

LOOKING AT PHILOSOPHY - FYSM 1208 – Fall 2018 & Winter 2019

Lectures: Monday and Wednesday: 8:30am – 10:00am
Venue: TBA
Instructor: Dr. Lucas Jurkovic
Office: TBA
Email: lucas.jurkovic@carleton.ca
Office Hours: TBA
Course Website: Through registration, you will get access to the cuLearn site for this course. This system will be used for access to announcements and grades.

Course Description

This course will introduce you to philosophy. We will discuss (1) the origins of western philosophy in Ancient Greece, (2) the nature of knowledge, (3) the relationship between the mind and the body, (4) whether humans possess free will, (5) prominent ethical theories (6) the relationship between philosophy and psychology (7) the application of philosophical thinking to technological issues (e.g. artificial intelligence) (8) the application of philosophical thinking to contemporary ethical issues (e.g. climate change).

Course Materials

Most readings will be freely available on Ares, the digital reserve system. You can access it through this link: <https://libares01.carleton.ca> (there will also be a link on cuLearn that directs you to Ares). Many of the readings are freely available on the internet. Some additional material will be distributed either in class or through culearn.

Course Requirements

Because this is a seminar, class discussion comprises an important part of the course work. Attendance will not directly factor into your grade. However, a portion of the grade will be based on class participation and requires that you are present in class and prepared to make contributions to our discussions. The full evaluation breakdown:

| <u>Evaluation</u> | <u>Due Date</u> | <u>Worth</u> | <u>Notes</u> |
|-------------------|--|--------------------------|--|
| Participation | ongoing | 20% | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Measures the quantity and quality of your contributions to class discussion |
| Commentary | Sep. 28 | 5% | <ul style="list-style-type: none">This is a short paper (500-1000 words)Topics will be providedYou can also choose your own topic, but you must clear it with me |
| Mid-term (x 2) | Nov. 2 Feb. 13 | 2 <u>x 10%</u> 20% | <ul style="list-style-type: none">A few short answer, and 1 long answer questionsYou will be provided the long answer question beforehand |
| Presentation | Nov/Dec or March (See Syllabus) | 10% | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Approximately 10 minutesOn a philosophical subject of your choicePowerpoint (or other audiovisuals) optional |
| Essay | March 29 | 20% | <ul style="list-style-type: none">1500 – 2500 words on a philosophical topic of your choiceMust present an argument |
| Final Exam | T.B.D | 25% | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Short and long answer questionsYou will be provided the long answer questions beforehand |

Course Schedule

| Date | Topic | Readings |
|---|---|---|
| Wed. Sep. 5 | Intro to Course | |
| Fri. Sep. 7 | Pre-Socratic Philosophers | * Some notes will be posted to CULearn * |
| Wed. Sep. 12 | | |
| Fri. Sep. 14 | Socrates | * Some notes will be posted to CULearn * |
| Wed. Sep. 19 | Plato | Selections from Plato's Dialogues |
| Fri. Sep. 21 | | |
| Wed. Sep. 26 | Aristotle | Selections from Aristotle |
| Fri. Sep. 28 | | |
| Wed. Oct. 3 | Knowledge | René Descartes, Selections |
| Fri. Oct. 5 | | |
| Wed. Oct. 10 | The Mind – Body Problem | Thomas Nagel, “What is it Like to Be a Bat?” |
| Fri. Oct. 12 | | Frank Jackson, “Epiphenomenal Qualia” |
| Wed. Oct. 17 | | Patricia Churchland, “The Hornswoggle Problem” |
| Fri. Oct. 19 | | Daniel Dennett, “Explaining the “Magic” of Consciousness” |
| +=+=+=+=+= Fall Break - No Classes +=+=+=+=+= | | |
| Wed. Oct. 31 | Mind/body | Philip Robbins and Anthony I. Jack, “The Phenomenal Stance” |
| Fri. Nov. 2 | Midterm | |
| Wed. Nov. 7 | Free Will and Moral Responsibility | Joshua Greene and Jonathan Cohen, “For the law, neuroscience changes nothing and everything” |
| Fri. Nov. 9 | | Daniel Dennett, “My Brain Made Me Do It (when neuroscientists think they can do philosophy)” |
| Wed. Nov. 14 | | Daniel Wegner, “Self is Magic” |
| Fri. Nov. 16 | Ethical Theories | Immanuel Kant, Selections |
| Wed. Nov. 21 | | John Stuart Mill, Selections from “Utilitarianism” |
| Fri. Nov. 23 | | Elizabeth Anscombe, “Modern Moral Philosophy” |
| Wed. Nov. 28 | Presentations | |
| Fri. Nov. 30 | | |
| Wed. Dec. 5 | | |
| Fri. Dec. 7 | +=+=+=+= University Follows a Monday Schedule – No Class +=+=+=+= | |
| +=+=+=+= Holidays +=+=+=+= | | |
| Wed. Jan. 9 | Psychology & Philosophy | Philip Zimbardo interviewed by Tamler Sommers (from A Very Bad Wizard) |
| Fri. Jan. 11 | | Gilbert Harman, “Moral Philosophy Meets Social Psychology: Virtue Ethics and the Fundamental Attribution Error” |
| Wed. Jan. 16 | Empathy | Paul Bloom, “Against Empathy” |
| Fri. Jan. 18 | | Replies from Bloom's critics, and a response from Bloom |
| Wed. Jan. 23 | Logic and Language | Selections from Wittgenstein |
| Fri. Jan. 25 | | |
| Wed. Jan. 30 | Human Enhancement | Nicole Vincent, “Enhancing Responsibility” |
| Fri. Feb. 1 | | Nick Bostrom, “Why I Want to be a Post-Human when I Grow up” |
| Wed. Feb. 6 | Artificial Intelligence | John Searle, “Minds, Brains, and Programs” |
| Fri. Feb. 8 | | Nick Bostrom and Eliezer Yudkowsky, “Ethical Issues in Advanced Artificial Intelligence” |

| | | |
|---|----------------|--|
| Wed. Feb. 13 | Midterm #2 | |
| Fri. Feb. 15 | Essay Tutorial | |
| +=+=+=+=+= Winter Break – No Classes +=+=+=+=+= | | |
| Wed. Feb. 27 | Essay Workshop | |
| Fri. Mar. 1 | Presentations | |
| Wed. Mar. 6 | | |
| Fri. Mar. 8 | | |
| Wed. Mar. 13 | Animal Rights | Tom Regan, “The Case for Animal Rights” |
| Fri. Mar. 15 | International | Peter Singer, “Famine, Affluence, and Morality” |
| Wed. Mar. 20 | Inequality | John Arthur, “World Hunger and Moral Obligation: The Case Against Singer” |
| Fri. Mar. 22 | Ethics of War | Robert K. Fullinwider, “War and Innocence” |
| Wed. Mar. 27 | | Lawrence Alexander, “Self-Defense and the Killing of Noncombatants A Reply to Fullinwider” |
| Fri. Mar. 29 | Climate Change | Stephen M. Gardiner, “A Perfect Moral Storm: Climate Change, Intergenerational Ethics and the Problem of Moral Corruption” |
| Wed. Apr. 5 | | Shelley Kagan, “Do I Make a Difference?” |
| Fri. Apr. 7 | Exam Review | |

Course Policies:

- The topics we discuss, and/or the readings assigned may change
 - Students will be given an opportunity to provide input on any such changes
 - Any changes made to the course will not substantially alter the workload
- With medical documentation, any missed test or assignment can be replaced with a make-up test/assignment

Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies (Fall/Winter 2018-19)

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 on the first page: student name and number; course name and number; instructor's name.
- No assignments will be accepted after the last day for handing in term work – see dates below.
- 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.

Evaluation:

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Deferrals for Final Exams:

If you miss a final examination (formally scheduled or take-home) because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply for a deferral. You must apply within 3 working days after the scheduled date of your formally scheduled exam or within 3 working days after the due date of a take-home exam. Visit the Registrar's Office for more information:

<http://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/acadregsuniv2/#2.5>

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.

<https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>

Academic Accommodation:

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

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. carleton.ca/pmc

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/>

Survivors of Sexual Violence: as a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and is survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

Accommodation for Student Activities: Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor 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.

<https://carleton.ca/senate/wpcontent/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit:

students.carleton.ca/course-outline

Important Dates:

| | |
|------------|--|
| Sept. 5 | Classes start. |
| Sept. 18 | Last day for registration and course changes for fall term and fall/winter (two-term) courses. |
| Sept. 30 | Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from fall term or two-term courses. Withdrawals after this date will result in a permanent notation of WDN on the official transcript. |
| Oct. 8 | Statutory holiday. University closed. |
| Oct. 22-26 | Fall Break – no classes. |
| Nov. 23 | Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, before the official examination period. |
| Dec. 7 | Last day of fall term classes. Classes follow a Monday schedule. Last day for academic withdrawal from fall term courses. 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 a fall term course. |
| Dec. 9-21 | Final examinations for fall term courses and mid-term examinations in two-term courses. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week. |
| Dec. 21 | All take-home examinations are due. |
| Jan. 7 | Classes begin. |
| Jan. 18 | Last day for registration and course changes in the winter term. |
| Jan. 31 | Last day for a full fee adjustment when withdrawing from winter term courses or from the winter portion of two-term courses. Withdrawals after this date will result in a permanent notation of WDN on the official transcript. |
| Feb. 18 | Statutory holiday. University closed. |
| Feb. 18-22 | Winter Break – no classes. |
| Mar. 26 | Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in winter term or fall/winter courses before the official examination period. |
| Apr. 9 | Last day of two-term and winter term classes. Last day for academic withdrawal from fall/winter and winter courses. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for two-term and for winter term courses. |
| Apr. 12-27 | Final examinations for winter term and two-term courses. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week. |
| Apr. 19-21 | Statutory holiday. University closed. No examinations take place. |
| Apr. 27 | All take-home examinations are due on this day. |

Addresses:

Department of Philosophy: 3A35 Paterson Hall
www.carleton.ca/philosophy
520-2110

Registrar's Office: 300 Tory
www.carleton.ca/registrar
520-3500

Academic Advising Centre: 302 Tory
www.carleton.ca/academicadvising

520-7850
Writing Services: 4th Floor, Library
<http://www.carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/>

520-3822
MacOdrum Library <http://www.library.carleton.ca/>
520-2735