

PHIL 1000-B: Introductory Philosophy: Fields, Figures, and Problems
January 8th, 2018 – April 11th, 2018

Professor: Devin Zane Shaw, Ph.D.
Devin.Shaw@carleton.ca

Class
Azrieli Theatre (AT) 101
Wednesday/Friday, 4:05pm–5:25pm

Office Hours
3A56 Paterson Hall
Wednesday, 2:30pm–4:00pm

Course Objectives

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to both influential figures and problems in the history of philosophy and methodologies for doing philosophy today. We will consider questions such as: What is the good life? What is existence? And: What is justice? By the end of the semester, students should have a basic familiarity with how important philosophers have attempted to answer these and other questions.

Course Description

We will read figures—among them Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, and Spinoza—who are part of the Western canon, and others—such as Marx, Cooper, and Beauvoir—who challenge many of the assumptions of that tradition. Our goal for the course is to assemble a set of conceptual tools that will allow us to think critically about what it means to do philosophy. We will cultivate practices for reading philosophical texts, posing critical questions, and, possibly, applying philosophy to our lives today.

Evaluation:

- Test 1: February 9th (30%)
- Test 2: March 16th (30%)
- Final Exam: Date, time, and location TBA (40%)

Policies and Procedures:

1. Professionalism: I require that students adopt a professional attitude towards class conduct. Please be on time and wait to leave until class is over. Please do not engage in discussions that are unrelated to class material. Cellular phones should be turned off and calls should be taken after class is over excepting cases of extreme emergency: imminent mortality (birth or death) or imprisonment. Most importantly, I also expect class discussions to be conducted at a respectful and professional level.
2. The tests will be held in the regular class location at the regular class time. You are expected to bring your student ID to all tests and arrive on time. Graded tests will be returned to you two weeks after the date of the test. For information on the Final Exam, see below.
3. If you miss an exam, you must notify the professor within 48 hours. This is your responsibility. If you are excused from an exam (for medical reasons, etc., as determined by the professor) you must make up the exam at the following times: For Test 1, the make up date is February 14th, 10:00am–11:20am; Test 2 March 21st, 10:00am–11:20am. The

location is 3A35 Paterson Hall; you will report to Sandy Kirkpatrick. **There are no exceptions to this policy.**

4. Email to the professor should indicate the name, student number, and course. The subject line should read PHIL 1000B. Please note that I reserve the right to not answer an email if it requests information that is provided on the syllabus or on other distributed documents.

Required Readings

The following books are available at All Books, 327 Rideau Street (Hours: 11am–9pm, except Sunday: 12pm–9pm):

- René Descartes, *Meditations on First Philosophy*. Trans. Donald A. Cress (Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 1993). ISBN: 0-87220-192-9.
- Charles Guignon, ed. *The Good Life* (Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 1999). ISBN: 0872204383.

These required readings are available through the ARES reserve system:

- Aristotle, *The Nicomachean Ethics*, in *The Basic Works of Aristotle*. Ed. Richard McKeon (New York: The Modern Library, 2001), 935–964.
- Simone de Beauvoir, “Introduction to an Ethics of Ambiguity,” in *Philosophical Writings*. Ed. Margaret A. Simons (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2004), 279–298.
- Simone de Beauvoir, *The Second Sex*. Trans. Constance Borde and Sheila Malovany-Chevallier (New York: Vintage, 2011), 3–17.
- Anna Julia Cooper, *A Voice from the South* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1990), 286ff.
- Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*, in *Selected Writings*. Ed. Lawrence H. Simon (Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 1994), 157–176.
- Plato, *The Republic*, in *Complete Works*. Ed. John M. Cooper and D.S. Hutchinson (Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 1997), 1052–1077; 1199–1212.

Reading Schedule (Subject to Change)

Week 1	January 10, 12	Introduction, Plato, <i>Republic</i> , Book IV,
Week 2	January 17, 19	Plato, <i>Republic</i> , Book X; Aristotle, <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , Book 1
Week 3	January 24, 26	Aristotle, <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , Book 2 Epictetus, <i>The Good Life</i> , 53–71
Week 4	Jan. 31, Feb. 2	Descartes, <i>Meditations</i> , 1, 2
Week 5	February 7	Review
	February 9	Test 1
Week 6	February 14, 16	Descartes, <i>Mediations</i> , 4 Pascal, <i>The Good Life</i> , 199–203
Week 7	February 21, 23	Study Week, no classes
Week 8	February 28 March 2	Spinoza <i>The Good Life</i> , 159–172 Marx and Engels, <i>The Communist Manifesto</i>
Week 9	March 7, 9	Emerson, <i>The Good Life</i> , 211–226 Nietzsche, <i>The Good Life</i> , 227–240
Week 10	March 14	Review
	March 16	Test 2
Week 11	March 21, 23	Cooper, <i>A Voice from the South</i> Du Bois, <i>The Good Life</i> , 281–287
Week 12	March 28 March 30	Sartre, <i>The Good Life</i> , 241–260 Statutory Holiday
Week 13	April 4, 6 April 11	Beauvoir, “Introduction to an Ethics of Ambiguity” Beauvoir, <i>The Second Sex</i> Review

April 14–26: Final Exam Period. Date and location of the Final Exam is to be announced. Exams are scheduled during the day and evening, on weekdays and on weekends. Please do not schedule vacations during this period (or during the dates of the tests, for that matter), for travel does not constitute a reason to defer the final exam or the tests.

Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies (Fall/Winter 2017-18)

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 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:

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*). 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. 6	Classes start.
Sept. 19	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.
Oct. 9	Statutory holiday. University closed.
Oct. 23-27	Fall Break – no classes.
Nov. 24	Last day for summative or final examinations in Fall term courses before the official examination period.
Dec. 8	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. 10-22	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. 22	All take-home examinations are due.
Jan. 8	Classes begin.
Jan. 19	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.
Feb. 19	Statutory holiday. University closed.
Feb. 19-23	Winter Break – no classes.
Mar. 27	Last day for summative or final examinations in Winter term or two-term courses before the official examination period.
Mar. 30	Statutory holiday. University closed.
Apr. 11	Last day of two-term and Winter term classes. Classes follow a Friday schedule. 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. 14-26	Final examinations for Winter term and two-term courses. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.
Apr. 26	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:	4 th Floor, Library http://www.carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/ 520-3822
MacOdrum Library	http://www.library.carleton.ca/ 520-2735