PHIL 1000 - LOGIC
(PREREQUISITE(S): Freshman standing recommended.)

Section 101 - MWF 8:00-8:50, MR. STEPHEN PLECNIK

This course will introduce students to logic, the study of correct reasoning. As a discipline, logic is both a science (a body of knowledge) and a skill. We shall emphasize logic as a skill. Since logic is not something that can be learned in a purely theoretical way, it has to be practiced daily in order to be mastered. This course will enable students to apply the set of logical principles that they learn when evaluating what is said and written in both the classroom and in ordinary discourse. Topics to be covered will include, but not be limited to, the following: the discussion of logical terms like argument, proposition, term, etc.; induction and deduction; the identification of common types of formal and informal fallacies; categorical and compound propositions and arguments constructed from these types of propositions.

REQUIRED TEXT
Hurley, Patrick J., A Concise Introduction to Logic (11th ed.)

REQUIREMENTS
Two exams, weekly quizzes, and daily readings

Section 102 - MWF 9:00-9:50, MR. STEPHEN PLECNIK

SEE SECTION 101 ABOVE.
Section 103 - MWF 11:00-11:50, MR. DAMON WATSON

Course Description:

Logic can be considered to be both the science and art of good reasoning. Accordingly, this course will be both an introduction to the principles of good reasoning and a practice of implementing those principles. Topics to be covered include the following: terms, propositions, definitions, arguments, explanations, informal/formal fallacies, deduction, induction, validity, soundness, cogency, strength, informal diagrams, categorical logic, Venn diagrams, propositional logic, inference rules, truth tables, proofs, and probability. By the end of the course, students will have gained experience evaluating arguments through both formal and informal methods and will have become familiar with some of the central concepts involved in logic.

Required Text:

ISBN: 9780078038198

Course Requirements:

1. Attendance/Punctuality/Participation
2. Weekly Readings & Homework
3. Quizzes
4. Three In-Class Exams
5. Final

Section 104 - MWF 1:00-1:50, MR. DAMON WATSON

SEE SECTION 103 ABOVE.

PHIL 1001 - PHILOSOPHY OF HUMAN NATURE
(PREREQUISITE(S): May not be taken by first semester Freshman)

Section 101 - MWF 8:00-8:50, MR. BRANDON HENRIGILLIS

Course Description:

The course intends to be an investigation of the perennial problems of what it means to be a human being. Specifically, this course will focus on four problematic issues: human choice and free will, human cognition, the overall unity of the human being, as well as the spiritual dimension of the person. This class intends to approach these problems primarily through a careful analysis of the ancient and early modern philosophers, although we will also study some Christian and contemporary treatments as well. Thus, the thought of Plato, Aristotle, and Descartes will serve as the primary avenue through which these problems will be treated. A careful investigation of these various approaches will allow students to appreciate the significance of these issues, as well as give students the opportunity to become familiar with the various attempts that have been made to address these problems. The goal of this course then is to acquire a deeper understanding and appreciation of how philosophers in various traditions have understood what it means to be a human being.
Section 102 - MWF 8:00-8:50, MR. ALEXANDER BOZZO

Alexander Bozzo
Phil 1001
Sections 102, 104, 110.

Course Description

Our focus in this course is the human condition. As such, our aim is to think deeply and rigorously about our place in the world: How do our minds and bodies interact? Can human beings have knowledge? Does life have any meaning? Does God exist? Our aim is to explore these and related questions. This course also has the general intention of fostering critical thinking skills.

Requirements

Reading Reports 20%
Logic Exam 10%
Midterm Exam 15%
Final Exam 15%
Abstract 05%
Critical Paper 20%
Participation 15%

Section 103 - MWF 9:00-9:50, MR. DANIEL VECCHIO

This course endeavors to raise the most fundamental questions as they relate to the human person. The questions to be asked include: is there freedom, or are all human actions determined? Are humans merely physical beings or do they also have souls? What is the nature of the relationship between the conscious mind and the body? Also, what is the nature and possibility of knowledge? Is the existence of God relevant to human existence? And are friends and society a necessary component of human life? In exploring these questions, our class will be in dialogue with great sages and philosophers throughout history as they explore essential aspects of our social, spiritual, and affective natures. By the end of the course, such questions will not only be raised, but answers will be sought—answers aimed at illuminating what it might mean to be a human.

Section 104 - MWF 9:00-9:50, MR. ALEXANDER BOZZO

SEE SECTION 102 ABOVE.

Section 105 - MWF 10:00-10:50, MR. DANIEL VECCHIO

SEE SECTION 103 ABOVE.

Section 106 - MWF 10:00-10:50, CANCELED
The course begins with the question of contemporary existentialism: is there any meaning in human life? Subsequently we shall take up the principal problems of the philosophical science of human nature. Must a human being be any more than a mere physical entity, and if so, how can it be? What is the soul, and how is it related to the body? What is truth, and how is it known? Are human beings free or determined in the choices they make? What importance does society have in human existence? We shall examine the various answers to these questions provided in the history of philosophy from Plato to Sartre. By the end of the course, then, the student will have made acquaintance with the great philosophers on the great question, what does it mean to be human?

TEXTS: Plato. FIVE DIALOGUES; Frankl, MAN'S SEARCH FOR MEANING; Packet

REQUIREMENTS: Unannounced quizzes over the reading material; mid-semester and cumulative final exam; 1-2 essays; class participation.

Section 108 - MWF 11:00-11:50, CANCELED

Section 109 - MWF 11:00-11:50, MR. VELIMIR STOJKOVSKI

The purpose of this course is to examine questions concerning what it means to be a human being and how the answers to these questions impact the way we view the world. We will be looking at topics such as free will and determinism, the relationship between philosophy and spirituality, the relationship between mind and body, and the role which human cognition has in the obtaining of knowledge. We will approach these questions historically, looking at the philosophers who have made the most lasting impact on our way of thought.

Selections from Aristotle and Existentialism on D2L

REQUIREMENTS: 3 exams - worth 25% each. 1 paper (3-4 pages) - worth 15%. Participation/Discussion - worth 10%.

Section 110 - MWF 12:00-12:50, MR. ALEXANDER BOZZO

SEE SECTION 104 ABOVE.
Description:

In this course we will examine some of the central questions in the philosophical study of human nature. These include the following: What is a human being? What is the purpose of human existence? What is the relationship between the soul/mind and the body? Are we immortal? Are we free? What can we know, and how? To explore these and related questions we will engage canonical texts in the classical (Plato and Aristotle), Christian (Augustine and Aquinas), modernist (Descartes) existentialist (Nietzsche, Ortega, and Sartre) and feminist (Frye) traditions. The goal of this engagement is twofold: to understand the answers these traditions and figures give to these pressing questions, and to provide the historical and technical foundation on which students can formulate their own views. Thus, students are expected not only to study philosophy but also to philosophize.

Required Texts:


All other required texts will be available via D2L.

Course Requirements:

Class Participation ---------------------------------------- 10%
First Reading Response ----------------------------------- 5%
Second Reading Response ---------------------------------- 5%
First Exam ------------------------------------------------- 25%
Second Exam ----------------------------------------------- 25%
Third Exam ------------------------------------------------- 30%
Section 114  - MW 2:00-3:15, MR. EDWARD GOMEAU

Edward M. Gomeau
Course Descriptions for Spring 2013

Courses: PHIL 1001 (114) and PHIL 1001 (117)

Description: In this introductory course we will examine a number of central themes in the philosophical study of human nature, including happiness, virtue, love, free will, the mind and consciousness, and the place of the individual in the political and social world.

Course Requirements: Class attendance and active participation, midterm and final, weekly D2L responses, quizzes.

Required Texts:

1. The Examined Life: Philosophical Meditations
   Robert Nozick
   Simon & Schuster (1990)
   ISBN 10: 0671725017, paperback, 308 pages

2. The Republic
   Plato (translated by Allan Bloom)
   ISBN 10: 0465069347, paperback, 512 pages

3. Nichomachean Ethics
   Aristotle (trans. Robert C. Barlett and Susan D. Collins
   University of Chicago Press (April 2012)
   ISBN 10: 1405132310, paperback, 368 pages

4. The Happiness Hypothesis: Finding Modern Truth in Ancient Wisdom
   Haidt, Jonathan.
   Basic Books (2006)
   ISBN 10: 0465028020, paperback, 320 pages

Other readings to be made available on D2L.

Section 115  - MW 2:00-3:15, MS. CATLYN ORIGITANO

COURSE DESCRIPTION: In this course we will explore various questions concerning human nature including: do we have any choice in our lives or is everything pre-determined? What does it mean to be a thinking, cognizing human? What is the relationship between the human mind and body? What does it mean to be a spiritual, affective and social being? In order to address these questions we will focus on the role that philosophy has in creating doubt about the world around us, as well as offering us avenues out of, or ways of dealing with, such doubt.

REQUIREMENTS: Four exams, reading responses and class participation.

Section 116 - MW 3:30-4:45, MS. CATLYN ORIGITANO
SEE SECTION 115 ABOVE.

Section 117 - MW 3:30-4:45, MR. EDWARD GOMEAU
SEE SECTION 114 ABOVE.

Section 118 - TTH 8:00-9:15, FR. JAMES FLAHERTY, S.J.

Section 119 - TTH 8:00-9:15, BR. LAWRENCE LAFLAME

Course Description for PHIL 1001
Br. Lawrence LaFlame, OFM Conv.

This course is designed to introduce the student to the methods and ideas found in the rational life. The course is designed to do so in discussions concerning issues that surround that of the human person. We shall treat these issues by considering some ideas presented by various philosophers. In doing so we shall examine what these philosophers had to say, the way in which they said it, and what consideration it should be given by us today. We shall begin in the classical period by reading two works of Plato, Euthyphro and Crito. We shall then more on to read selections from Aristotle’s De Anima also from the classical period followed by sections of Augustine of Hippo’s Confessions from the medieval period. We shall then move closer to our own day with reading selections from William James’s Pragmatism and be introduced to modern existentialism with Jean-Paul Sartre’s Existentialism is a Humanism and Simone de Beauvoir’s The Ethics of Ambiguity to complete the course. In all these readings we shall be concerned not just with what is being said, but we shall also discuss the ways in which the material is presented by the philosopher and its connection with the course objectives and for us today. It is to be expected that the students will offer their own understandings and comments about the readings in anticipation of class as well as during class. Philosophy is better done through vigorous and enthusiastic discussion by all involved.

In order to assess the students’ progress in the course there will be a quiz on Tuesdays which can cover definitions, understanding of concepts or comparisons with what else we have read. There shall also be a paper of 4 to 6 pages in length on a philosophical topic chosen beforehand and approved and discussed during office hours. Finally, there will be a mid-term and a final exam which will demonstrate the ability to bring concepts of the various philosophers together for comparison and assessment by the student.
What does it mean to be a human being? Philosophy originally began as an attempt to make sense of the world around us, but with Socrates philosophy turned inward and took the human self as its focus under the imperative to ‘know thyself.’ This too will be our concern. In this course we will attempt to wrestle with the perennial questions of human existence. We will primarily be concerned with questions such as, what processes give rise to human beings? Is there such a thing as human nature? Assuming there is such a thing, what is its essential nature? Is it fixed, or can it change? Is it depraved, emotional, or rational? Does life have a meaning? Is it objective or subjective, i.e., universal or particular? While this course will primarily concern itself with how various philosophers throughout history have attempted to answer these questions, the ultimate aim for the student is to arrive at their own conclusions as to what human nature is and be able to articulate their own particular point of view.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
Class participation and attendance: 20% of grade
Midterm exam: 20% of grade
Final exam: 20% of grade
Midterm paper: 20% of grade
Final paper: 20% of grade

REQUIRED TEXTS
Rene Descartes, MEDITATIONS ON FIRST PHILOSOPHY. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996
Viktor E. Frankl, MAN’S SEARCH FOR MEANING. Boston: Beacon Press, 2006
PHIL 1001 – PHILOSOPHY OF HUMAN NATURE  
Dr. Ingvild Torsen  
Spring 2013

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
What is a human being? This course will explore different ways of understanding what it means to be human. Through careful study of classical and contemporary philosophical texts, as well as readings from psychology and literature, we will examine questions about the human condition: What is reason and what role does it play in our lives? What does it mean to have a mind and how is it related to our body? What is human knowledge? What is a person and to what extent can I say that I am the same person over time? How are we shaped by other people around us? Do we have free will? Students are to become familiar with different philosophical responses to these questions and also be able to critically discuss the questions.

TEXTS:
For sale in the bookstore:
Rene Descartes, Meditations, Hackett, 2006.

The following readings will be made available through ARES:
Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics (Books VIII and IX)  
Plato, Republic (excerpts)  
Susan Brison, Aftermath (chs. 1 and 3)  
David Hume, Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding (excerpt)  
Daniel Dennett, “Where Am I?”  
Derek Parfit, “Divided Minds and the Nature of Persons”  
Milindapanha (excerpt)  
Jeff Malpas, “Death and the Unity of a Life”  
Jean-Paul Sartre, “The Wall”

REQUIREMENTS:
Three exams, weekly one page papers and participation in class discussion.

Philosophy of Human Nature develops critical thinking and problem solving skills by examining issues such as freedom, knowledge, truth, the self, and human relationships. The point of philosophy is to put your perspective in your own words, seeing how arguments stand, and finding examples and counter examples to every position. Philosophy is an enjoyable experience as well as a great exercise for critical thinking. Indeed, you have most likely thought or discussed these issues in your lifetime. We will examine what certain thinkers have said about human nature and how you will critically assess these arguments.
Section 125  - TTH 12:30-1:45, MR. RUSSELL HAMER

In this course we will investigate the place of human beings in the world. We will take up topics of traditional concern: the possibility and nature of a relationship with God, the immortality of the soul, the relationship between mind and body, the nature and scope of knowledge, the possibility of free will, and the problem of evil. We will strive to develop an understanding of how different philosophers approach these issues.

Required Texts:

Requirements: 2 papers, 2 tests, short assignments, attendance/participation

Section 126  - TTH 12:30-1:45, MR. DAVID GORDON

SEE SECTION 120 ABOVE.

Section 127  - TTH 2:00-3:15, DR. STANLEY HARRISON

An inquiry into questions central to a theory of human nature. Issues include: whether there are good reasons for speaking of an immaterial soul and, if so, what difference this makes; the importance of language and the uniqueness of human knowledge; the "self" and the interpersonal world; human freedom and the nature of human action; why feelings and emotions are central to being rational; the meaning of friendship and community.

TEXTS: FIVE DIALOGUES (Plato) (Hackett, edition); John Macmurray's, REASON AND EMOTION; ULTIMATE QUESTIONS (3rd edition), Nils Rauhut; De Anima by Aristotle (Penguin edition). Other readings on ARES.

REQUIREMENTS: Some in-class exams/quizzes, short essays and a final exam.
PHIL 1001 – PHILOSOPHY OF HUMAN NATURE
Dr. Ingvild Torsen
Spring 2013

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
What is a human being? This course will explore different ways of understanding what it means to be human. Through careful study of classical and contemporary philosophical texts, as well as readings from psychology and literature, we will examine questions about the human condition: What is reason and what role does it play in our lives? What does it mean to have a mind and how is it related to our body? What is human knowledge? What is a person and to what extent can I say that I am the same person over time? How are we shaped by other people around us? Do we have free will? Students are to become familiar with different philosophical responses to these questions and also be able to critically discuss the questions.

TEXTS:
For sale in the bookstore:
Rene Descartes, Meditations, Hackett, 2006.

The following readings will be made available through ARES:
Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics (Books VIII and IX)
Plato, Republic (excerpts)
Susan Brison, Aftermath (chs. 1 and 3)
David Hume, Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding (excerpt)
Daniel Dennett, “Where Am I?”
Derek Parfit, “Divided Minds and the Nature of Persons”
Milindapanha (excerpt)
Jeff Malpas, “Death and the Unity of a Life”
Jean-Paul Sartre, “The Wall”

REQUIREMENTS:
Three exams, weekly one page papers and participation in class discussion.
Philosophy of Human nature is an introduction into the basic modes and methods of philosophical exploration and reasoning, with a special emphasis on the role such exploration and reasoning have in coming to understand human nature. Thus, we will be guided throughout by such questions as “What is reality and what is humanity’s place within it?” “Does the universe make sense?” “What is knowledge?” “What is self-knowledge?” “What is the relation between knowledge and living a good and happy life?”

In order to pursue these and related questions we will draw upon some of the great philosophers and philosophical texts of the past in order to seek guidance from them in coming to meaningful answers for ourselves. In particular, we will look at some classic works by such philosophers as Plato, Aristotle, Augustine, Descartes and Schumacher, among others. Our goal will be ultimately to collaborate with these great thinkers and amongst ourselves in an effort to search out a deeper and richer understanding of life’s meaning and purpose.

Place of the Course within the Curriculum:

As noted in the Course Description, philosophy investigates many of the “bigger picture” questions. As such, a crucial role of philosophy is to help give an overall meaningful orientation to the rest of the students’ academic pursuits. Philosophy, in other words, helps us understand more clearly why we engage in all of our more particular intellectual and academic activities, no matter what they are. Philosophy thus serves to unify and integrate all of the students’ academic interests into a larger, more meaningful whole.

Method and Structure:

The course will be a combination of lecture and seminar-style discussion. Students will be highly encouraged to participate and openly share their insights and ideas as we pursue our philosophical questions. The philosophers and texts we explore will thus serve more as helpful points of departure for the students to engage in their own work of philosophical exploration and reasoning. Assignments will consist mainly of exams, short reflection papers and a longer final paper.
Section 131 - TTH 3:30-4:45, MR. AGUST MAGNUSSON

Course Description for Philosophy of Human Nature (1001) – Spring 2013

The course will examine central themes in the philosophical study of human nature and the meaning of rational life. The course deals with the following four problem areas: human choice (freedom vs. determinism), human cognition (the extent of human knowledge), the affective, social and spiritual dimensions of the human person, and the unity of the human being (the relation between the mind and the body). Students will assess the views of central figures in various philosophical traditions on these issues, including the classic Greek and Catholic philosophical traditions. Students will also use philosophical reasoning to develop their own position on these issues.

Required Texts

Plato – Republic and Apology; Aristotle – Selections; Augustine and Aquinas – Selections; Ginsberg- Howl and other Poems; Thomas Merton – Zen and the Birds of Appetite; Kierkegaard – Fear and Trembling

Course requirements

Class participation; Keeping a philosophical journal throughout the semester; 2 papers; 2 exams

Section 701 - MW 5:30-6:45, MR. SHAUN MILLER

Philosophy of Human Nature develops critical thinking and problem solving skills by examining issues such as freedom, knowledge, truth, the self, and human relationships. The point of philosophy is to put your perspective in your own words, seeing how arguments stand, and finding examples and counter examples to every position. Philosophy is an enjoyable experience as well as a great exercise for critical thinking. Indeed, you have most likely thought or discussed these issues in your lifetime. We will examine what certain thinkers have said about human nature and how you will critically assess these arguments.

Section 702 - TTH 5:30-6:45, MR. RUSSELL HAMER

SEE SECTION 125 ABOVE.

Section 901 - MW 2:00-3:15, MR. SHAUN MILLER

SEE SECTION 701 ABOVE.
PHIL 1001 – PHILOSOPHY OF HUMAN NATURE
Dr. Ingvild Torsen
Spring 2013

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
What is a human being? This course will explore different ways of understanding what it means to be human. Through careful study of classical and contemporary philosophical texts, as well as readings from psychology and literature, we will examine questions about the human condition: What is reason and what role does it play in our lives? What does it mean to have a mind and how is it related to our body? What is human knowledge? What is a person and to what extent can I say that I am the same person over time? How are we shaped by other people around us? Do we have free will? Students are to become familiar with different philosophical responses to these questions and also be able to critically discuss the questions.

TEXTS:
For sale in the bookstore:
Rene Descartes, Meditations, Hackett, 2006.

The following readings will be made available through ARES:
Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics (Books VIII and IX)
Plato, Republic (excerpts)
Susan Brison, Aftermath (chs. 1 and 3)
David Hume, Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding (excerpt)
Daniel Dennett, “Where Am I?”
Derek Parfit, “Divided Minds and the Nature of Persons”
Milindapanha (excerpt)
Jeff Malpas, “Death and the Unity of a Life”
Jean-Paul Sartre, “The Wall”

REQUIREMENTS:
Three exams, weekly one page papers and participation in class discussion.
PHIL 2310 - THEORY OF ETHICS
(PREREQUISITE(S): Phil 1001; Sophomore Standing.)

Section 101 - MWF 8:00-8:50, MS. JENNIFER FENTON

COURSE DESCRIPTION, Spring 2013
PHIL 2310 101 Theory of Ethics
MWF 8:00-8:50AM

Course Description:
This course provides a critical investigation into the moral dimension of human life. What are the moral implications of being a social creature? What is a good life? What makes an act moral? What role do emotions play in moral reasoning? We begin our time with a critical consideration of challenges for doing ethics and of those moral perspectives that have significantly shaped how we think about these questions, namely, relativism and egoism. We then proceed through a critical overview of major historical moral theories of Western philosophy, including virtue ethics (Aristotle), natural law ethics (Aquinas), deontology (Kant), and utilitarianism (Mill). Other themes to be considered may include: social psychology research in obedience to authority and conformity; collective responsibility; feminist ethics; the role of the emotions in moral reasoning; friendship; and ethics in the context of oppression.

Requirements: weekly reading responses, short in-class presentation, midterm and final exam

Required Texts:


Section 102 - MWF 8:00-8:50, CANCELED

Section 103 - MWF 9:00-9:50, MS. JENNIFER FENTON
SEE SECTION 101 ABOVE.

Section 104 - MWF 9:00-9:50, MR. TREVOR SMITH
In this course we will work through the major ethical theories in western philosophy. We will investigate relativism (James Rachels), deontology (Immanuel Kant), Utilitarianism (J.S. Mill), virtue ethics (Aristotle), natural law (S. Thomas Aquinas), and feminist ethics of care (Nel Noddings/Rita Manning). Aside from reading and critically analyzing these texts we will, throughout the semester, work toward a coherent idea of how an ethical system must work. This course will require all students to participate in discussion, analyze texts, and write papers.

Section 105 - MWF 10:00-10:50, MR. TREVOR SMITH
SEE SECTION 104 ABOVE.
What is the good life? How ought we to act? These are just a couple of the questions we will be addressing. This course will show the different approaches to these questions by examining ethical theories in Western philosophy. These theories include: Virtue Ethics (Aristotle), Natural Law Ethics (St. Thomas Aquinas), Deontology (Immanuel Kant) and Utilitarianism (John Stuart Mill). In addition, we will also consider the ways in which feminist perspectives challenge these ethical theories.

TEXTS: Aristotle, NICOMACHEAN ETHICS, trans. Terence Irwin (Hackett); Kant, GROUNDING FOR THE METAPHYSICS OF MORALS, trans. James W. Ellington (Hackett), Mill, UTILITARIANISM, ed. George Sher (Hackett); additional readings will be available on D2L.

REQUIREMENTS: Exam 1: (20%); Exam 2: (25%); Final Paper: (25%); Quizzes: (20%); Participation: (10%).

Section 107 - MWF 11:00-11:50, CANCELED

Section 108 - MWF 11:00-11:50, MR. CHAD KLEIST

SEE SECTION 106 ABOVE.

Section 109 - MWF 12:00-12:50, DR. NOEL ADAMS

Phil. 2310: In this course we will focus on four different ethical theories as put forth by important figures in the history of philosophy: virtue ethics (Aristotle), natural law (St. Thomas Aquinas), deontology (Immanuel Kant) and utilitarianism (John Stuart Mill). In addition to describing and analyzing each theory, we will examine arguments for and against them. Prior to examining these theories, however, we will consider a variety of influential arguments that have persuaded many people that doing ethical theory is not a viable philosophical enterprise. Since none of these challenges is successful, the course proceeds in the spirit of serious inquiry into the aforementioned theories.

Section 110 - MWF 12:00-12:50, CANCELED

Section 111 - MWF 12:00-12:50, MS. CHERYL ABBATE

Required Texts:

Course Description: An investigation into the moral dimensions of human life. Among the topics to be considered are the norms of morality and the general process of moral decision-making. We will explore a number of influential ethical theories in both eastern and western philosophy, including, Natural Law Theory, Feminist Ethics, Virtue Ethics, Deontology, and Utilitarianism. We will furthermore consider the issues that stem from such theories concerning moral considerability: who counts as a moral patient and how we should challenge and reconstruct moral theories in order to encompass our full range of moral duties to the environment, nonhuman animals, and oppressed/underprivileged individuals. (Fulfills a UCCS and Arts & Sciences College Curriculum requirements for Human Nature and Ethics; and fulfills a requirement for Philosophy major and minor.)

Requirements:
10 Open note quizzes (30%)
2 Exams (30 %)
1 Paper (20%)
Final Exam (20%)

Section 112 - MWF 1:00-1:50, DR. NOEL ADAMS

SEE SECTION 109 ABOVE.

Section 113 - MWF 1:00-1:50, MS. CHERYL ABBATE

SEE SECTION 111 ABOVE.
This course will be devoted to a study of major philosophical theories of ethics and morality. We will be concerned with the nature of moral experience, the status of moral standards, the justification of moral judgments and actions, the nature of moral virtue and vice, and so forth. We will be concerned primarily with theoretical problems that underlie moral reasoning and not with developing a particular code of ethics. Rather, we shall consider the various frameworks within which moral problems are often considered. As this is a philosophy course, we will be particularly concerned with understanding and evaluating the reasons and arguments which serve to justify diverse moral and ethical theories.

REQUIREMENTS: 3 non-cumulative exams. 1 or 2 brief pages (2-3 pages).
TEXT: Ethics: Discovering Right and Wrong, 7th Edition by Louis P. Pojman. Other material for the course will be posted on D2L.
PHIL 2310: Theory of Ethics  
Sections 115 and 901 – Spring 2013

Instructor:  
Matthew T. Nowachek

Course Description:  
What is the good life? How should we live? What constitutes good ethical theory and how should we put such theory into practice? These are only a few of the fundamental questions that we will address during our time together. Toward this end we will work through major ethical theories in Western philosophy, including ethical relativism, utilitarianism (J. S. Mill), deontology (Immanuel Kant), virtue ethics (Aristotle), and feminist ethics of care. In addition, we will also consider some alternative and critical voices including Martin Buber, Friedrich Nietzsche, and Søren Kierkegaard. The course has two major aims: 1) to interact critically with major views and thinkers within the discipline of ethics, and 2) to work towards formulating our own coherent views of ethics and applying these views in practical engagement with contemporary ethical issues. As part of the course requirements, all students have the opportunity to participate in discussion, read and analyze texts, as well as engage with the course material through various writing assignments.

Required Texts:


5) Additional readings posted on D2L (essays, articles and short book excerpts)

Course Requirements:  
Readings for each class period  
Regular attendance and in-class participation  
Reading responses (1-2 pages each)25%  
Utilitarianism critical essay20%  
Deontology critical essay20%  
Final Exam25%  
Other assignments 10%

Section 116 - MW 3:30-4:45, FR. JOHN JONES

SEE SECTION 114 ABOVE.
Section 117 - TTH 8:00-9:15, MRS. STEPHANIE LUFT

Course Description

Phil 2310 – Theory of Ethics

Instructor: Stephanie Luft, MA

Section 117, TTH 8:00-9:15
Section 118, TTH 9:30-10:45

Description:
Ethics or moral philosophy is an inquiry into human acting. Its interest is to enlighten human praxis in regard to its moral quality. Thus, ethic’s main question is: what makes an action a good action? We will be concerned with questions about right and wrong, the good and the bad. Or, to be more specific: What do moral concepts like “good” and “right” mean at all? Are our moral judgments objectively true or a mere expression of a subjective view? Can, and how can, moral rules be rationally justified?

Since we are not the first to ask these questions, and since all of them were asked in different manners throughout the history of ethics, this class will give an overview of the history of this discipline starting with ancient philosophy, going to medieval philosophy up to modern thinkers. For instance, we will ask our questions together with Aristotle who first established ethics as an independent philosophical discipline and with Kant who places the good will in center of his considerations.

Studying ethics is learning to argue about the ways we act and to give justification for our own acting. Acting, regardless of the theory one chooses to adopt, then becomes a sign of moral engagement and responsibility: an expression of humanity.

Text:

Requirements:
One midterm exam (in class), two short exams during the semester (in class) and one final exam (take home).

Section 118 - TTH 9:30-10:45, MRS. STEPHANIE LUFT

SEE SECTION 117 ABOVE.

Section 119 - TTH 9:30-10:45, DR. JAVIER IBÁÑEZ-NOÉ

This course will deal with the fundamental questions of ethical theory, as they are explicitly or implicitly answered in classical and in modern philosophy, and as they imperceptibly determine the way we shape our personal lives.

TEXTS: Oliver Johnson (ed.), ETHICS: SELECTIONS FROM CLASSICAL AND CONTEMPORARY WRITERS, (eleventh edition); C.S. Lewis, THE SCREWTAPE LETTERS.

REQUIREMENTS: several quizzes, two tests (including a final).

Section 120 - TTH 11:00-12:15, DR. JAVIER IBÁÑEZ-NOÉ

SEE SECTION 119 ABOVE.
Section 121 - TTH 11:00-12:15, DR. MICHAEL WREEN

A systematic study of a number of major ethical theories. The main emphasis will be on normative ethics. Utilitarianism, traditional natural law, Kantian rigorism, Russian ethics, and rights-based theories will be covered, and the relation between these theories and other philosophical questions, e.g., are values objective?, will be considered. Many quizzes, one paper, and a final exam.

Section 122 - TTH 12:30-1:45, DR. WILLIAM STARR

This course will study the four classical theories of moral philosophy, the virtues, deontology, utilitarianism, natural law. We will do this through texts in moral theory. The goal of this course is twofold. First, it is expected that you will gain knowledge of the four theories of ethics and their main theses. Second, it is hoped that you will be a more thoughtful, reflective, morally sensitive person after exposure to moral philosophy.

TEXTS: Aristotle, NICOMACHEAN ETHICS; Kant, GROUNDING OF THE METAPHYSICS OF MORALS; Mill, UTILITARIANISM; Aquinas, TREATISE ON LAW.

REQUIREMENTS: 2 midterms and a final.

Section 123 - TTH 12:30-1:45, DR. MICHAEL WREEN

SEE SECTION 121 ABOVE.

Section 124 - TTH 2:00-3:15, MR. AUSTIN REECE

Austin Reece Theory of Ethics Course Description

At the most general level, this course will offer a systematic and historical introduction to the pursuit of moral philosophy in the Western intellectual tradition and to a lesser extent the Eastern intellectual tradition through the study of Buddhist ethics. More specifically, this course will examine various concepts and arguments of major ethical theories including virtue ethics, natural law theory, deontology and utilitarianism. By reflecting on how ethics has been conceived and comparing different theories, students will be able to argue for one of the major ethical theories over another and use philosophical reasoning to develop their own position on central ethical issues.

Section 125 - TTH 2:00-3:15, STAFF

Section 126 - TTH 3:30-4:45, DR. OWEN GOLDIN

SEE SECTION 124 ABOVE.

Section 127 - TTH 3:30-4:45, DR. RYAN MOTT

Course Description:

This course is an investigation into the moral dimensions of human life. We will investigate the philosophical problems that arise when we attempt to determine which acts are right and which are wrong as well as the philosophical problems that arise when we attempt to justify such normative judgments. This course will focus primarily (but not exclusively) on the Western tradition.

Section 128 - TTH 8:00-9:15, DR. RYAN MOTT

SEE 127 ABOVE.

Section 129 - TTH 9:30-10:45, DR. RYAN MOTT

SEE 127 ABOVE.
Section 701 - MW 5:30-6:45, MS. DAWN DINICOLA

Description: In this course, we will investigate the moral dimension of human life. Among the topics to be considered are the 'norms' of morality and the general process of moral decision-making. Traditional natural law will be one of the points of view included. We will also consider alternatives to traditional Western perspectives as well as feminist work in ethics.


Requirements: Students will be assessed on several informal written assignments (30% of final grade), class participation (20%), a formal paper at midterm (30%), and a final essay exam (20%).

Section 702 - TTH 5:30-6:45, MR. AGUST MAGNUSSON

PHIL 2310 (Theory of ethics) Sections 702, 902 – Spring 2013
Instructor: Agust Magnusson

Course Description

The focus of this course will be to examine different ways in which philosophers have attempted to understand how human beings can be as good and noble as possible. We will look at some classical, systematic approaches to ethical questions such as utilitarianism and deontological ethics and to what extent these systems have been able to answer ethical challenges such as relativism and egoism. We will also view alternative approaches to these questions such as feminist ethics of care and Buddhist ethics. Students will be expected to critically evaluate the different theories in question and to be able to argue for the philosophical cogency and practical outcomes of one theory over another. Students will also be expected to develop their own position on relevant issues such as the justification of moral judgments and the elucidation of moral norms.

Required Texts

Aristotle - Nichomachean Ethics; Pojman – Discovering Right and Wrong; Cook – How to Raise an Ox

Course requirements

Class participation; Keeping a philosophical journal throughout the semester; 2 papers, 2 exams

Section 901 - MW 3:30-4:45, MR. MATTHEW NOWACHEK
SEE SECTION 115 ABOVE.

Section 902 - TTH 12:30-1:45, MR. AGUST MAGNUSSON
SEE SECTION 702 ABOVE.
**Section 903 - TTH 9:30-10:45, DR. THERESA TOBIN**

Course Description
In this class we will investigate how Aristotle, Aquinas, Kant, Mill, and Sartre answer some of the most important questions about the moral dimensions of human life: What constitutes a good human life? What is happiness and how can we achieve it? How should I decide how to act? How should I treat other people? We will also consider the ways in which feminist and Taoist moral perspectives both parallel and challenge some of the ideals of Western moral philosophy. One central goal of the course is to help you think more seriously and critically about how you ought to live. Welcome to the class!

Required Texts

Course Requirements
Four one-page reading responses, one midterm paper, final project.

**Section 904 - TTH 4:00-5:15, DR. THERESA TOBIN**

Contemplative section

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**PHIL 3350 - PHILOSOPHY OF THE ENVIRONMENT**

(PREREQUISITE(S): Soph. stndg., and PHIL 1001 and PHIL 2310)

**Section 101 - TTH 9:30-10:45, DR. SUSANNE FOSTER**

The course will cover both the classic works in environmental philosophy and contemporary pieces. Topics will include the basis of obligations regarding the environment, value and the environment, environmental policy, ecology vs animal welfare and others.

TEXT: David Schmidtz & Elizabeth Willott, ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS.
REQUIREMENTS: There will be 2 papers and a final exam.
PHIL 3380 - ASIAN PHILOSOPHY
(PREREQUISITE(S): Phil 1001; Sophomore standing)

Section  101     - MWF 12:00-12:50, DR. BRONWYN FINNIGAN

Description:
Since the time of the Buddha, Buddhists have developed a rigorous and profound tradition of philosophy. The Buddhist path consists in the combined practice of philosophical reasoning, ethical practice and meditation. This course will focus on philosophical reasoning. For Buddhists, enlightenment is attained by gaining insight into the nature of reality (metaphysics), knowledge (epistemology), language (philosophy of language) and our ways of living (ethics). These insights are acquired, in large part, by subjecting our beliefs to rational scrutiny. In this course, we follow the historical development of the Buddhist tradition of philosophy: from the teachings of the Buddha depicted in the Nikāyas to Abhidharma, Madhyamaka, and Yogācāra in India, South East Asia and Tibet. We critically examine the core issues in metaphysics, epistemology, philosophy of language and ethics that are elaborated by Buddhist philosophers. The course proceeds by analyzing core texts of Buddhist philosophy (in English translation) together with secondary literature. We study Buddhist philosophy not as an item of historical interest but as an attempt to ascertain how much truth lies in this system of thought. Once we gain an understanding of the views expounded by Buddhist philosophers, we will subject their doctrines to rational scrutiny in the hope of attaining some enlightenment for ourselves.

Specific Course Objectives:
The course aims to develop the following discipline-based skills:

(1)General knowledge of some major schools, figures and issues in the Buddhist tradition of Philosophy
(2)An ability to understand and critically evaluate theories, arguments and presuppositions of Buddhist philosophers
(3)An ability to express and expound views and presuppositions clearly and lucidly
(4)An ability to analyze and critically evaluate arguments.

Generic Course Outcomes:
University study aims to provide you not only with knowledge and skills in a particular academic discipline, but also with research and expressions skills that will help you in later employment. These are known as generic skills. The generic skills this course seeks to develop are:

(1)Comprehension skills: In doing the reading for lectures and essays you will learn to understand the ideas and arguments presented in texts and discussions and the presuppositions that underlie those ideas and arguments.
(2)Critical thinking skills: You will learn to analyze and evaluate arguments.
(3)Problem-solving skills: You will learn how to apply theories and knowledge to everyday situations, where applicable.
(4)Communication skills: You will learn how to express and present your ideas logically and clearly, both orally (in class discussions and presentations) and in writing (in your essays).
(5)Creative thinking skills: You will learn how to develop new ideas and perspective, and how to construct arguments for yourself.

Required Texts:
(1)Edelglass & Garfield (eds.), Buddhist Philosophy: Essential Readings, (Oxford)
(2)Siderits, Buddhism and Philosophy, (Hackett)

Additional materials will be made available through ARES
PHIL 3450 - EPISTEMOLOGY
(PREREQUISITE(S): Phil 1001; Sophomore Standing)
Section 101 - MWF 9:00-9:50, DR. BRONWYN FINNIGAN

Description:
Epistemology is the study of the nature and grounds of knowledge and its extent. What is knowledge? How are knowledge claims justified? What can be known and how can it be known? Empiricism is the view that sensory experience is the source of human ideas (or concepts) as well as the basis for justifying knowledge claims. Everything we know comes to us through our senses and requires sensory evidence to be justified as knowledge. In short: all knowledge is empirical knowledge. This epistemological view was at the heart of analytic philosophy as it emerged in the early to mid 20th Century.

In this course we follow the historical development of empiricism: from the British Empiricism of Locke, Berkeley and Hume to the 20th century views of Bertrand Russell and the logical empiricism (positivism) of Ayer, Schlick and Carnap. We will distinguish various forms of empiricism and critically examine their arguments. We will also consider some of the major challenges that have been posed to this theory, with a particular focus on those of Quine and Sellars.

Specific Course Objectives:
The course aims to develop the following discipline-based skills:

(1) General knowledge of major schools, figures, distinctions and issues in the empirical tradition of epistemology
(2) An ability to understand and critically evaluate theories, arguments and presuppositions of empiricist philosophers
(3) An ability to express and expound views and presuppositions clearly and lucidly
(4) An ability to analyze and critically evaluate arguments.

Generic Course Outcomes:
University study aims to provide you not only with knowledge and skills in a particular academic discipline, but also with research and expressions skills that will help you in later employment. These are known as generic skills. The generic skills this course seeks to develop are:

(1) Comprehension skills: In doing the reading for lectures and essays you will learn to understand the ideas and arguments presented in texts and discussions and the presuppositions that underlie those ideas and arguments.
(2) Critical thinking skills: You will learn to analyze and evaluate arguments.
(3) Problem-solving skills: You will learn how to apply theories and knowledge to everyday situations, where applicable.
(4) Communication skills: You will learn how to express and present your ideas logically and clearly, both orally (in class discussions and presentations) and in writing (in your essays).
(5) Creative thinking skills: You will learn how to develop new ideas and perspective, and how to construct arguments for yourself.

Required Texts:
(1) Meyers, R., Understanding Empiricism, (Acumen)

Additional materials will be made available through ARES
PHIL 3630 - PRAGMATISM AND AMERICAN PHILOSOPHY  
(PREREQUISITE(S): Phil 1001; Sophomore Standing)  
Section 101 - TTH 11:00-12:15, DR. STANLEY HARRISON  

The development and distinctiveness of philosophy in America, and with emphasis on Pragmatism as an original and important response to new scientific and historical conditions. Issues include: rejecting philosophy's quest for certainty and the 'foundations' of knowledge; the meaning of truth; the impact of evolution on views of Nature, God, and self; the conflict between science and religion; and the meaning of community.  
REQUIREMENTS: 1-2 in-class exams, short response papers, and final exam.

PHIL 3750 - PHILOSOPHY OF LAW  
(PREREQUISITE(S): Phil 1001; Sophomore Standing)  
Section 101 - TTH 12:30-1:45, DR. GRANT SILVA  
NO COURSE DESCRIPTION AVAILABLE ON DATABASE.  
Section 102 - TTH 2:00-3:15, DR. GRANT SILVA  
SEE SECTION 101 ABOVE.

PHIL 4000 - MODERN LOGIC  
(PREREQUISITE(S): May not be taken by Engineering students to fulfill Philosophy requirements.)  
Section 101 - MWF 10:00-10:50, DR. NOEL ADAMS  

This course on symbolic logic begins with propositional logic and then moves on to predicate logic. Emphasis is on understanding constructing deductive proofs, as well as symbolizing arguments. Over the course of the semester will examine truth tables, the nature of statements, logical relations, counterexamples, and natural arguments.  
REQUIREMENTS AND GRADE DETERMINATION: Regular attendance is crucial for success in this class. There will be problem sets assigned every day. There will be five exams, each worth 100 points; thus 500 points will come from the exams. There will be ten quizzes, each worth 10 points each; thus 100 points will come from quizzes. Of the 600 points possible, exams make up 5/6 of your overall grade, and the quizzes add up 1/6 of your overall grade.

PHIL 4320 - CONTEMPORARY ETHICAL PROBLEMS  
(PREREQUISITE(S): Phil 2310, Junior Standing)  
Section 101 - MWF 10:00-10:50, MR. WALTER ISAAC
Section 102 - MW 3:30-4:45, MR. CHAD KLEIST

Course Description: We will begin with an examination of the contrasts between liberalism and communitarianism-specifically, the self and freedom. We will use this conception to guide us through an array of contemporary ethical issues (via articles and case studies) including, but not limited to, economic justice, homosexuality, the environment, pornography and animal rights. We will thoroughly discuss numerous positions for and against the topic at hand. This will entail not only putting forth arguments, but also examining, and interpreting, empirical data. From this, we will also develop our critical thinking skills, in addition to, and our ability to tactfully engage one another in discourse.

Grading Summary:
Exam 1 - 20%
Exam 2 - 20%
Exam 3 - 25%
Final Paper - 25%
Participation - 10%


Section 103 - MWF 11:00-11:50, MR. WALTER ISAAC

PHIL 4330 - BUSINESS ETHICS
(PREREQUISITE(S): Phil 2310; Junior Standing)

Section 101 - MWF 8:00-8:50, MR. DAVID MCPHERSON

COURSE DESCRIPTION: In this course we will explore questions of what is right and wrong, good and bad, virtuous and vicious with respect to contemporary business practice in capitalist economic systems. We will begin by exploring the nature of market economies. Next, we will examine some major ethical theories and discuss why we should be moral. With this foundation in place we will study some specific issues in business, such as: corporate responsibility (stakeholder vs. shareholder theories), role morality vs. personal morality, whistleblowing, discrimination and harassment, consumer rights and responsibility, international business issues, and environmental issues. We will also examine a number of case studies that help to illustrate some of these specific issues and allow students to practice their moral reasoning skills.


REQUIREMENTS: Several quizzes and writing assignments
Section 102 - TTH 8:00-9:15, DR. WILLIAM STARR

This is a course in business ethics. It is a course for both business students and non-business students. The corporate world plays a very important part of our lives. What I wish to do is to emphasize that in that world, ethics should prevail.

Let's take an example, the owner of McDonald's says that if he burned down the Wendy's across the street, his business would double. Obviously, that is immoral. There are many ethical problems in business ethics. We will explore some of these in this course. For example, the role of capitalism, issues of environmentalism, feminism, different philosophies of business ethics in different countries. Also, the role of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, the role of corporate ethical leadership, the issue of sexual harassment in the workplace, the notion of whistle-blowing, what is the relationship between the firm and its employees. Are only the stockholders who the Executive's are concerned with, or should the list be expanded, e.g., the community? This is a course in practical philosophy, this is not a course in metaphysical la la land. For those willing to join in, this will be a most exciting course.


REQUIREMENTS: There will be 3 or 4 exams, both objective and essay.

Section 103 - TTH 9:30-10:45, DR. WILLIAM STARR

SEE SECTION 102 ABOVE.
PHIL 4335 - BIOMEDICAL ETHICS
(PREREQUISITE(S): Phil 2310; Sophomore Standing)
Section 101 - MW 2:00-3:15, DR. KATHERINE RICKUS

(The course instructor is both a medical doctor in psychiatry, and a philosophy faculty member in Marquette's Philosophy Department)

Course outline
In this course we will be considering various philosophical and practical difficulties and dilemmas faced in the provision of health care. We will discuss the relevant background required from general philosophical theories in ethics, medical ethics, and ethics for health professionals. Specific topics include: clinical research priorities; animal and human research; the rationing and management of health care resources and technology; human reproduction; abortion; genetic screening; future and unborn persons; end-of-life concerns, including euthanasia and death; the provision of medical aid to developing countries; financial and personal conflicts of interest in health care; the private and public provision of medical services; race, feminism and medicine; patient rights including privacy, confidentiality and consent; treatment refusal and withholding; autonomy and mental illness; medical paternalism; and the health professional-patient relationship.

The course will meet twice a week, with one session being devoted to a lecture on the readings, and the second session being purely discussion-based, involving a student group presentation and a discussion of case studies and issues relevant to the lecture topic for that week.

Course objectives
This is an undergraduate elective course with several distinct objectives:
To aid students in the development of their skills in reading, writing, debating, and critically evaluating arguments
To present an introduction to and an appreciation of the philosophical dimensions of a wide range of moral issues and applied ethics problems related to the provision of medical care
To apply knowledge of medical ethics to the discussion and presentation of medical case studies
To provide students with a scholarly opportunity to reflect upon, challenge, and develop their own ethical views, and to enhance their critical insight into moral concerns in medicine
To highlight the importance of medical ethics for future health professionals and/or health service users

Readings & Assignments
The required textbook, used for case studies, is Well and Good – A Case Study Approach to Biomedical Ethics (3rd Edn., 2002) by Thomas & Waluchow
(This might be a book you consider sharing the cost of with student peers in your presentation group.)

Articles will be also posted on D2L for each week's topic as required.

Assessment will involve a participation grade, which includes attendance, class participation and a group presentation grade. In addition to the group presentation, students will have an in-class midterm examination, and will submit a final essay.

Section 102 - MW 3:30-4:45, DR. KATHERINE RICKUS
SEE SECTION 101 ABOVE.
PHIL 4336 - APPLIED ETHICS THE HEALTH SCIENCES
(PREREQUISITE(S): Enrolled in Health Sciences, Junior Standing, and Phil 2310.)
Section 101 - F 9:00-10:40, MS. ADRIANA KOWAL

Course Description:
This course provides an introduction to issues in professional ethics for students in the College of Health Sciences. The Course is designed to provide a bridge to ethical topics covered in professional phase of study. Topics include: dignity of life, codes of medical ethics; the nature of the patient-medical provider relationship; confidentiality, the determination of patient competence; critical patient care, and justice in health care.

Section 102 - F 9:00-10:40, MS. ADRIANA KOWAL

SEE SECTION 101 ABOVE.

Section 103 - F 11:00-12:40, MS. ADRIANA KOWAL

SEE SECTION 102 ABOVE.

Section 104 - F 11:00-12:40, MS. ADRIANA KOWAL

SEE SECTION 103 ABOVE.

Section 105 - F 1:00-2:40, MS. ADRIANA KOWAL

SEE SECTION 103 ABOVE.

Section 106 - F 1:00-2:40, MS. ADRIANA KOWAL

SEE SECTION 105 ABOVE.

Section 701 - M 4:00-5:40, MR. DAVID MCPHERSON

Course Description:
This course provides an introduction to issues in professional ethics for students in the College of Health Sciences. The Course is designed to provide a bridge to ethical topics covered in professional phase of study. Topics include: dignity of life, codes of medical ethics; the nature of the patient-medical provider relationship; confidentiality, the determination of patient competence; critical patient care, and justice in health care.

Texts Assigned:
Additional assigned readings will be available electronically on ARES

Requirements:
Quizzes, oral presentation, final paper

Section 702 - M 4:00-5:40, MRS. KIRSTIN CARLSON MCPHERSON

Course Description:
This course provides an introduction to issues in professional ethics for students in the College of Health Sciences. The Course is designed to provide a bridge to ethical topics covered in professional phase of study. Topics include: dignity of life, codes of medical ethics; the nature of the patient-medical provider relationship; confidentiality, the determination of patient competence; critical patient care, and justice in health care.

Texts Assigned:
Additional assigned readings will be available electronically on ARES

Requirements:
Quizzes, oral presentation, final paper
PHIL 4540 - PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION
(PREREQUISITE(S): Phil 1001; Junior Standing. This course is equivalent to EDUC 4540.)
Section 101 - MW 2:00-3:15, REV. JEFFREY LABELLE

PHIL 4953 - UNDERGRADUATE SEMINAR:
(PREREQUISITE(S): Phil 1001; Junior Standing, and consent of instructor.)
Section 101 - TTH 11:00-12:15, DR. JAMES SOUTH
[Section Title: Nonsense]
PHIL 4953/5953
Undergraduate Seminar: "Nonsense"

In his Philosophical Investigations, Wittgenstein states that he desires to teach the reader "to pass from a piece of disguised nonsense to something that is patent nonsense." The first part of the course will be devoted to coming to some understanding of what Wittgenstein does and does not mean when he makes this claim. Building on this understanding, we then will look at the attempts of some philosophers to point out the disguised nonsense present in certain perennial philosophical issues central to epistemology, metaphysics, and ethics. As an aid to developing an understanding of the ramifications of Wittgenstein's stated project, we will read the work of several recent and contemporary philosophers, including Stanley Cavell, Cora Diamond, John McDowell, and Alice Crary. The overarching objective of the course will be to assess the strength and adequacy of Wittgenstein's project.

Texts: Wittgenstein, Philosophical Investigations; Stanley Cavell, Must We Mean What We Say?; Cora Diamond, The Realistic Spirit; and selected readings on reserve.

Requirements: Weekly one page papers (30%), a term paper (50%), and class participation (20%).

Texts (all required):
Section 701 - MW 4:00-5:15, DR. DAVID TWETTEN
[Section Title: Medieval Islamic Thought]