

PHIL 1700 Philosophy of Love and Sex
Carleton University

Course Outline

Term: Winter 2024

Time: Mon & Wed

Location: Online

Instructor: Philippe-Antoine Hoyerck

Teaching Assistants: TBA

Office: N/A

Office hours: By appointment only

Phone: N/A

Email: philippeantoin.hoyerck@carleton.ca

Course Description

A survey of philosophical classics, on themes of romantic love, self-love, altruistic love, sexuality, eroticism and the passion/reason dichotomy, from Plato's Symposium to Foucault's History of Sexuality; and an examination of related contemporary issues in light of these perspectives.

Learning Outcomes

This course has two main outcomes. The first is to introduce students to classic figures, ideas, and arguments in the philosophy of love and sex. To this end, we will read some of the most important works on the love and sex in the history of Western philosophy from Antiquity through the Middle Ages to Modernity. We will pay special attention to how our thinking about love and sex has changed over the centuries and why.

The second outcome is to get students to reason about conceptual and ethical questions central to contemporary discussions about love and sex. With this goal in mind, we will place a special emphasis on reconstructing and evaluating the arguments found in historical sources and on relating them to more recent conceptual, metaphysical, and ethical debates.

Course Materials

Students do not need to purchase books for this course. All readings will be posted on Brightspace for students' convenience.

Course Requirements

PHIL 1700 is posted as an asynchronous online course. Classes will take the form of prerecorded lectures to be posted to Brightspace twice per week.

Evaluations:

Test #1 (Feb 3)	25%
Test #2 (Mar 10)	25%
Final exam (TBA)	30%
Practice Quizzes (x12)	20%

Course Policies

Grades will not be re-weighted and additional work will not be assigned under any circumstances. However, alternate evaluations will be provided to students who miss evaluations for good reasons.

Students must communicate with the Course Instructor about issues that arise as soon as possible to increase the chances of being granted extensions or other accommodations.

The Course Instructor reserves the right to ask students to submit evidence of their work, including notes, rough drafts, and explanations of the writing process.

Course Calendar

Course Introduction

Jan 6 **Outline Review**
No Readings

I. The Concept of Love

Jan 8 **Introduction to the Philosophy of Love**
Reading: Alan Soble, “An Introduction to the Philosophy of Love”

Jan 13-20 **Love as Union**
Readings: Plato, *Symposium* (excerpt)
Robert Nozick, “Love’s Bond”

Jan 22–29 **Love as Valuation**
Readings: Plato, *Symposium* (excerpt)
Gregory Vlastos, “The Individual as an Object of Love in Plato”

Feb 3 **Test #1**

Feb 5–12 **Love as Concern**
Readings: Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics* (excerpts)
Neera K. Badhwar, “Friends as Ends in Themselves”

II. The Ethics of Sex

Feb 24 **Introduction to the Philosophy of Sex**
Reading: Alan Soble, “Analytic Categories of the Philosophy of Sex”

Feb 26–Mar 5 **Sexual Perversion**
Readings: Thomas Aquinas, *Treatise of the Cardinal Virtues* (excerpts)
Robert Gray, “Sex and Sexual Perversion”

Mar 10 **Test #2**

Mar 12–19 **Sexual Objectification**
Readings: Immanuel Kant, *Lectures on Ethics* (excerpts)
Raja Halwani, “Casual Sex, Promiscuity, and Objectification”

Mar 24-31 **Sexual Consent**

Readings: John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty* (excerpts)
 Alan Wertheimer, "Consent and Sexual Relations"

Apr 2 Catch up/review

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. 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. 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