

GRADUATE COURSE OFFERING

PHIL 6020: Aristotle

TR 2:15-3:00

Tim O'Keefe

In this course, we will examine various parts of the philosophy of Aristotle. We will spend the most time with the *Nicomachean Ethics*, which we will look at over the course of the whole semester. Aristotle's ethics cannot be understood in isolation, however. We will use the ethics as a jumping off-place to look at other areas of his philosophy, including, but probably not limited to: his notion of substance; the four causes (including the 'final' cause); his view on the truth-value of statements concerning future contingents; his philosophy of mind, and his politics.

PHIL 6085: Topics: History of Philosophy

MW 12:30-1:45

Greg Moore

What is "history"? Do historical events unfold according to a pattern or purpose? By what means do we understand and represent the past? How does historical inquiry relate to a particular society and culture? Is history a science or an art? Such questions have been asked time and again since the Enlightenment, and this course will explore the most important arguments and issues in the philosophy of history. Major figures studied will include: Kant, Herder, Hegel, Nietzsche, Oakeshott, Foucault, and others.

PHIL 6085/6890: Topics: History of Philosophy/Social and Political Philosophy MW 2:00-3:15 Sandy Dwyer

Public vs. Private Realms. This course begins with philosopher Hannah Arendt's distinction between public and private, including identifying the scope and location of the contemporary social realm. The public/private distinction has been called untenable by some, so we will discuss whether there is a viable way to draw these distinctions today (also considering whether social media entails loss of privacy and a vibrant public realm). We begin with *The Human Condition* and move to contemporary readings, which are open to your suggestions. Send me ideas.

PHIL 6300: Metaphysics

MW 9:30-10:45

Steve Jacobson

The topics typically include: naturalism versus non-naturalism, existence and being, de re and de dicto necessity, natural kinds, moral realism and anti-realism, among others. Special attention will be given to the bearing of issues about language on issues in metaphysics.

PHIL 6500: Symbolic Logic

MW 11:00-12:15

Edward Cox

This course will cover methods and theory of contemporary formal logic. This includes the following: (1) Symbolization of ordinary English into symbolic notation, for both sentential and predicate logic; (2) Semantics of sentential and predicate logic: truth value assignments and truth tables and truth trees for sentential logic, and interpretations and truth trees for predicate logic; (3) Methods of proof for sentential and predicate logic, and (4) Basic metatheory of sentential and predicate logic: soundness and completeness of the truth tree method and derivation systems.

PHIL 6800: Social and Political Philosophy

TR 12:45-2:00

Andrew J. Cohen

Justice, Family, Inequality. This class will begin with general discussion about the nature of justice and the various factors that are relevant to achieving justice. We will then move on to discuss the relationship between justice and the family—including how the nature of the contemporary family affects the possibility of achieving justice in society. We will end with extensive discussion of inequality, including the role of our market system in creating and sustaining inequality.

PHIL 6820: Philosophy Of Law

MW 3:30-4:45

S. M. Love

In this course, we will consider a number of questions at the intersection of philosophy and law. Beyond the question of what law itself is, we will consider philosophical issues in specific areas of law. Among others, we will look philosophically at issues like affirmative action, abortion, contracts, and environmental justice, considering each issue from multiple perspectives.

PHIL 6860: Feminist Philosophy

MW 12:30-1:45

Christie Hartley

Gender identity, gender roles, and gender norms vary among cultures and over time. But gender persists and affects all aspects of our lives, including the labor market and our most intimate relations. Feminists claim that women are oppressed and that they face unjust barriers to equality. This course is a philosophical examination of topics concerning sex, gender, and feminism. This semester the topics covered include the nature of oppression and gender, conceptions of feminism and sex equality, and gender justice and liberal theory.

PHIL 8075: Seminar: 19th Century Philosophy**R 4:30-7:00****Jessica Berry**

Nietzsche's Middle Period. This course will examine the works of Nietzsche's unjustly neglected "middle period" (1878–82): *Human, All Too Human* (1878), which Nietzsche later described as "the monument of a crisis" both personal and intellectual; *Daybreak* (1881), which laid the groundwork for his devastating critique of all morality; and *Gay Science* (1882), which his publisher (!) cheekily advertised as completing a trilogy on "a new image and ideal of the free spirit." There's little truth in advertising, of course, but that will be no obstacle to our discovering in these works a profoundly important thinker who knows how to philosophize cheerfully.

PHIL 8300: Seminar in Metaphysics**T 9:30-12:00****Dan Weiskopf**

Art, it's widely believed, ended sometime in the mid-20th century. Since then, many artistic practices have taken the form of "anti-art". From Dada onwards, anti-art thrives on negation, actively resists classification, and stubbornly eludes judgment. It has flourished in the aftermath of modernism, as traditional distinctions between arts such as painting, sculpture, and photography have collapsed, while new and hybrid artforms (installation, video, digital and Internet art) have proliferated. In this seminar, we will investigate the origins of anti-art, consider how it forces us to rethink our conceptions of objecthood, materiality, and medium, and ask whether there are cogent critical standards by which it might be assessed.

PHIL 8340: Seminar in Philosophy and Cognitive Science**T 4:30-7:00****Neil Van Leeuwen**

Belief and Ideology. This seminar combines philosophy of mind, cognitive science of religion, and political science research on belief. The focus will be what belief is--or, if it is several things, what those different kinds of "belief" are. We'll address how to distinguish beliefs from other cognitive attitudes, like imaginings, hypotheses, suppositions, etc. We'll explore empirical work in psychology of religion (what is religious "belief"?) and political science on ideological cognition (how can we explain "beliefs" of climate change deniers?). And we'll finish with the topic in social epistemology and psychology of what an "authority" is (as someone who transmits beliefs).

PHIL 8700: Seminar in Ethics**F 9:30-12:00****Andrew I. Cohen**

Moral Repair. How ought histories of injustice affect our understandings of what we owe to and may claim of each other? This seminar will consider recent scholarship about the justification, scope, and some applications of burdens of repair for wrongdoing. Topics may include ideal vs. nonideal theory, apologies, distributive vs. reparative justice, nonidentity problems, moral injury, collective agency and responsibility, and reparations for slavery and colonialism.

PHIL 8810: Seminar in Social and Political Philosophy**T 2:45-5:00****Bill Edmundson**

Theories of Justice. This seminar explores the relationship between justice and democracy. Is a just, but undemocratic society possible? Conversely, is a democratic society necessarily just? Democracy has been variously defined, and has both been extolled as an ideal and deplored as inevitably a mere prelude to tyranny. Even those who esteem democracy differ about what makes it the good thing that it is. Some say it is its fairness; others that it best reveals some important truth.

PHIL 8855: Seminar in Political Theory**F 12:30-3:00****Peter Lindsay**

Contemporary Political Theory. What do contemporary political philosophers think about? How is political philosophy practiced today? What can political philosophers add to contemporary social science and humanities? What can they add to debates about politics (e.g., abortion, homelessness, income distribution)? The object of this seminar is to provide answers to questions such as these, and, in the process, to give students a good understanding of the current debates in political philosophy. Readings will be drawn from the most thought provoking journal articles of the past two to three years. An effort will be made to accommodate the particular interests of the students involved.