatten” (or add dimensionality, richness, and meaning to) our lives. Essential Studies: Humanities.

PHIL 105
RELIGIONS OF ASIA
#20742 (3 credits)
T/R 9:30 – 10:45am
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. Essential Studies: Humanities and Diversity of Human Experience.

PHIL 110
INTRODUCTION TO LOGIC
#20466 (3 credits)
M/W/F 12:20 – 1:10pm
Mr. Beltz

This course provides an examination of principles of logical reasoning. Students will study the principles that govern critical thinking. This theoretical understand 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. It is designed to help students navigate the complex political, personal, and social factors that hinder our reasoning abilities. Essential Studies: Humanities.

PHIL 120
INTRODUCTION TO ETHICS
#20467 (3 credits)
M/W/F 11:15am – 12:05pm
Dr. Butler

This course investigates the nature of the Good Life, of moral principles, and the application of moral systems to contemporary debate. These may include questions about the morality of war, capital punishment, sexual behavior, welfare, and so forth. Essential Studies: Humanities.

PHIL 120
INTRODUCTION TO ETHICS
#20945 (3 credits)
Online Asynchronous
Mr. Beltz

What is the purpose of life? How can I live my best life? These will be central questions for this course’s investigation into ethics. In this course we will explore various ethical situations and how morality defines who we are. Students will be introduced to the major theoretical frameworks in ethics. We will examine how to make ethical decisions, what factors should be considered, who (or what) should be included, and why ethical decisions matter. By the end of this course, students will have developed a stronger understanding of how they can make more ethical decisions and how to guide others to a more ethical life. Essential Studies: Humanities.

PHIL 250
ETHICS IN ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE
#20468 (3 credits)
T/R 11:00am – 12:15pm
Mr. Beltz

This course provides an investigation into the ethical concerns dominating contemporary STEM fields (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics). Contemporary society places a significant amount of prestige in STEM experts. Professionals within these fields of expertise often lose sight of their role in protecting public safety, finding justice, and the public good. This course focuses on understanding the ethical responsibilities of professionals, the nature of moral decision making, and applying ethical frameworks to concrete situations. Drawing on case studies and real-world scenarios, this course examines the significance of honesty, competence, teamwork, whistleblowing, confidentiality, and integrity our professional lives. This course seeks to understand and apply the professional codes relevant to contemporary engineering and

scientific practices. Essential Studies: Humanities.

PHIL 251
ETHICS IN HEALTH CARE
#23399 (3 credits)
M/W/F 10:10 – 11:00am
Mr. Beltz

At some point in our lives, we become involved in the health care system. Whether we are patients, nurses, doctors, or family members of patients, we must understand how the decisions we make about health care are ethical decisions. This course focuses on understanding the ethical responsibilities of professionals, the rights of patients, the nature of moral decision making, and applying ethical frameworks to concrete situations. Drawing on case studies, ethical dilemmas, and real-world scenarios, this course examines the significance of informed consent, abortion, euthanasia, organ transplant policy, professional standards, assisted suicide, vaccine mandates, drug screening, national health care policy and reform. The rights and responsibilities of professionals and patients will be examined through contemporary ethical theories and through codes of professional ethics. Essential Studies: Humanities.

PHIL 253
ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS
#21081 (3 credits)
T/R 2:00 – 3:15pm
Dr. Lawrence

This course centers on the way that ethics helps us to understand environmental issues including sustainability, energy consumption, animal rights, habitat loss, biodiversity, land conservation, and pollution. We explore cultural and philosophical ethical frameworks, as well as case studies, from across the globe, such as from Africa, Asia, Australia and Native

Americans, along with Western societies. Essential Studies: Humanities and Analyzing Worldviews.

**PHIL 285
GLOBAL PHILOSOPHY**

#23404 (3 credits)

T/R 12:30 – 1:45pm

Dr. Lawrence

This semester, Global Philosophy will focus on African philosophy. Africa is a vast continent with numerous civilizations, and there are heated controversies about the description and future development of African philosophy. This class will overview some of the scholars and debates in the field, including those concerning colonialism, decolonization, equity and identity. We will also examine examples of philosophical sagacity or wisdom among individuals, and in proverbs and ethics. A goal will be to provide a helpful orientation for further research in the area.

PHIL 304

PHENOMENOLOGY

“ON LONELINESS AND TOUCH”

#23401 (3 credits)

M/W 2:30 – 3:45pm

Dr. Rozelle-Stone

In this class, we will pay attention to two phenomena: loneliness and touch. The U.S. Surgeon General has reported that there is an “epidemic of loneliness and isolation” in our country. How does this loneliness manifest? How is it experienced and under what conditions? At the same time, we are said to be suffering from a “crisis of touch,” despite being “hyperconnected.” Might the gains of the digital revolution be accompanied by the risk of losing touch with ourselves and with each other? Is touch important for our humanness?

Phenomenology invites us to attend to specific experiences in the world in detailed, open, and unprejudiced ways. Such careful attentiveness helps us to appreciate not only these phenomena better but also the kinds of beings we are. How are we affected by touch, and could it address loneliness? In class, we will engage in frequent discussion, in-class exploratory writing, and active phenomenological experiments. No background in philosophy is needed. Essential Studies: Humanities and Advanced Communication.

PHIL 350

PHILOSOPHY OF TECHNOLOGY

#23402 (3 credits)

M/W/F 1:25 – 2:15pm

Dr. Butler

In this course, students will study foundational and contemporary arguments in philosophy of technology on a wide range of questions and issues such as: the relationship between nature and techné; how technologies alter what we can know (epistemology) and how we conceive of reality (ontology); new ethical quandaries created by technologies; the impact technologies have on our social-political philosophies and practices; how technological innovations alter aesthetic creations and appreciation; and posthumanism. Essential Studies: Humanities and Advanced Communication.

PHIL 355

SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

#23400 (3 credits)

T/R 12:30 – 1:45pm

Dr. Weinstein

Everyone teaches us that diversity is important, but other than focusing on vague buzzwords like “tolerance” or “celebrating difference,” no one ever tells us what we’re supposed to do

about it. This course does just this by focusing on justice and equality. Does justice involve finding out what every human has in common or managing each person’s unique traits? Does treating people equally mean regarding them as identical or catering to their specific needs? Together, we will examine 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 an emphasis on John Rawls, the most important political philosopher of the last fifty years.

PHIL 371

PHILOSOPHY OF LAW

#23398 (3 credits)

T/R 9:30 – 10:45am

Dr. Weinstein

Are you intrigued by the law? Are you planning on going to law school or working in a profession that works with it (criminal justice, political science, and education, for example)? Are you interested in politics or how the government works? Do you want to work in a non-profit or advocacy group? Maybe you’re just unhappy with the state of the world—or pleased with it and frustrated with those who aren’t. If any of these are true, then Philosophy of Law is the class for you. In it, we will discuss what law is, when and why it must be obeyed, the US Constitution, civil disobedience, and the meaning and nature of justice. We will also look at how reasoning works in a legal context, asking about precedent and cultural change. This class balances theoretical and practical concerns and its relevance to day-to-day life will be evident from the first session.



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FALL 2024

Philosophy & Ethics



Course Offerings

No Prerequisites

Most Courses Fulfill Essential
Studies Requirements