

## GRADUATE COURSE OFFERING

PLEASE NOTE: ALL COURSES ARE ONLINE UNLESS SPECIFIED "IN-PERSON"

- PHIL 6030: Topics in Ancient Philosophy** **TR 12:45-2:00, Synchronous** **Tim O'Keefe**  
*Hedonists, Skeptics, and Sophists.* This course will examine what ancient hedonists (such as Epicurus and the Cyrenaics), skeptics, and sophists say about what happiness (or well-being) is and how to attain it. In contrast to Plato, Aristotle, and the Stoics, these philosophers either believe that the world has no purpose or plan, or that we cannot discover such a purpose or plan, if one exists. And so, they try to ground ethics in human preferences and desires, and they encounter a similar set of issues when trying to account for the places of friendship, knowledge, justice, and religion in ethics.
- PHIL 6075: Topics in 19th Century Philosophy** **TR 9:30-10:45, Synchronous** **Sebastian Rand**  
*Fragmentation and Beauty: Romantic and Idealist Aesthetics.* What is the relation between beauty and truth? Does either on its own, or do both together, make up a unity? Or is modern life lived only among their shattered, jagged ruins? We will think about these and other questions while reading a selection of works in classical (e.g., Lessing, Kant, Schiller) and Romantic (e.g., Schlegel, Novalis) aesthetics, a chunk of Hegel's *Lectures on Fine Art*, and a few important later texts (e.g., Benjamin, Adorno) drawing on these traditions. Students should have previous coursework in the history of philosophy, aesthetic theory, literary theory, or related fields.
- PHIL 6300: Metaphysics** **N/A, Asynchronous** **Stephen Jacobson**  
 The aim of this course is to read, write, and think intensively about a variety of issues in metaphysics, such as the existence of God, personal identity, naturalism versus non-naturalism, existence and being, *de re* and *de dicto* necessity, possible worlds, natural kinds, realism and anti-realism, among others. Special attention will be given to the bearing of issues about language on issues in metaphysics.
- PHIL 6340: Philosophy and Cognitive Science** **MW 7:15-8:30, Synchronous** **Neil Van Leeuwen**  
 How is information organized in the mind/brain? This course explores the idea of modularity, which holds that the mind/brain is organized into specialized systems, each with different content domains and processing. Some hold, for example, that the senses--hearing, vision, etc.--involve separate modules, as Jerry Fodor argues in *The Modularity of Mind*. But other potential examples would be the various intuitive systems in the mind/brain that process other sorts of information: intuitive physics, intuitive biology, and intuitive psychology. Thus, the goals of the course are to understand modularity, to explore its theoretical applications, and to evaluate those applications.
- PHIL 6500: Symbolic Logic** **MW 11:00-12:15, Synchronous** **Ed Cox**  
 This course will cover concepts and methods of contemporary formal logic. It will emphasize predicate logic, both semantic methods and derivations, along with some basic metatheory and an introduction to modal logic.
- PHIL 6820: Philosophy Of Law** **TR 11:00-12:15, Synchronous** **Andrew J Cohen**  
 We will begin this course by briefly considering the nature of law (what it is and its relation to morality). We will then turn to the broad normative question: what are the proper roles and aims of a legal system and law? This will be followed by discussion of criminal and tort law and some challenges to law. Next, we will look at some classic texts regarding the appropriate limits of legal interference with individuals. Finally, we will conclude the semester with discussion of some issues regarding free speech law.
- PHIL 6860: Feminist Philosophy** **N/A, Asynchronous** **Christie Hartley**  
 Feminists claim that women are oppressed and that they face unjust barriers to equality. This course is a philosophical examination of topics related to sex, gender, and feminism, such as the nature of oppression, gender, sexism, misogyny, conceptions of feminism, marriage, and the gendered division of labor.
- PHIL 8060: Seminar: 17th-18th Century Philosophy** **W 12:30-3:00, Synchronous** **Eric Wilson**  
*Hume's Moral Philosophy.* This seminar, as the title slyly suggests, is about Hume's moral philosophy. Our focus will be on Hume's attempt to locate the foundations of morality in human nature. Topics of investigation include: the nature of the passions and their role in morality and social inter-action, sympathy, motivation, moral judgment, and virtue. The main texts will be Hume's *Treatise of Human Nature* and his later *Inquiry concerning the Principles of Morals*.
- PHIL 8330: Seminar in Philosophy of Mind** **THURS 4:30-7:00, In-person** **Eddy Nahmias**  
*Free Will, Responsibility, and Punishment.* What is required to be a free agent who is morally responsible for her actions and could deserve to be punished for them? Does determinism, indeterminism, or physicalism threaten free will or responsibility? Are they threatened by discoveries from the modern sciences of the mind, such as psychology or neuroscience? We will discuss various theories of free will and responsible agency. We will conclude by considering how debates about free will inform justifications for punishment.
- PHIL 8700: Seminar in Ethics** **F 9:30-12:00, Synchronous** **Andrew I Cohen**  
*Virtue signaling and social punishment.* This seminar will explore some recent scholarship about the ethics of commendation, shaming, and (dis)association. Recent social media pile-ons have ruined people's lives. We will reflect on the ethics of backlash, which includes informal social reprisals that we might call "social punishment." Seminar themes might include: the ethics of signaling/acting on our (dis)approval of others' conduct, reflections on the structure/agency of punishment, disgust and related reactive attitudes, boycotts, self-punishment, and complicity. Authors might include: Martha Nussbaum, Linda Radzik, George Sher, Justin Tosi and Brandon Warmke.
- PHIL 8810: Seminar in Social and Political Philosophy** **TUES 4:30-7:00, In-person** **S. M. Love**  
*Capitalism and Freedom.* Does capitalism make us free? Different accounts of freedom and understandings of capitalism will yield widely varying answers to this question. In the first unit of this course, we will investigate the nature of political freedom, exploring conceptions of freedom as negative liberty, positive liberty, non-domination, and independence. From there, we will focus on arguments that respecting freedom requires a capitalist economic system. We will then consider three different critiques of capitalism offered by Marx along with the different conceptions of freedom that each critique relies on. Finally, we will end by considering alternatives to capitalism and whether those alternative systems can be compatible with freedom.