

Fall  
2021

# Philosophy and Religious Studies

**No Prerequisites**  
**Most Courses Fulfill**  
**Essential Studies Requirements**

## **PHIL 101: Introduction to Philosophy**

Mr. Solis                      W / 6:00p-8:30p                      #15541 (3 credits)

An introductory survey of the discipline of philosophy. Students will join the thoughtful search, in which philosophers have engaged through reading and discussion since ancient days, into the problems of reality (metaphysics), of truth and meaning (logic and philosophy of language), of moral standards (ethics), of knowledge (epistemology), of beauty (aesthetics), and other fundamental questions. Essential Studies: Humanities.

## **PHIL 105: Religions of Asia**

Dr. Lawrence                      TR / 12:30p-1:45p                      #13592 (3 credits)

This course is 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 / Diversity of Human Experience.

### **PHIL 110: Forward or Delete? An Introduction to Logic**

Mr. Beltz                      MWF / 2:30p-3:20p    #8762 (3 credits)

This course provides an examination of the principles of logical reasoning. Students will explore 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. Essential Studies: Humanities.

### **PHIL 120: Introduction to Ethics**

Dr. Valentine                      UND Online                      #15320 (3 credits)

What does it mean for an action to be morally right or wrong? Which actions fall into these categories, and what does it all have to do with me? This course will help you answer these questions, and more. Introduction to Ethics provides a broad historical survey of moral philosophy, familiarizing you with some of the main thinkers, theories, and problems in this field. We'll begin by looking at what individuals mean when they express moral statements and what type of property moral goodness might be. We will then turn to the main normative ethical theories, which provide accounts of how to live morally. Finally, we will apply these theories to concrete issues, decided by the class. Essential Studies: Humanities.

### **PHIL 120: Introduction to Ethics**

Dr. Weinstein                      T / 4:00p – 6:30p                      #8776 (3 credits)

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. This is a fun, discussion-oriented class with minimal homework. It is technology heavy, and focuses on peer-to-peer interaction while minimizing lecture time. Essential Studies: Humanities.

### **PHIL 245HON: Death and Dying** (Honors students only)

Dr. Rozelle-Stone                      MW / 2:30p-3:45p                      #8763 (3 credits)

This Honors course will be an examination of various perspectives on death and dying with a view to learning about, preparing for, and/or coping with end-of-life issues and problems. Medical, psychological, philosophical, and religious aspects contributing to an understanding of the meaning of the dying process and death itself will be offered through textual narratives, film, lecture, discussion, and guest speakers such as physicians, nurses, veterinarians, spiritual leaders, death midwives, and/or funeral directors, whose experience and knowledge will lend assistance to developing students' broader and more holistic approaches to the realities of mortality. Essential Studies: Humanities / Diversity of Human Experience.

### **PHIL 250: Ethics in Engineering and Science**

Mr. Beltz

TR / 11:00a-12:15p

#8777 (3 credits)

This course provides an in-depth investigation into the ethical concerns involved in engineering and scientific decision-making. Contemporary society places a significant amount of prestige in scientific and engineering experts. Professionals within these fields of expertise often lose sight of their role in protecting public safety 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, ethical dilemmas, and real-world scenarios, this course examines the significance of honesty, competence, safety, teamwork, whistleblowing, confidentiality, consent, integrity, and imaginations in the professional lives of engineers and scientists. This course seeks to understand and apply the professional codes relevant to contemporary engineering and scientific practices. Essential Studies: Humanities.

### **PHIL 253: Environmental Ethics**

Dr. Lawrence TR / 2:00p-3:15p

#8778 (3 credits)

The 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 will explore cultural and philosophical ethical frameworks, as well as case studies, from across the globe, such as from Africa, Asia, Native Americans, as well as Western societies. Essential Studies: Humanities / Analyzing Worldviews.

### **PHIL 300: History of Philosophy I - Ancient Philosophy**

Mr. Beltz TR / 9:30a-10:45a

#8761 (3 credits)

This course in Ancient Philosophy will be devoted to the exploration and analysis of what surely constitutes the most influential philosophical literature in the history of human thought. After a survey of some of the insights offered by the Pre-Socratic thinkers, we will proceed to give close critical examination to selected dialogues of Plato. We will then shift an exploration of selections from the major surviving works of Plato's best student, Aristotle. In all, this course will set out to discover the ways that thinkers from antiquity understood the world and how those thoughts shaped European thinking over the last several millennia. Essential Studies: Humanities.

### **PHIL 320: Hinduism**

Dr. Lawrence

TR / 9:30a-10:45a

#8779 (3 credits)

The Indian subcontinent is one of the great historic centers of world civilization, and it has extended its cultural influence throughout Asia and the world; like China, it now also comprises about one fifth to one sixth of the earth's population. This class will introduce students to the region's preponderant religious and philosophical tradition of Hinduism, treating topics such as understandings of a God or gods, teachings of a universal Self, reincarnation, views for and against the caste system, and Hinduism and globalization. We will treat examples of Hinduism from the ancient to contemporary periods, devoting special attention to selections of classic texts. Essential Studies: Humanities / Diversity of Human Experience.

## **PHIL 331: Contemporary European Philosophy**

### **Subtitle: Work and Play**

Dr. Stone

MW / 6:10p-7:25p

#8780 (3 credits)

What makes work, *work*? Why do we work so much and have so little free time? Should work define us more than how we spend our leisure time? What impacts do work and play have on our ability to live “the good life” (i.e., ethical and aesthetic lives) respectively? Is it possible to truly find edifying work, or are the majority of careers simply “bullshit jobs”? Are there better and worse ways to play? In this course seminar participants will consider philosophical arguments on the nature of work and play in contemporary society. We will consider arguments made by leading European philosophers as well as academics in other disciplines—e.g., anthropology, economic and political theory, and sociology—who have been heavily influenced by Continental philosophy.

## **PHIL 450: Philosophy, Economics, and Politics**

Dr. Weinstein

TR / 12:30p-1:45p

#8781 (3 credits)

America is a capitalist society; the world is one giant market. Is this good or bad, and how does it inform what we want out of life? Should we be mad that others have more than us or should we just be happy if we have enough? And, what is enough anyway? These questions reveal that discussing politics alone just doesn't give us the perspective to understand how the world interrelates. We need philosophy and economics as well, or none of it will make very much sense. In this class we will read Adam Smith and Karl Marx, Libertarian thinkers and welfare economists, and explore the history of distributive justice.

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