

## Research Seminar PHIL 5900W

Winter 2012  
Mon 11:25 a.m.-2:25 p.m.  
Paterson Hall 3A36



David Matheson  
3A45 Paterson Hall  
613-520-2600 ext. 1928  
david\_matheson@carleton.ca  
Office hours: Tues & Thurs 11:35  
a.m.-12:35 p.m.

### Objective & description

The objective of this seminar is to assist you in clarifying the nature, goals, and approach of your M.A. research project. We will begin with a general discussion of types of research project you might pursue, and an examination of successful past examples.

The remainder of the seminar will be devoted to student presentations. You will be expected to give three presentations over the course of the term. The first presentation (based on a 12 to 14 page (3,600-4,200 word) paper distributed in advance) will survey the philosophical terrain surrounding your research topic. The second presentation (also based on a 12 to 14 page paper distributed in advance) will discuss the original contribution you hope to make on that topic.

Your final presentation will amount to a mock defense of your research project prospectus—a three to four page (900-1,200 word) description of your intended thesis/research essay and a tentative bibliography. Ideally, the successful completion of this third presentation and associated prospectus will put you in a position to complete the required departmental thesis/research essay approval form well before the beginning of your second year in the M.A. program.

### Readings

Readings will be determined in the light of student presentations. In addition to their own papers circulated in advance, presenters may assign supplementary readings—normally one background article or book chapter per presentation.

### Evaluation

Survey presentation/paper: 35% of overall grade  
Original contribution presentation/paper: 35% of overall grade  
Mock prospectus defense: 30% of overall grade

### Calendar

Week 1 (Jan 9)	Types & examples discussion
Week 2 (Jan 16)	Survey presentations I
Week 3 (Jan 23)	Survey presentations II
Week 4 (Jan 30)	Survey presentations III
Week 5 (Feb 6)	Original contribution presentations I
Week 6 (Feb 13)	Original contribution presentations II
Week 7 (Feb 20)	<i>Winter break</i>
Week 8 (Feb 27)	Original contribution presentations III
Week 9 (Mar 5)	Mock prospectus defenses I
Week 10 (Mar 12)	Mock prospectus defenses II
Week 11 (Mar 19)	Mock prospectus defenses III

## Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies

### *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 in the lower right corner of the cover sheet:
  - student name
  - student number
  - course number and section
  - instructor's name
- The Philosophy Department does not accept assignments by FAX. You may send them by courier, if necessary.
- 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 p.m. on a regular business day in order to be date-stamped with that day's date. Assignments handed in after 4:15 p.m. 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 term work*

If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a final assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply for a deferral of examination/assignment. For deferred examinations, you must apply within 5 working days after the scheduled date of your exam. To apply for deferral of a final assignment, you must apply within 5 working days of the last scheduled day of classes. Visit the Registrar's Office for more 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. (Undergraduate Calendar Academic Regulations, section 14.3, or <http://www4.carleton.ca/calendars/ugrad/current/regulations/acadregsuniv14.html#14.3>)

### *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 me 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/accommodation/>

Religious obligation: write to me 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/accommodation/>

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but are not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC

students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that instructors receive your Letters of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you only require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by the deadlines published on the PMC website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/pmc/new-and-current-students/dates-and-deadlines/>

### *Important dates*

Sept 8	Classes start (after Orientation events).
Sept 21	Last day for registration and course changes in Fall term and two-term courses.
Sept 30	Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from fall term or two-term courses.
Oct 7	University Day – no classes.
Oct 10	Thanksgiving Day – university closed.
Nov 21	Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000 level before the Final Examination period.
Dec 5	Last day of classes, Fall term. Last day for handing in term assignments, subject to any earlier course deadline.
Dec 5	Last day to withdraw from Fall term courses (academic purposes only).
Dec 8-21	Final examinations for Fall courses, mid-terms for Fall/Winter courses.
Jan 4	Winter term classes begin.
Jan 17	Last day for registration and course changes in Winter term classes.
Jan 31	Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from winter courses or winter portion of two-term courses.
Feb 20	Family Day – university closed
Feb 20-24	Winter Break, classes suspended.
Mar 22	Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000 level before the Final Examination period.
Apr 5	Last day of Fall/Winter and Winter term classes. Last day for handing in term assignments, subject to any earlier course deadline.
Apr 5	Last day to withdraw from Fall/Winter and Winter term courses (academic purposes only).
Apr 6	Good Friday – university closed.
Apr 11-24	Final Examinations.

### *Addresses*

Department of Philosophy	3A46 Paterson Hall <a href="http://www.carleton.ca/philosophy">www.carleton.ca/philosophy</a> 520-2110
Registrar's Office	300 Tory <a href="http://www.carleton.ca/registrar">www.carleton.ca/registrar</a> 520-3500
Student Academic Success Centre	302 Tory <a href="http://www.carleton.ca/sasc">www.carleton.ca/sasc</a> 520-7850
Paul Menton Centre	500 University Centre <a href="http://www.carleton.ca/pmc">www.carleton.ca/pmc</a> 520-6608
Writing Tutorial Service	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor, Library <a href="http://www.carleton.ca/wts">www.carleton.ca/wts</a> 520-6632
MacOdrum Library	<a href="http://www.library.carleton.ca/">http://www.library.carleton.ca/</a> 520-2735