

PHIL2540 A: Personal Identity and the Self
Fall 2016
Syllabus

Instructor Info

Course instructor: Chris Genovesi

Office Location: Dunton Tower 2220

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Office Hours: Fridays 10:00—11:00 AM or by appointment

Course information

Date and time: Fall 2016, Wednesdays and Fridays, 8:35AM-9:55AM

Course title: Personal Identity and the Self (PHIL2540 Section A)

Room: TB 210

Department: Philosophy

Course Website:

CULearn will be used for access to the course syllabus, grades, announcements, and discussions boards. It is recommended that students regularly check for course updates and other information pertaining to the course.

Course Description:

This course serves as an introduction to two areas of personal identity: The first part of this course provides an historical review of the different theories of personal identity, and what the 'self' consists of. At this stage, we will be addressing fundamental issues such as: Do we persist as one and the same person over time? If so, what allows for this persistence—it is our minds, our brains, our bodies, or our life stories? This includes attributions of status and recognition to individual and group identities within complex social structures and institutions. In so doing, we will also consider ethical and moral implications bound to the various conceptions of personal identity that we are surveying. The second part of this course will focus on the philosophy of mind and mental illness (i.e., a small subfield of the philosophy of psychiatry) and the role that personal identity plays in various mental disorders. Such questions we will address is whether someone with a dissociative identity disorder (e.g., Multiple Personalities) can be said to have multiple selves, or is a 'fractured' self.

Course Requirements

You are required to attend class. Discussion is an important part of the coursework and you will need to be there to participate. The posted slides will serve as a springboard for discussion and a way of keeping us focused on the issues presented in the lecture. They are not exhaustive of the material discussed in class. You are expected to do all of the assigned readings. You are expected to complete all of the course assignments on time unless you have a legitimate reason for handing an assignment in late. Late assignments will receive 5% deduction per day calendar day. If you are having any difficulties with coursework and content, I strongly encourage you to attend my office hours or setup and appointment with me. You are also given the opportunity to discuss course material with your peers using the discussion board on CULearn. During our lectures, I kindly ask that you are not disruptive. This means that if you are using a laptop, please try and find a place near the back of the classroom. Cell phone use is not allowed during class.

Course Texts

Made available at Haven Bookstore.

1. Shoemaker, David. *Personal Identity and Ethics: A Brief Introduction*. Peterborough: Broadview Press, 2009.
2. Perry, John (ed). *Personal Identity*. London: University of California Press, 1975.
3. Graham, George. *The Disordered Mind: An Introduction to Philosophy of Mind and Mental Illness* (2nd edition). New York: Routledge University Press, 2013.

*All other readings are available to download via the library's website.

Disclaimer: I reserve the right to change the readings or topics assigned. Changes will not add substantial workload.

Evaluation

Grades will be based on two short quizzes, a midterm examination, and a final take-home exam.

QUIZ #1

Value: 20%

Date: October 5th, 2016

Description: This quiz will test students on the material from lectures and readings from the beginning of class. It will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions

MIDTERM EXAMINATION

Value: 30%

Date: October 21st, 2016

QUIZ #2

Value: 20%

Date: November 16th, 2016

Description: This quiz will test students on course material from the lectures and reading following the midterm.

FINAL ASSIGNMENT

Value: 30%

Date Assigned: December 7th, 2016

Due Date: Last day of class (TBA)

Format: 5-7 pages, double-spaced, Times New Roman 12pt Font (MLA)

Description: The final assignment is a take-home exam. Students will be given the option to answer one of three questions. The assignment is both expository and critical. Students are expected to provide an outline of the issue(s) in a sufficient manner (4-6 pages), and then develop a critical and thoughtful review (1-3 pages).

Submission policy: Submit your essay to electronically on CULearn at 11:59 p.m. on the due date (TBA). Late penalties are 5% per calendar day late (i.e., 5% of your final assigned grade) unless you have reached a prior agreement with me. Points may also be deducted for spelling and grammar. Please edit your work before you submit it. Deferrals must be submitted to the registrar's office (see policies below).

Date	Topic	Reading
September 7 th , 2016 Part I	Syllabus overview Introduction to philosophy of personal identity	Perry, Introduction Shoemaker, Introduction
September 9 th , 2016	Locke on personal identity &	Lock, Of Identity and Diversity (Perry, Ch. 2 & 7) Shoemaker, Ch. 1
September 14 th , 2016	No Class	No readings
September 16 th , 2016	Personal identity, the soul and	Shoemaker, Ch. 1 Quinton, The Soul (Perry, Ch. 3)
September 21 st , 2016	Hume, Nagel, and skepticism regarding numerical unity of consciousness	Hume on identity (Perry, Ch. 10-12), Hume Selection from Book I, Part IV, Section VI of A <i>Treatise of Human Nature</i> : http://www.anselm.edu/homepage/dbanach/pi.htm Nagel Brain Bisection (Perry, Ch. 15)
September 23 th , 2016	Exploring the criteria for personal identity	Shoemaker, Ch. 2.
September 28 th , 2016	Alternative approaches to personal identity	Shoemaker, Ch. 3 Paul Ricoeur, <i>Narrative Identity</i>
September 30 th , 2016	Alternative approaches to personal identity	"..."
October 5 th , 2016	Quiz #1	No readings
October 7 th , 2016	No Class	No readings
October 12 th , 2016	Personal identity and other-regarding ethics	Shoemaker, Ch. 4-5
October 14 th , 2016	Personal identity and other-regarding ethics	Shoemaker, Ch. 6-7
October 19 th , 2016	Movie and Discussion	No readings
October 21 st , 2016	Midterm Exam	No readings
November 2 nd , 2016	Introduction to identity and Recognition	<i>Kant and Hegel: A semantic sonata</i>
November 4 th , 2016	Identity and recognition	Robert B. Brandom, <i>The structure of desire and recognition.</i>
November 9 th , 2016	Identity and recognition	Axel Honneth, <i>Integrity and Disrespect</i>

November 2016	11 th ,	Identity and recognition	"..."
November 2016	16 th ,	Quiz #2	No readings
November 2016	18 th ,	Movie and discussion	No readings
November 2016	23 rd ,	Introduction to identity and mental disorder	Graham, Ch. 1
November 2016	25 th ,	Identity and mental disorder	Graham, Ch. 2, 3, 4
November 2016	30 th ,	Identity and mental disorder	Graham, Ch. 5, 6, 7
December 2016	2 nd ,	Identity and mental disorder	Graham, Ch. 8 & 9
December 2016	7 th ,	Final is handed out: Writing Tutorial	No readings

Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies (2016-17)

Assignments:

Unless specifically told otherwise by their instructors, students:

- must not use a plastic or cardboard cover or paper clips
- must staple the paper (there is a stapler on the essay box)
- must include the following:
 - student name
 - student number
 - course number and section
 - instructor's name
- No assignments will be accepted after the last day for handing in term work – see dates in next column.
- Assignments handed in through the essay box (just inside the glass doors, Paterson Hall, Floor 3A) must be dropped into the box by **4:15** on a regular business day in order to be date-stamped with that day's date. Assignments handed in after 4:15 or on a non-business day will be stamped as having been handed in on the next business day.
- Students are required to keep copies of their assignments. If your paper is lost at any point, you will be considered not to have submitted it if you cannot produce a copy immediately on request.

Deferrals for Term Work:

If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a final assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply for a deferral of examination/assignment. For deferred examinations, you must apply within 5 working days after the scheduled date of your exam. To apply for deferral of a final assignment, you must apply within 5 working days of the last scheduled day of classes. Visit the Registrar's Office for more information.

Plagiarism:

It is the responsibility of each student to understand the meaning of 'plagiarism' as defined in the Undergraduate or Graduate Calendars, and to avoid both committing plagiarism and aiding or abetting plagiarism by other students. (Undergraduate Calendar Academic Regulations, section 14.3, or <http://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/acadregsuniv14/>)

Academic Accommodation:

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to your professor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Religious obligation: write to your professor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The **Paul Menton Centre** for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). Requests made within two weeks will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. After requesting

accommodation from PMC, meet with your professor to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*) at <http://www2.carleton.ca/pmc/new-and-current-students/dates-and-deadlines/>

You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Important Dates:

Sept. 7	Classes start.
Sept. 20	Last day for registration and course changes in Fall and Fall/Winter courses.
Sept. 30	Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from Fall term or two-term courses.
Oct. 10	Thanksgiving Day – University closed.
Oct. 24-28	Fall Break – no classes.
Nov. 25	Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000-level before the Final Examination period.
Dec. 9	Last day of classes, Fall term. Classes follow a Monday schedule.
Dec. 9	Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for Fall term courses.
Dec. 9	Last day to withdraw from Fall term courses (academic purposes only).
Dec. 10-22	Final examinations for Fall courses, mid-terms for Fall/Winter courses. Exams are normally held all seven days of the week.
Dec. 22	Take-home exams are due.
Jan. 5	Winter term classes begin.
Jan. 18	Last day for registration and course changes in Winter term classes.
Jan. 31	Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from winter courses or winter portion of two-term courses.
Feb. 20	Family Day – University closed.
Feb. 20-24	Winter Break, no classes.
Mar. 24	Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000-level before the Final Examination period.
Apr. 7	Last day of Fall/Winter and Winter term classes. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for term work for Fall/Winter and Winter term courses.
Apr. 7	Last day to withdraw from Fall/Winter and Winter term courses (academic purposes only).
Apr. 10-25	Final Examinations. Exams are normally held all seven days of the week.
Apr. 14	Good Friday – University closed.
Apr. 25	Take-home exams are due.

Addresses:

Department of Philosophy:	3A35 Paterson Hall www.carleton.ca/philosophy 520-2110
Registrar's Office:	300 Tory www.carleton.ca/registrar 520-3500
Student Academic Success Centre:	302 Tory www.carleton.ca/sasc 520-7850
Writing Tutorial Service:	4 th Floor, Library http://www1.carleton.ca/sasc/writing-tutorial-service/ 520-6632
MacOdrum Library	http://www.library.carleton.ca/ 520-2735