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

Section 101 - MWF 8:00-8:50, CANCELED

Section 102 - MWF 9:00-9:50, MR. ALEXANDER BOZZO

The focus of this course is correct reasoning. In particular, our emphasis in this course will be on the role of arguments in ordinary discourse. As such, among the topics that we will cover are: the nature and structure of arguments, deuctive and inductive inferences, meaning and definition, and informal fallacies. Moreover, students will be introduced to formal logic by way of syllogistic and propositional logic.

Midterm = 25%
Final = 25%
Quizes = 40%
Class participation = 10%

Section 103 - MWF 10:00-10:50, MR. ALEXANDER BOZZO

SEE SECTION 102 ABOVE.

Section 104 - MWF 11:00-11:50, CANCELED

Section 105 - MWF 12:00-12:50, CANCELED

Section 106 - TTH 3:30-4:45, MR. RUSSELL HAMER

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 various functions and kinds of definitions; the identification of common types of formal and informal fallacies; categorical and compound propositions and arguments constructed from these types of propositions.

Section 701 - TTH 5:00-6:15, MR. RUSSELL HAMER

SEE SECTION 106 ABOVE.

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

Section 101 - MWF 8:00-8:50, CANCELED
Section 102 - MWF 8:00-8:50, MS. JENNIFER MARRA

Philosophy of Human Nature
Instructor: Ms. Jennifer Marra
PHIL 1001 102 MWF 8:00am-8:50am; PHIL 1001 103 MWF 9:00am-9:50am

Course Description for Fall 2013:
The course will examine central themes in the philosophical study of human nature and the influence of these themes throughout history. 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 (how we interact and express ourselves as human beings), 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 gain an understanding of the evolution of philosophical thought as well as the relevance of past philosophical traditions as they have informed contemporary attitudes. Students will use philosophical reasoning to develop their own position on these issues, and engage with the material both thoroughly and critically.
Required texts include works from Plato, Aristotle, Augustine, Descartes, Hume, and Sartre. Additional required readings will be provided by the instructor.
Learning outcomes will be assessed via classroom discussion, reading response papers, exams, and one short essay.

Section 103 - MWF 9:00-9:50, MS. JENNIFER MARRA
SEE SECTION 102 ABOVE.

Section 104 - MWF 9:00-9:50, MS. KIMBERLY ENGELS

Ms. Kimberly Engels
Philo 1001 104&109
Course Description: The class will be an inquiry into the nature of human beings. This includes topics about the essence of a human being, the freedom of a human being, the way that human beings interact with one another, and how humans can acquire knowledge of the world they inhabit. In addition to developing critical thinking skills necessary to form and evaluate philosophical arguments, this course will have five major units: the possibility of knowledge, the relationship between the mind and the body, human freedom, self-identity, and human social interaction. The course will proceed topically as well as including the positions of various philosophers on these five topics, including the Classic Greek and Catholic positions. The course will also include readings from non-Western philosophy and historical female philosophers who contributed to these topics.
Required Texts:

Course Requirements:
Four short papers: 30%
Midterm Exam: 30%
Final Exam: 30%
Classroom Participation: 10%
Section 105 - MWF 10:00-10:50, DR. NOEL ADAMS

This course deals with the following four problem areas: Human choice, human cognition, the affective, social and spiritual dimensions of the human person, and the unity of the human being. These four areas will be analyzed within the context of the writings of significant philosophers within the classical and modern eras.

TEXTS: PLATO: FIVE DIALOGUES, edited by Grube, G.M.A. (Hackett); ARISTOTLE: NICOMACHEAN ETHICS, (2nd ed.), edited by Irwin, Terence (Hackett); SEXTUS EMPIRICUS: SELECTIONS FROM THE MAJOR WRITINGS ON SCEPTICISM, MAN AND GOD, (ed) by Hallie, Philip P. and translated by Etheridge, Sanford G.; AUGUSTINE: ON FREE CHOICE OF THE WILL, (trans.) by Williams, Thomas (Hackett); DESCARTES: MEDIATIONS ON FIRST PHILOSOPHY, (trans.) by Cress, Donald (Hackett); KIERKEGAARD: FEAR AND TREMBLING/REPETITION, edited and translated by Hong, Edna and Hong, Howard (Princeton University Press); JAMES: PRAGMATISM, ed., Kuklick, Bruce (Hackett); GANDHI: SELECTED POLITICAL WRITINGS, ed., Dalton, Dennis (Hackett).

REQUIREMENTS: There will be three in-class exams, the third of which is a final exam held during finals week. These exams constitute roughly three-fourths of your grade. The remaining one-fourth of your grade will be determined both by writing assignments that correspond to the required readings and participation in the class discussions. Thus active participation and doing the required readings are crucial parts for succeeding in this course.

Section 106 - MWF 10:00-10:50, DR. DAVID TWETTEN

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 107 - MWF 11:00-11:50, DR. DAVID TWETTEN

SEE SECTION 106 ABOVE.

Section 108 - MWF 11:00-11:50, DR. NOEL ADAMS

SEE SECTION 105 ABOVE.

Section 109 - MWF 12:00-12:50, MS. KIMBERLY ENGELS

SEE SECTION 104 ABOVE.
Section 110 - MWF 1:00-1:50, DR. CORINNE BLOCH-MULLINS

What is a human being? What is his or her place in the world? In this course, we will explore the distinctively Western idea of a human being as essentially a rational animal, and the meaning of a rational life. We will examine the ways in which western thinkers – philosophers and theologians – debated whether a human being can follow reason or is controlled by passions, and the degree to which human rationality is conditioned or distorted by weakness of the will, original sin, our passions and appetites, the social and material environment, and education. Is reason the master of our passions, or the slave of the passions? This theme will run through the course, and the four problem areas – human choice, human cognition, the affective, social, and spiritual dimensions of the human person, and the unity of the human being – will be discussed throughout as we analyze the various answers of great thinkers to the question of the place of rationality in our lives. In discussing this central theme, students will become familiar with the basic methods of philosophy. Furthermore, because – as this course will demonstrate – one’s view of human nature shapes one’s view on all aspects of the place of the individual in a society (e.g., what is moral? What is the proper political system?), the topics discussed in this course will provide students with the background for further philosophical studies.

TEXTS: Thomas Wall, ON HUMAN NATURE: AN INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY. Additional readings will be uploaded to the course’s website.

REQUIREMENTS: Grades will be based on three exams, active participation in class (this includes class discussion as well as in-class analysis of a text or a movie), and weekly reading responses (1-2 pages each) that will be posted to the course's website

Section 111 - MW 2:00-3:15, MR. JOHN JANES

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 happiness? What is friendship? 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 & Aristotle), Christian (Augustine), modern (Descartes, Churchland, & Thiroux) existentialist (Nietzsche, Ortega, & 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 construct their own views. Students are thus expected not only to study philosophy but also to philosophize.

Required Texts:
All other required texts will be available via Ares (Class Reserves)

Course Requirements:
class participation, two papers, three quizzes, three exams

Section 112 - MW 2:00-3:15, CANCELED
Section 113 - MW 3:30-4:45, DR. MICHAEL MONAHAN

This course will examine a variety of different approaches to questions surrounding the notion of human nature within the tradition of Western Philosophy from the ancient world to the present day. Strong emphasis will be placed upon original source materials, though some time will be spent applying these theories to contemporary problems. Lectures will be based upon assigned readings, and class discussion will be a major component of each session.


REQUIREMENTS: three exams plus a final exam.

Section 114 - MW 3:30-4:45, DR. OWEN GOLDIN

Phil 1001 114 Philosophy of Human Nature

This class is an introduction to the central issues involved in an philosophical analysis of human life. What is it to know? How can we make sense of the religious and social dimensions of human life? Is there free will? Is it meaningful to talk of a soul? We will approach these questions through studying both class and contemporary texts.

Required Texts: Plato, Five Dialogues; Augustine, On Free Choice of the Will; Descartes, Meditations; Montero, On the Philosophy of Mind; texts from Aristotle, the Upanishads, and Radhakrishan will be available online.

Grading will be on the basis of five short papers, a final exam, and class participation.

Section 115 - TTH 8:00-9:15, DR. RYAN MOTT

This course will examine a number of central themes in the philosophical study of human nature from a (mostly) Western, framework. This will include the relationship between the mind and the body, whether or not humans are capable of altruism, the question of whether human actions are free or determined, and what, if anything, maintains personal identity over time.
Section 116  - TTH 8:00-9:15, MR. NICHOLAS OSCHMAN

Course Description: In this course, we will examine some of the central questions historically raised in the philosophical study of human nature, with a special emphasis on the ways reason may help us form and answer these questions. These questions include, but are not limited to: What makes a human a human? What makes an individual an individual? What can we know? Are we free? What is the goal of human life? In the process of discussing these questions, we will engage texts within the Classical (Plato and Aristotle), Medieval Christian and Islamic (al-Kindi, Aquinas, Augustine), Modern (Descartes, Kant), Feminist (Wollstonecraft, Rooney), Zen (Muller), Existentialist (Kierkegaard), and Marxist (Marx) traditions. By assessing the strengths and weaknesses of the various strategies used by the aforementioned thinkers, students will both learn a variety of strategies in order to engage in the central questions surrounding the study of human nature and gain the historical and technical foundations which will enable them to construct and critique their own philosophical positions.

Course Requirements: Students will be assessed via short weekly reading responses based upon a prompt given each week by the instructor (20% of grade), two 5-page essays (first essay worth 20% of grade, second essay worth 25% of grade), and a final examination (25% of grade). The remaining 10% of the grade will be assessed based upon class participation and the student's attendance of office hours at least twice during the semester.

Required Texts to be Bought by Students:

Required Texts to be Provided to Students via D2L or Ares:
“Zen and the Non-Marginal Response”- Rene J. Muller
“Freedom vs. Determinism”- Jacques P. Thiroux
“On the Means of Dispelling Sorrows”- al-Kindi
Selected Passages from Plato's Republic
Selected Passages form Marx's Alienated Labor and The Communist Manifesto
“Gendered Reason”- Phyllis Rooney

Section 117  - TTH 9:30-10:45, MR. NICHOLAS OSCHMAN

SEE SECTION 116 ABOVE.
PHIL 1001: Philosophy of Human Nature
Section 118: TuTh 9:30AM - 10:45AM; Olin Engineering 119
Section 119: TuTh 11:00AM - 12:15PM; Olin Engineering 140

Course Outline
This course will explore the meaning of rational life. We will deal with the following four problem areas: human choice, human cognition, the affective, social and spiritual dimensions of the human person, and the unity of the human being. We will not only be reading historical philosophical texts, but we will actively participate the art of contemplation. To this end, I ask students to participate in a meditation during class. After discussion and critical analysis of difficult issues, we will turn inward in hopes of cultivating deepened awareness, concentration, and insight. This gives us a chance to take a moment, reboot, and come back refreshed. The material often shows itself anew when we allow ourselves to sit with it, without judgment.

Required Texts

Section 119 - TTH 11:00-12:15, MS. ADRIANA KOWAL
SEE SECTION 118 ABOVE.

Section 120 - TTH 11:00-12:15, DR. RYAN MOTT
SEE SECTION 115 ABOVE

Section 121 - TTH 12:30-1:45, MR. MATTHEW PETERS
Matthew Peters
Fall 2013
PHIL 1001

Course Description: This course is an introductory course designed to guide the student through an initial philosophical investigation into the nature of the human person. In particular the course will be interested in examining those aspects of human nature that are most characteristically human, including but not limited to, human knowledge, freedom and sociability. Regarding human knowledge we will explore some classical investigations into what it means to know at all as well as exploring investigations into what is the proper object of human knowledge. Regarding human freedom we will be especially concerned to examine the basis of human freedom and how personal development relates to true human freedom. Regarding human sociability we will look at not only what makes for successful and fruitful human interaction and discourse but also at what might be at the root of the all too frequent failure of human persons to attain such successful and fruitful interaction. The overall goal of the course will thus be to provide the student with an enriched and informed basis upon which to reflect upon the human condition, thereby giving him or her the means of acting more intelligently, reasonably and responsibly throughout all his or her future endeavors, be they academic or otherwise.

Section 122 - TTH 12:30-1:45, DR. RYAN MOTT
SEE SECTION 115 ABOVE
Section 123 - 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).

EXISTENTIALISM IS A HUMANISM by Jean Paul Sartre.

REQUIREMENTS: Some in-class exams/ quizzes, short essays and a final exam.

Section 124 - TTH 3:30-4:45, DR. STANLEY HARRISON

SEE SECTION 123 ABOVE.

Section 125 - TTH 3:30-4:45, MR. DAMON WATSON

Course Description
In this course we will investigate a variety of philosophical questions all pertaining to human nature. Topics to be covered include: the possibility and nature of the human relation to the divine, human freedom, human cognition, personal identity, and love. While directly dealing with these topics, we will indirectly develop a sense of what it means to approach such topics philosophically as opposed to other possible approaches. Throughout the course we will ground our investigations through reference to some of the classical philosophical texts relating to our topics.

Required Texts
All other readings will be made available through D2L.

Course Requirements
1. Attendance/Participation - 10% of final grade
2. Two Papers - 40% of final grade
3. Two Exams - 50% of final grade

Section 126 - TTH 8:00-9:15, FR. JAMES FLAHERTY, S.J.

The purpose of this course is to explore the connection between human nature and social justice, given that this is a core course in the Dorothy Day Living and Learning Community. We will begin with Plato who depicts that last days of his mentor, Socrates. At Socrates' death, Plato describes him as "of those we have known the best, and also the wisest and most just." This declaration raises the question of the connection between human nature and justice.

The key text for this course is Leela Fernandes' Transforming Feminist Practice: Non-Violence, Social Justice and the Possibilities of a Spiritualized Feminism. Fernandes argues that as effective practice of social justice demands a transformation of the self, from one that is "bounded" (or strictly secularized) to one that is open to the transcendent.

Although Fernandes' interest in social justice is feminist in orientation, the questions she raises apply to other justice-related issues and activities. In pursuing her questions, we will utilize philosophical resources from ancient to contemporary times, and from western and non-western traditions.

Section 127 - TTH 9:30-10:45, FR. JAMES FLAHERTY, S.J.

SEE SECTION 126 ABOVE.
PHIL 1001: Human Nature
Section 901
Fall 2013

Course Description:

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.

Assigned Texts include C.S. Lewis’s The Abolition of Man, Plato’s Phaedo, selections from Aristotle’s Nicomachean Ethics, Descartes’ Meditations on First Philosophy, Jean-Paul Sartre’s Existentialism and Human Emotions. There will also be readings on Buddhism and Hylomorphism provided as handouts.

Requirements for the course include active participation and attendance, occasional pop reading comprehension quizzes, reading worksheets covering each author or unit, two exams, and two short essays.
PHIL 1001 – PHILOSOPHY OF HUMAN NATURE
Dr. Ingvild Torsen
Fall 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? 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.
Susan Brison, Aftermath, Princeton U.P., 2002

The following readings will be made available through ARES:
Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics (Books VIII and IX)
Plato, Republic (excerpts)
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”
Baron d’Holbach, System of Nature (excerpt)

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

Section 903 - MW 3:30-4:45, DR. INGVILD TORSEN
SEE SECTION 902 ABOVE.

Section 904 - TTH 12:30-1:45, DR. ANTHONY PERESSINI
In this course we will investigate the nature human beings and their place 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 of knowledge and science, the possibility of free will, and personal identity. We will strive to develop a feel for how PHILOSOPHERS address these issues. Readings will be drawn from classical and contemporary sources, including Plato, Aristotle, Aquinas, Descartes, Hume, Kierkegaard, and Perry.

TEXTS: Readings provided on D2L

REQUIREMENTS: 3 exams
PHIL 2310 - THEORY OF ETHICS
(PREREQUISITE(S): Phil 1001; Sophomore Standing.)

Section 101 - MWF 8:00-8:50, MR. MATTHEW NOWACHEK

PHIL 2310: Theory of Ethics
Sections 101 and 103 – Fall 2013
Instructor:
Matthew T. Nowachek

Course Description:
What is the good life? How ought we to 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), natural law theory (Aquinas), virtue ethics (Aristotle), and feminist ethics of care. In addition, we will also consider some alternative and critical voices including Friedrich Nietzsche and Søren Kierkegaard. The course has two central 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.

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

Section 103 - MWF 9:00-9:50, MR. MATTHEW NOWACHEK
SEE SECTION 101 ABOVE.

Section 104 - MWF 10:00-10:50, MR. VELIMIR STOJKOVSKI

Course Description:
The purpose of this course is to examine the ethical theories that have made the most lasting impact on how we understand questions concerning what it means to do a good action and what the good life consists in. In order to accomplish these ends, we will be looking at several different theoretical approaches. These include Kantian deontology, Mill's utilitarianism, Schopenhauer's ethics of empathy, and virtue ethics coming from Aristotle, Aquinas and the Confucian tradition.

Section 105 - MWF 11:00-11:50, MR. VELIMIR STOJKOVSKI
SEE SECTION 104 ABOVE.

Section 106 - MWF 12:00-12:50, MR. WALTER ISAAC

This course introduces students to the critical thought of moral reasoning. In it, we will examine what various Western philosophers have written about ethical behavior. Emphasis will be placed on problem solving and the appreciation of diverse perspectives in the resolution of ethical dilemmas. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate a familiarity with moral reasoning in their analysis of cultural phenomena.

REQUIRED READING: THE ELEMENTS OF MORAL PHILOSOPHY, James Rachels and Stuart Rachels, 7th ed.


Section 107 - MWF 1:00-1:50, MR. WALTER ISAAC

This course introduces students to the critical thought of moral reasoning. In it, we will examine what various Western philosophers have written about ethical behavior. Emphasis will be placed on problem solving and the appreciation of diverse perspectives in the resolution of ethical dilemmas. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate a familiarity with moral reasoning in their analysis of cultural phenomena.

REQUIRED READING: THE ELEMENTS OF MORAL PHILOSOPHY, James Rachels and Stuart Rachels, 7th ed.

Section 108 - MWF 1:00-1:50, MR. STEPHEN PLECNIK

PHIL 2310 – Theory of Ethics

Section 108 -- MWF 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM, Mr. Stephen Plecnik
Section 701 -- MW 5:00 PM - 6:15 PM, Mr. Stephen Plecnik

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course will serve two major and interrelated purposes. First, it will introduce students to some of the most commonly expounded moral theories: simple (ethical) subjectivism, emotivism, divine command theory, natural law theory, ethical egoism, social contract theory, utilitarianism, deontology, care ethics, and virtue ethics. Special emphasis will be placed on virtue ethics and the intellectual tradition that focuses on the contemplation of the Good. Second, it will examine the nature of human happiness within the context of the above mentioned moral theories, but especially within utilitarianism, deontology, and virtue ethics. Other topics to be covered will include the following: the very important distinction between cognitivist and non-cognitivist theories, cultural relativism, the relationship between morality and religion, the prisoner's dilemma, and the adequacy of general ethical theories.

REQUIRED TEXTS
Rachels, Stuart, The Elements of Moral Philosophy (7th ed.)
Pieper, Josef, Happiness and Contemplation

REQUIREMENTS
Three exams, one 5-6 page paper, and daily readings.

Section 109 - MW 2:00-3:15, DR. GRANT SILVA

Course Description, Grant J. Silva, PHIL 2310

This course serves as an introduction to ethical theory. It is about the moral aspects of our relations with others and what we owe ourselves. The philosophical aim is for students to understand the intellectual basis of their own moral opinions and values and learn how to defend and criticize them, as well as how to analyze and criticize opposing opinions and values. This process of analysis and criticism may lead to changes in moral views, or strengthen those already held. The source material consists of philosophical writings and literary excerpts (as examples). The topics include moral theory, or the nature and purpose of morality, and three philosophical moral systems: Utilitarianism, Deontology and Virtue Ethics. We will also explore the various “threats” to ethical discussions, i.e. egoism, relativism, determinism, lack of absolutes, appeals to religion, false consciousness, etc., and several applied ethical questions: abortion, euthanasia, war, the death penalty, the ethics of immigration, sexism and racism (among others).

Participation/attendance, several short essays as well as multiple-choice and short answer tests/quizzes will determine students’ grades.
Section 110 - MW 2:00-3:15, MR. J TYLER FRIEDMAN

Tyler Friedman

Course Description:
This course is an examination of the major ethical theories in western philosophy. We will work through relativism (James Rachels), Utilitarianism (John Stuart Mill), deontology (Immanuel Kant), virtue ethics (Aristotle), natural law (Thomas Aquinas), and feminist ethics of care (Nel Noddings/Eva Kittay/Claudia Card). By critically analyzing these texts we will not only gain an appreciation for the various ways that people have sought to impose the philosophically-problematic ‘ought’ on themselves and others, but we will also seek to understand how to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of an ethical system.

Course Requirements:
Students will be expected to have read the assigned material before each class and to arrive ready and willing to participate in class discussion. Additionally, students will keep a journal of reflections that will be periodically collected and graded. In-class essays will be the primary means of testing students’ grasp of the material.

Required Texts:
4) Throughout the semester additional articles will be assigned and will be available on D2L.

Section 111 - MW 3:30-4:45, MR. J TYLER FRIEDMAN

SEE SECTION 110 ABOVE.
Course Outline
In this course we will critically examine a selection of classic texts in the history of moral philosophy which have been foundational in defining some prominent ethical positions in contemporary philosophical discussion (virtue ethics, utilitarianism, consequentialism, moral relativism, egoism, and expressivism).

We will trace the development of moral theory from classical times (Aristotle, Epictetus), medieval theological works (Aquinas), through the Enlightenment (Kant, Hume) and 19th Century (Mill, Nietzsche), to contemporary feminist and non-Western approaches to morality. Questions about the nature and origins of morality, its role in human flourishing, in guiding and constraining thought and action, and its social significance will be addressed. Theoretical considerations will ground our approach, but the application of the study of ethics to practical moral problems and to contemporary life will figure prominently.

Course Objectives
This is an introductory survey 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 ethics and the contemporary relevance of classic texts.
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.

Readings & Assignments
Electronic copies of all readings will be provided at the beginning of the semester. No textbook purchase required.

Assessment will involve an in-class midterm written examination, one final critical essay, and a participation grade based on attendance, class discussion, and quiz answers.
Section 113 - TTH 8:00-9:15, DR. BRONWYN FINNIGAN

PHIL2310: Theory of Ethics
Fall Term 2013
Section 113: TTH 8 - 9.15am

Instructor: Dr Bronwyn Finnigan
Office: Coughlin Hall 136
Office Hours: Tuesday 9.30 - 12.30
Email: bronwyn.finnigan@marquette.edu
Telephone: 414-288-7232

Description:
The philosophical study of ethics provides theoretical frameworks for thinking about questions such as "What makes an action right or wrong?" and "What kind of person should I try to be?" In this course you will be introduced to three influential normative ethical theories (Consequentialism, Deontology and Virtue Ethics), with a particular focus on their traditional formulations in the words of J.S. Mill (Utilitarianism) Immanuel Kant (Groundwork of a Metaphysics of Morals) and Aristotle (Nicomachean Ethics). We will explore and evaluate how these theories may help resolve particular moral controversies in Practical/Applied Ethics: such as our treatment of animals. We will evaluate the plausibility of these theories in light of one of the most difficult meta-ethical questions: i.e. whether moral values are objective, subjective or culturally relative. And we will consider how these theories might intersect with non-traditional approaches to ethics: such as Buddhist ethics and Aquinas’ Christian engagement with Aristotle.

Required Texts:
(3) Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics, Hackett (1999)

Recommended Texts:
(4) Piers Benn, Ethics, Routledge (1998)

Section 114 - TTH 8:00-9:15, CANCELED

Section 114 - TTH 8:00-9:15, CANCELED
Section 115 - TTH 9:30-10:45, MS. JENNIFER SOERENSEN

PHIL 2310 – Theory of Ethics
Sections 115, 117
Instructor: Jennifer Soerensen

Course Description:
What does it mean to live an ethical life? What constitutes a good action? What does it mean to have an excellent character? What does moral reflection have to do with moral action? Why be ethical in the first place? It is the aim of this course to reflect deeply on these big questions, alongside studying the influential voices of Western philosophy. Through close readings, writing exercises, and lively conversation, students will consider, assess, and critique ethical relativism, Mill’s utilitarianism, Kant’s deontology, Aristotle’s virtue ethics, feminist ethics, and existentialist ethics. Students will acquire the necessary categories and criticism strategies to begin to formulate their own ethical views, engage in thoughtful and charitable ethical discourse with others, and practically apply these views to the ethical issues they face in their private lives, as well as to the contemporary issues they witness in the global community.

Primary readings:
Selected readings from Plato (handout)
Aristotle’s Nicomachean Ethics
John Stuart Mill’s Utilitarianism
Immanuel Kant’s Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals
Selected feminist readings (handout)
Selected existentialist readings from Soren Kierkegaard, Friedrich Nietzsche, and Jean-Paul Sartre (handout)

Course Requirements:
20% - Class participation, including one Protokoll (short written presentation summarizing previous class) and in-class discussion/assignments/quizzes
25% each - Two 4-5 page papers
30% - Final Exam

Section 116 - TTH 11:00-12:15, 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 117 - TTH 11:00-12:15, MS. JENNIFER SOERENSEN

SEE SECTION 115 ABOVE.

Section 118 - TTH 12:30-1:45, DR. JAVIER IBÁÑEZ-NOÉ

SEE SECTION 116 ABOVE.

Section 119 - TTH 12:30-1:45, MS. ADRIANA KOWAL

Section 120 - TTH 2:00-3:15, 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, Rossian 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 121 - TTH 3:30-4:45, MR. SHAUN MILLER

Course Description

The main 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 then shift our focus to more holistic approaches to the problem where the focus is on the human person rather than abstract ethical systems. These will include classical virtue ethics, spiritual approaches to ethical reasoning and finally some non-Western ethical writings.

Required Texts

Aristotle - Nichomachean Ethics; Mill – Utilitarianism; Kant – Groundwork for the metaphysics of morals; Aquinas – Selections from the Summa Theologica; Dostoyevsky – Notes from Underground; Thich Nhat Hanh – Essential Writings; Alexander – Fr. Arseny

Course requirements

Class participation; Keeping a philosophical journal throughout the semester; 2 exams, final paper.

Section 122 - Type!

Section 701 - MW 5:00-6:15, MR. STEPHEN PLECNIK

SEE SECTION 108 ABOVE.

Section 702 - TTH 5:00-6:15, MR. SHAUN MILLER

SEE SECTION 121 ABOVE.

Section 901 - MW 2:00-3:15, DR.. KATHERINE RICKUS

SEE SECTION 112 ABOVE.

Section 902 - TTH 9:30-10:45, MR. EDWARD GOMEAU

This course is an introduction to moral philosophy, or, more broadly put, ethics. We will be examining classic and contemporary works dealing with central topics in ethics. The purpose of the class is to provide you with a survey of the major theoretical approaches to ethics in light of two perennial questions: (1) How should I live? And (2) What should I do? Most of our course will be taken up with consideration of the central historical and contemporary traditions in moral philosophy; namely, John Stuart Mill, Immanuel Kant, Aristotle, and feminist ethics. We will also look at some contemporary ethical problems in an effort to decide whether this branch of philosophy can, if fact, help give us any practical guidance toward answering the two questions above, or whether the complexity of our moral beliefs and practices means we are best advised to abandon ethical theorizing altogether. We will also consider, in conclusion, whether the moral theories we have studied can help us uncover objective moral truth.

PHIL 3370 - PHILOSOPHY OF ART.
(PREREQUISITE(S): Phil 1001; Sophomore Standing)
Section  101 - MW 3:30-4:45, DR. CURTIS CARTER

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course asks, how do diverse philosophical theories and cultural perspectives contribute to understanding of the arts? The course integrates readings, and experiential learning based on the student’s prior experiences, attendance at performances and museum visits, and class discussion with a view to developing understanding and appreciation of the fine arts (classical, modern and contemporary), and popular arts. Major topics selected from these issues: the concept of art, the art world, art criticism, experiencing art, art and social change (feminism, cultural diversity, postmodernism). Readings from ancient, modern, contemporary authors from Plato to Danto.

REQUIREMENTS:. Readings from assigned reading list; Participation in Class discussions. Attendance at performances (music, theater, dance), and Museum visits. Written research paper 15-20 pages, 1 page written responses to performances and museum visit; Mid term and final examination. Mandatory class attendance in accordance with university policy.

READINGS: Stephen Davies, THE PHILOSOPHY OF ART. Selections from S. Cahn and A. Meskin, AESTHETICS: ANTHOLOGY; Selected Readings from Raynor Library Class Reserves.

PHIL 3410 - METAPHYSICS
(PREREQUISITE(S): Phil 1001; Sophomore standing)
Section  101 - MWF 10:00-10:50, DR. CORINNE BLOCH-MULLIN

Metaphysics is the branch of philosophy that studies the fundamental nature of reality. It focuses on questions about the nature of the universe, the nature of human beings, and the nature of the interaction between the two. Among the topics we will explore are universals and particulars, the nature of causation, the nature of time, free will and personal identity. We will examine the ways in which classical and contemporary thinkers have approached these topics.

TEXTS: Kim/Korman/Sosa METAPHYSICS: AN ANTHOLOGY, 2nd edition. Additional readings will be uploaded to the course's website.

REQUIREMENTS: Grades will be based on two papers, active participation in class discussion, and weekly reading responses that will be posted to the course's website.

PHIL 3620 - MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHY
(PREREQUISITE(S): Phil 1001; Sophomore Standing)
Section  101 - MWF 9:00-9:50, DR. DAVID TWETTEN
PHIL 3630 — MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHY — Fall, 2013

Thinkers of the middle ages related the accomplishments of ancient philosophy to the religions of Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. As a result, they developed new conclusions of their own and widely expanded the range of philosophical problems. The course examines the great medieval thinkers within each of these three traditions: from Augustine, through Avicenna and Maimonides, to Aquinas, Duns Scotus, Ockham and Suárez. In addition to questions regarding human nature and ethics, we shall focus on the relation of faith and reason, the proof of God's existence, and the problems of creation and free will. A major theme will be the reliance of the great scholastics, the teachers of Descartes, upon the Islamic philosophers (translated into Latin in Spain and Italy), who, in turn, had inherited their philosophy from late Greek syntheses of Plato and Aristotle. Besides meeting the major medieval philosophers and their principal works, students will sharpen their critical abilities as they examine some of the greatest intellectual problems that humans have confronted.

Course Requirements: class participation, seminar presentation(s), two exams, paper.
PHIL 3660 - MARX AND MARXISM  
(PREREQUISITE(S): Phil 1001; Sophomore Standing)  
Section 101 - MW 3:30-4:45, DR. JAMES SOUTH

PHIL 3660: Marx and Marxism

An introduction to the thought of Karl Marx and the tradition of Western Marxism. The first half of the course will consist of an intensive reading of key Marx texts including (but not limited to) selections from The Paris Notebooks, The German Ideology, The Eighteenth Brumaire, Capital, The Civil War in France, and The Critique of the Gotha Program. The second half of the semester will study the trajectory of Marxism in the West with particular emphasis on Lukacs and Adorno. We will conclude the semester by working through a recent Marxist inspired work to see what relevance Marx may still have.

Requirements: Two semester exams (20% each) and a cumulative final exam (40%). In addition, frequent short writing assignments will be required. These, along with class participation will account for the remaining 20% of the grade.


PHIL 3710 - POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY  
(PREREQUISITE(S): Phil 1001; Sophomore Standing)  
Section 101 - MW 2:00-3:15, DR. OWEN GOLDIN

Goldin Fall 2013
Phil 3710 101 Political Philosophy

A philosophical inquiry into the nature of social and political life, through the study of historical and current texts. Topics discussed will include the relation between the individual and larger institutions such as the state, the nature of justice, the meaning of the individual as a social being, the nature and limits of political power, the meaning of political freedom, and the relation between political and religious authority.

Required Texts: Plato, Republic; St. Thomas Aquinas, On Kingship; Macchievelli, The Prince; Locke, Second Treatise on Government; Marx, Selected Writings, Rawls, A Theory of Justice; Nozick, Anarchy State, and Utopia. Other readings will be available online.

Grading will be on the basis of either two substantial papers (8 or more pages) or 5 2 ½ page writing assignments (your choice), a final exam, and class/D2L participation.
PHIL 3751 - PHILOSOPHY AND HISTORY OF CRIME AND PUNISHMENT  
(PREREQUISITE(S): Phil 1001; Sophomore Standing. Same as HIST 3751 and CRLS 3751. May be counted toward the core curriculum requirement in either Philosophy or Social-behavioral Science.)

Section 101 - TTH 9:30-10:45, MR. AGUST MAGNUSSON

Agust Magnusson

Course Description for Fall 2013

Phil 3751 – 101 & 102

The purpose of this class is to examine the nature of crime and punishment from both a philosophical as well as a historical perspective and to provide an interdisciplinary understanding of crime and punishment. We will examine major forms of punishment in the criminal justice system, including retribution, deterrence, and rehabilitation. Specific issues such as (but not limited to) the death penalty and "the war on drugs" will be examined along with their concomitant political and sociological factors.

Required texts:

Course requirements:
Participation: 20%, 3 exams (each worth 20%): 60%, Final paper: 20%

Section 102 - TTH 11:00-12:15, MR. AGUST MAGNUSSON

SEE SECTION 101 ABOVE.

PHIL 4320 - CONTEMPORARY ETHICAL PROBLEMS  
(PREREQUISITE(S): Phil 2310, Junior Standing)

Section 101 - TTH 10:00-11:15, CANCELED

Section 102 - TTH 2:00-3:15, FR. T MICHAEL MCNULTY, SJ

Starting from a general analysis of human rights, we will examine three contemporary public policy issues of immediate political relevance: 1) immigration; 2) torture; 3) the death penalty.

TEXTS:
Basic Rights: Subsistence, Affluence and U.S. Foreign Policy (2nd ed), by Henry Shue
American Immigration: A Very Short Introduction, by David A. Gerber (optional)
Debating the Ethics of Immigration: Is There a Right to Exclude, by Christopher Heath Wellman
Torture: A Collection, ed. Sanford Levinson
Torture and the Ticking Bomb, by Bob Brecher
Debating the Death Penalty: Should America Have Capital Punishment, ed. Bedau & Cassell

REQUIREMENTS:
In the course of the semester I will suggest three paper topics (1,000 -1,200 words), and these will be the sole basis for your grade. Regular class attendance and participation in discussion is expected. There will be no in-class exams.
Section 103  - TTH 3:30-4:45, DR. MICHAEL WREEN

A critical examination of selected valuational issues concerning death, killing, and the meaning of life. Topics covered will include the nature of death, survival of bodily death, The value of life, The badness of death, the morality of abortion, suicide, and eutenasia, and death and the meaning of life.


REQUIREMENTS: Two papers, many quizzes, and a final.

Section 104  - TTH 11:00-12:15, DR. STANLEY HARRISON

Contemporary Ethical Problems- Philosophy 4320
In our world we are confronted with serious problems which demand careful thought and decision-making if we are to be informed citizens seeking to live together harmoniously. In this course we will examine selected Life-and-Death Issues (e.g., abortion, euthanasia & physician asst. suicide; the death penalty), Liberty Issues (e.g., sexual morality and same-sex marriage, pornography, hate speech and censorship, drug control, addiction) and Global Issues (e.g., terrorism, torture, human rights, world hunger & poverty, economic justice, animals and our relation to them, the environment and global climate change. Arguments, pro and con, will be studied.


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

Section 101  - MWF 12:00-12:50, MR. DANIEL VECCHIO

Daniel J. Vecchio
PHIL 4330: Business Ethics
Section 101
Fall 2013

Course Description:

Is good business compatible with the moral life? Can corporations be moral agents? Do businesses have social responsibilities not just to stockholders, but also to stakeholders? This course introduces the student to fundamental theories of justice - commutative, distributive, and social - based on the consequentialist, deontological, and eudaimonistic moral theories in the Western philosophic tradition. Applications of these theories are made to cases concerning administrative law, product liability, affirmative action, environmental disasters, whistle blowing and others.

The required text for the course will be William H. Shaw and Vincent Barry’s Moral Issues in Business, 12th ed. Other readings will be provided by the professor.

The course requirements include active participation and attendance, two quizzes, two exams, a final paper with a related presentation.
Section 102 - TTH 12:30-1:45, 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 life. 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 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 2:00-3:15, DR. WILLIAM STARR

SEE SECTION 102 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. JENNIFER FENTON

COURSE: PHIL 4336 Applied Ethics for the Health Sciences
SECTIONS: 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106
SEMESTER: Fall 2013
INSTRUCTOR: Jennifer Lynn Kiefer Fenton

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 the professional phase of study, and to equip students with understanding of theoretical concepts in ethics as they apply to professional issues in the Health Sciences. Topics include: the dignity of life; codes of medical ethics; the nature of the patient-medical provider relationship; the determination of patient competence; critical patient care; justice in health care. Additional topics may include: billing ethics; healthcare in the context of pluralism; moral perception and sensitivity in administering care; realizing the dignity of patients through health care practices.

Required Text:
ISBN: 0130613479

Requirements:
5 Weekly Reading Responses; 1 Discussion-Based Presentation; 1 Quiz; 1 Take Home Exam

Section 102 - F 9:00-10:40, MS. JENNIFER FENTON

SEE SECTION 101 ABOVE.

Section 103 - F 11:00-12:40, MS. JENNIFER FENTON

SEE SECTION 101 ABOVE.

Section 104 - F 11:00-12:40, MS. JENNIFER FENTON

SEE SECTION 101 ABOVE.
Section 105 - F 1:00-2:40, MS. JENNIFER FENTON
SEE SECTION 101 ABOVE.

Section 106 - F 1:00-2:40, MS. JENNIFER FENTON
SEE SECTION 101 ABOVE.

Section 107 - T 2:00-3:40, MS. CHERYL ABBATE
Required Texts:
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.
Course Requirements:
10 points: Participation 25 points = Online discussion posts
20 points = Class presentation
20 Points= Take home midterm exam
25 points = Final Paper
Total possible points= 100

Section 108 - T 2:00-3:40, MS. CHERYL ABBATE
SEE SECTION 107 ABOVE.

Section 109 - TH 2:00-3:40, MR. EDWARD GOMEAU
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.

Text: Kuhse $ Singer, Bioethics: An Anthology (2nd Edition), Blackwell, 2006 ISBN 978-1-4051-2948-0. Other readings to be provided on D2L.

Requirements: Attendance/participation, online blog, presentation, quiz, take-home exam.
PHIL 4470 - PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE
(PREREQUISITE(S): Phil 1001; Sophomore Standing and two semesters of science)
Section 101 - TTH 9:30-10:45, DR. ANTHONY PERESSINI

In this course we will consider some of the philosophical issues (particularly the conceptual and methodological ones) associated with science, including the issues of what constitutes a scientific explanation and how it is that theories are confirmed by the activities of scientists. Special attention will be paid to the notion of reduction in science — especially science’s tendency to view everything as physical. We will critically examine the senses in which science is entitled to a claim of objectivity and the senses in which it is not. Finally we will take up the realism debate, which is the problem of whether the theoretical entities of scientific theories (electrons, genes, etc.) should be regarded as actually existing in same way that chairs and desks do.

TEXT: Robert Klee, INTRODUCTION TO THE PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE: CUTTING NATURE AT ITS SEAMS.

REQUIREMENTS: Weekly writing, and three mediums length papers (including perhaps two one hour tutorial sessions with the instructor)

PHIL 4540 - PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION
(PREREQUISITE(S): Phil 1001; Junior Standing. This course is equivalent to EDUC 4540.)
Section 101 - TTH 2:00-3:15, REV. JEFFREY LABELLE
This course provides a critical introduction to Latin American philosophy. We will cover a wide range essays and a few books from various philosophers and pensadores (and even a film or two). Sample questions include: What did the Aztecs mean when they understood “truth” as a form of rootedness? What was the ethical justification for the conquest of America? How does modernity (and perhaps even modern philosophy) depend upon coloniality? What is the nature of democracy in a region where nonwhites outnumber people of European descent? What is decolonial theory, as opposed to post-colonial? What is the nature of Hispanic identity in the United States?

Topics to be explored: (1) the philosophical tradition of the Aztec people i.e., the Nahuatl philosophical tradition; (2) the political and ethical writings of the colonial and nation-building era, i.e. the Iberian justification for conquest and responses; (3) the history of Latin American positivism (inspired by August Comte, Herbert Spencer and John Stuart Mill) and the various reactions to it (aesthetic, axiological, and ethical); (4) Contemporary liberation philosophy and de-colonial thought from Latin America and the Caribbean; (5) Hispanic philosophy in the United States (with a focus on Latina feminist philosophy, immigration and “ethno-race”). We will read one or two defining works and several shorter supplemental essays for each historical topic. Amidst establishing a solid grasp of the history of philosophy in Latin America, this course will entertain the possibility of a distinctive “Latin American philosophy,” i.e., a way of practicing philosophy that is specific to and rooted in the lived-reality of Latin American peoples. This inquiry is a meta-philosophical question about the practice of philosophy itself—can philosophy be particularized to and grounded in collective experience?

The aim of this course is to make you a better analytical writer and reader, as well as critical thinker. For graduate students, this course should prepare you to teach a similar class thus adding to your marketability. No knowledge of the Spanish language is necessary (but it can help); at times we will use Spanish terms for pedagogical purposes. Because of the need to review the anthropological records of indigenous peoples and the history of Latin America in general, this course will be more interdisciplinary and historical compared to other philosophy classes. There is also an underlying question concerning the nature of “Latin America” and the meaning of being “Latin American,” “Latina/o” and even “Caribbean,” both abroad and in the United States. This course is a research seminar. Student participation and attendance is mandatory (10%). I will assign two short papers addressing specific topics from the reading early on (2-3 pages each @ 30%), leading to an in-class presentation (20%) and final research paper (12-15 page for undergrads; 15-18 pgs. for graduate students) (40%).
PHIL 4960 - RESEARCH IN PHILOSOPHY
(PREREQUISITE(S): Junior Standing and Consent of Dept. Chair.)

Section 101 - TTH 12:30-1:45, DR. SEBASTIAN LUFT

Course Description: PHIL 4960 – Research in Philosophy – Fall 2013
Dr. Sebastian Luft

Description:

This is a seminar whose main focal result will be the producing of a substantive paper that can be used for several purposes, such as a writing sample for graduate school applications or for submission to conferences (or all of the above). We will begin the semester, however, with a core of initial readings focusing on doing research in philosophy (hands-on) and the discussion of some broader philosophical reflections on the nature of the profession. Along the way, we will familiarize ourselves with research techniques typical for this kind of work in scholarly research. Some of the things we will be discussing are the search for literature (i.e., the creation of a bibliography), scholarly writing (including correct referencing), the general habit of doing research and the type of attitude and work ethic that is going to be required of you should you decide to pursue a graduate school career (not only in philosophy). We will also discuss seemingly tangential things that are going to be significant part of a successful career in academia; for instance, the “climate” issue in graduate departments (regarding women and minorities) or the question of the importance and (un-)avoidability of rankings. Part of this seminar will consist in in-class visits from outside speakers. The latter half of the semester will consist, mainly, in regular one-on-one meetings with me honing your final research paper.

Reading:
Other reading TBA (to be made available via ARES or D2L).