

PHIL2540 A: Personal Identity and the Self

Winter 2018

Instructor Info

Course instructor: Chris Genovesi

Office Location: Dunton Tower 2220

E-mail: chrisgenovesi@cmail.carleton.ca

Office Hours: By appointment

TA: TBA

Course information

Date and time: Winter 2018, Tuesday and Thursdays, 10:05am-11:25am (Jan 9th – April 11th)

Room: Southam Hall 416

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. We will explore the consequences of answers to these questions.

Course Requirements

You are required to attend class. The posted slides will serve as a springboard for discussion and a way of keeping us focused on the issues presented in the lecture. However, slides are not exhaustive of the material discussed in class. You are expected to do all the assigned readings. You are expected to complete all the course assignments on time (barring exceptional circumstances). Late assignments will receive 5% deduction per calendar day. If you are having any difficulties with coursework and content, I strongly encourage you to setup an 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 (e.g., if you're going to be on Facebook, please try and find a seat in the back of class; cell phones will be on 'vibrate' or 'silent').

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. **I recommend purchasing the 2nd edition.**

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 will be made available to download via CULearn or the library's website.

Evaluation

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

QUIZ #1

Value: 20%

Date: Feb. 6th, 2018

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: Feb. 27th, 2018

QUIZ #2

Value: 20%

Date: March 27th, 2018

Description: This quiz will test students on course material from the lectures and reading after the midterm. It will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions.

FINAL ASSIGNMENT

Value: 30%

Date Assigned: April 10th, 2018

Due Date: April 26th, 2018

Format: Limit 2500-3500 words (i.e., 10-14 pages) double-spaced, Times New Roman 12pt Font (formatted in 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. That is to say, students are expected to provide an outline of the issue(s) in a sufficient manner and develop a critical and thoughtful review.

Submission policy: Submit your essay 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 detracted for spelling and grammar. Please edit your work before you submit it. Deferrals must be submitted to the registrar's office (see policies below).

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

Date	Topic/Assignment	Reading
Jan 9 th	Syllabus Overview Introduction to Philosophy of Personal Identity	Perry. Introduction Shoemaker. Introduction
Jan 11 th	Locke on Personal Identity & Criticism	Perry.2 & 7 Shoemaker.1
Jan 16 th	No Class	No readings
Jan 18 th	Personal Identity & The Soul(?)	Shoemaker.1 Perry. 3
Jan 23 rd	Exploring the logical criteria for personal identity	Perry.9 Shoemaker.2
Jan 25 th	"..."	Perry.19
Jan 30 th	Hume, Nagel, And Skepticism Regarding Numerical Unity of Consciousness	Perry.10-12, 15 Hume Selection from Book I, Part IV, Section VI of <i>A Treatise of Human Nature</i> : http://www.anselm.edu/homepage/dbanach/pi.htm
Feb 1 st	Alternative Approaches to Personal Identity	Shoemaker.3 Paul Ricoeur, <i>Narrative Identity</i> (a link to the paper will be provided on CULearn)
Feb 6 th	Quiz #1	No readings
Feb 8 th	Personal Identity and Other-Regarding Ethics	Shoemaker.4
Feb 13 th	"..."	Shoemaker.5
Feb 15 th	"..."	Shoemaker.6-7
Feb 20 th	Reading Week	
Feb 22 nd	Reading Week	
Feb 27 th	Midterm	
March 1 st	German Idealism and Identity	<i>Kant SEP</i>
March 6 th	"..."	Robert B. Brandom, <i>The structure of desire and recognition.</i>
March 8 th	No class	No readings
March 13 th	Movie and discussion	
March 15 th	Introduction to Identity and Mental Disorder	Graham.1
March 20 th	"..."	Graham.2
March 22 nd	"..."	Graham.3-4
March 27 th	Quiz #2	No readings
March 29 th	"..."	Graham.5-6
April 3 rd	"..."	Graham.7-8
April 5 th	"..."	Graham.9
April 10 th	Final is handed out: due last day of exams	Writing Tutorial: No readings

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