

PHIL 1000 A, Introductory Philosophy

Fall 2024

Method of delivery: combined (synchronous and asynchronous)

Note about the combined modality: There will not be any synchronous instructional time meaning that all the lectures will be pre-recorded and posted in due course (once a week). However, every week I will hold one-hour synchronous zoom sessions during the allotted time of the lectures (I'll hold it on Wednesdays from 1 to 2 pm) for students who have questions and/or would like to talk to me about the course material or anything else course related. In other words, these sessions will function as discussions and office hours of sorts, all in one. This will, hopefully, minimize the email traffic as well as the need to schedule individual one-on-one online meetings.

The synchronous component will also serve to schedule the course evaluations. In other words, the assignments, tests, midterms, etc. will be scheduled during the allotted time for this course. All evaluations will take place on-line. There will be nothing in-person happening in this course.

Professor: Iva Apostolova

Contact info: ivaapostolova@cunet.carleton.ca

TAs info: TBA

Required Course Materials: You do not have to purchase a textbook or course pack for this course. All the readings required for this course are available from free online sources (the list of all required texts follows below). The lectures will follow the selected original text by a given philosopher, and provide guidance as well as analysis of the respective texts.

This book might be helpful (no need to purchase it!): Norman Melchert, *The Great Conversation: A Historical Introduction to Philosophy*, Oxford University Press, 2007.

Objectives: The primary objective of this course is to introduce students to different philosophers and philosophical theories. The course will take a historical rather than thematic approach. Thus, we will start from antiquity and finish with 20th century philosophy. You will get introduced to different perspectives on the main questions in philosophy such as what is knowledge? what is being? what is good? etc. A secondary objective of the course is to introduce you to some basic aspects of expressing your views on such matters in a written form via philosophical essay which will be the final assignment for this course.

Course Evaluation:

There are two “in-class” midterms, each worth 30% of the final mark, which will be held synchronously during the allotted class time. In addition, there is one take-home final assignment in the form of a philosophical essay, worth 40% of the final mark. The “in-class” midterms and the final take-home assignment/essay consist of a certain number of questions (you will be able to choose from a number of questions for the in-class tests but not for the take-home assignments) to be answered. All assignment questions and/or instructions will be posted on Brightspace in due course. Midterm topics will be posted in advance on Brightspace.

Midterm 1 (live/synchronous), worth 30%: Wednesday, October 9th, 2024, 1.00 – 2.30 pm, on Brightspace

Midterm 2 (live/synchronous), worth 30%: Wednesday, November 13th, 2024. 1.00 – 2.30 pm, on Brightspace

Final take-home essay, worth 40%: due on the last day of examinations, December 21st, 2024.

All the assignments are based upon the material and discussions **covered in class**.

Note: There are no mock or make-up tests scheduled for this course. A make-up test or due date extension will be provided on a case-by-case basis. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the professor as soon as possible and make the necessary arrangements. All such arrangements must be made directly with the professor.

If you require a note taker, please contact PMC as soon as possible to be accommodated.

Note: Please note that the syllabus is subject to changes and modifications due to time constraints and in-class progress!

The standard time for returning marked tests/exams is two weeks from the date of the test/exam. However, in some cases, it may require more time. Announcements of any changes will be made in class or posted on the web-site of the course.

Neither the teaching assistants, nor the professor will weigh any of the tests/exams any differently than the value that has been originally assigned to them.

Border marks will not be ‘bumped up’. In other words, a 79 is a B+ and will not be ‘bumped up’ to an A-, unless the student has a good reason to contest his or her mark. ‘I studied really hard for this course’ or ‘I need an A- average’, or ‘I’m on academic probation and I really need to pass’ are not good reasons!

Statement on Plagiarism

It should be noted at the outset that it is the student's responsibility to abide by all academic rules, regulations, and policies. Carleton University's policy on plagiarism can be found [here](#).

The University Academic Integrity Policy defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one's own.” This includes reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source.

Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, artworks, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, material on the internet, content generated by artificial intelligence (AI) tools, and/or conversations.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, paraphrased material, algorithms, formulae, scientific or mathematical concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another's data or research findings without appropriate acknowledgement;
- submitting a computer program developed in whole or in part by someone else, with or without modifications, as one's own; and
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another's work and/or failing to use quotations marks.

Students shall not co-operate or collaborate on academic work when the instructor has indicated that the work is to be completed on an individual basis. This includes unauthorized use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools. Failure to follow the instructor's directions in this regard is a violation of the standards of academic integrity. Unless otherwise indicated, students shall not co-operate or collaborate in the completion of a test or examination.

Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course's instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of “F” for the course.

Statement on Mental Health

“As a student you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both

on- and off-campus to support you. For more information, please consult <https://wellness.carleton.ca/>”

Emergency Resources ([on and off campus](#))

- Suicide Crisis Helpline: call or text 9-8-8, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- For immediate danger or urgent medical support: call 9-1-1

Carleton Resources

- Mental Health and Wellbeing: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>
- Health & Counselling Services: <https://carleton.ca/health/>
- Paul Menton Centre: <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>
- Academic Advising Centre (AAC): <https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/>
- Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/>
- Equity & Inclusivity Communities: <https://carleton.ca/equity/>

Off Campus Resources

- Distress Centre of Ottawa and Region: call 613-238-3311, text 343-306-5550, or connect online at <https://www.dcottawa.on.ca/>
- Mental Health Crisis Service: call 613-722-6914 or toll-free 1-866-996-0991, or connect online at <http://www.crisisline.ca/>
- Empower Me Counselling Service: call 1-844-741-6389 or connect online at <https://students.carleton.ca/services/empower-me-counselling-services/>
- Good2Talk: call 1-866-925-5454 or connect online at <https://good2talk.ca/>
- The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: for online or on-site service <https://walkincounselling.com>

Online original texts that will be covered in this course:

Plato, *The Republic*, Book 6-7, paragraphs 507-521b:

<https://www.gutenberg.org/files/55201/55201-h/55201-h.htm#BookVI>

Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*, Book 1, sections 7-13 at:

<http://classics.mit.edu/Aristotle/nicomachaen.1.i.html>

Augustine, *Confessions*, Book 11, Chapters 13-18 at:

<http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/110111.htm>

and ---, *On Two Souls: Against the Manicheans*, Chapters 2, 3, 7, 10, 11 at:

<http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/1403.htm>

Niccolo Machiavelli, *The Prince*, Chapters 15-19 at: <http://www.gutenberg.org/files/1232/1232-h/1232-h.htm>

Rene Descartes, *Meditations*, Meditation 1, 2, at: <https://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/descartes/1639/meditations.htm>

David Hume, *Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding*, Sections 2, 3, 4, and 5 at: <https://socialsciences.mcmaster.ca/econ/ugcm/3ll3/hume/enquiry.pdf>

Immanuel Kant, *Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics*, Preamble, paragraphs 4:265-280 (or §1 through §5, incl.) at: https://faculty.washington.edu/conormw/Teaching/Files/PhilMath/Winter_2017/Readings/Kant-Prolegomena.pdf

and ---, *Groundwork*, Chapter 2 (parts), p. 14 - 24 at: <http://www.earlymoderntexts.com/assets/pdfs/kant1785.pdf>

Friedrich Nietzsche, *Beyond Good and Evil*, Chapter 9, remark 260 at: <http://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/nietzsche/1886/beyond-good-evil/ch09.htm>

and ---, *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*, Zarathustra's Prologue, at: <http://www.gutenberg.org/files/1998/1998-h/1998-h.htm>

Jean-Paul Sartre, *Existentialism Is a Humanism* at: <http://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/sartre/works/exist/sartre.htm>

Simone de Beauvoir, *The Second Sex*, Introduction, at: <http://www.marxists.org/reference/subject/ethics/de-beauvoir/2nd-sex/introduction.htm>

Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies (Fall/Winter 2024-25)

Assignments:

Please follow your professor's instructions on how assignments will be handled electronically. There will be NO hard copies placed in the essay box this coming year.

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 Term Work:

If students are unable to complete term work because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control, they should contact their course instructor no later than *three working days* of the due date. Normally, any deferred term work will be completed by the last day of the term. Term work cannot be deferred by the Registrar.

Deferrals for Final Exams:

Students are expected to be available for the duration of a course including the examination period. Occasionally, students encounter circumstances beyond their control where they may not be able to write a final examination or submit a take-home examination. Examples of this would be a serious illness or the death of a family member. If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a take-home examination by the due date, you may apply for a deferral no later than *three working days* after the original due date (as per the University Regulations in [Section 4.3 of the Undergraduate Calendar](#)). Visit the [Registrar's Office](#) for further 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. ([Section 10.1 of the Undergraduate Calendar Academic Regulations](#))

Academic Accommodation:

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term:

- *Pregnancy or 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 [EDC](#) website.
- *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 test or exam requiring accommodation. After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your professor to ensure accommodation arrangements are made.
- *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 where survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per [Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy](#).
- *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.

Important Dates:

Sept. 4	Classes start.
Sept. 17	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. 14	Statutory holiday. University closed.
Oct. 21-25	Fall Break – no classes.
Nov. 22	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. 6	Last day of fall term classes. <i>Classes follow a Monday schedule.</i> 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. 6	Classes begin.
Jan. 17	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. 17 Statutory holiday. University closed.
- Feb. 17-21 Winter Break – no classes.
- Mar. 15 Last day for academic withdrawal from fall/winter and winter courses.
- Mar. 25 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. 8 Last day of two-term 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 two-term and for winter term courses.
- Apr. 9-10 No classes or examinations take place.
- Apr. 11-26 Final examinations for winter term and two-term courses. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.
- Apr. 18 Statutory holiday. University closed.
- Apr. 26 All take-home examinations are due.

Addresses:

Department of Philosophy:

www.carleton.ca/philosophy

520-2110

Registrar's Office:

www.carleton.ca/registrar

520-3500

Academic Advising Centre:

www.carleton.ca/academicadvising

520-7850

Writing Services:

<http://www.carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/>

520-3822

MacOdrum Library

<http://www.library.carleton.ca/>

520-2735