

# **Philosophy 2601A and Religious Studies 2738A**

## **Philosophy of Religion**

**Carleton University: Fall Term 2023**

### **Course Description**

<b>Professor:</b>	<b>Kenneth Ferguson</b>
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:Kenneth.Ferguson@carleton.ca">Kenneth.Ferguson@carleton.ca</a>
<b>Office Hours:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Class Times:</b>	<b>Tues/Thur 2:30-4 PM</b>
<b>Location:</b>	<b>Minto Center, 2000</b>

### **CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION**

A study of philosophical issues arising from religion. Topics may include: arguments for and against the existence of God, religious experience, death and the afterlife, miracles, God and evil, the relationship between religion and science, and the relationship between religion and ethics.

Also listed as [RELI 2738](#).

Lectures three hours per week.

### **COURSE CONTENT**

Recently there has been increased interest in religion in many different fields, including sociology, psychology, cognitive science, as well as philosophy and religious studies. If there is a difference between the way philosophy and other subjects approach the study religion, it is that philosophy is more normative; it does not merely describe religion but also seeks to evaluate it. We want to ask whether religious beliefs are true? Are there good reasons to believe that God exists? Should we believe in miracles? Should religious experience be seen as the actual perception of divine beings, or should they be explained away as psychological phenomenon? Is God's existence compatible with evil? Why would God remain hidden?

In addition to these core issues, we will also be exploring the relationship between religion and other areas of human culture. What is the relationship between religion and science? Do they conflict or complement each other? Is God's existence essential to ground morality? Does the meaning of life presuppose a religious outlook? What is the best approach to take in trying to explain religion? Is it an essential feature of human psychology? Does it perform some essential function in human societies? In addressing these and other issues, we will be reading selections from some of the foremost researchers in the field, including Plantinga, Swinburne, Dennett and others.

## CLASS FORMAT

The emphasis in the course will be on reasoning, analysis and critical evaluation. The role of the Instructor will be to guide students through the issues and readings, and to illustrate the processes of analysis, interpretation, and criticism by repeated example in class. Although attendance will not be taken, students are fully responsible for any material missed due to absence from class.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

In addition to introducing students to some of the main problems and issues in the philosophy of religion, successful completion of this course should help students to improve a number of basic skills essential for success both in university and beyond, including reading comprehension, writing, analytical and critical thinking skills.

## REQUIRED TEXT

A course pack of readings with the title, *Philosophy 2601*, has been prepared by the Instructor. This course pack can only be purchased at **Haven Books**, located at 43 Seneca Street. Their phone number is: (613) 730-9888. In addition to this course pack there will be some online readings. Please see the complete list of topics and readings below which includes both those readings in the course pack, as well as online readings.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

**Midterm Exam:** There will be a **midterm exam** worth 30% of the overall grade. (It is tentatively scheduled for Friday, November 24.) The midterm will have the following format: one week before the date of the midterm, a list of study questions on topics central to the material that has been covered will be posted on Brightspace; the instructor will then select a number of these questions for students to answer on the midterm, but students will not know beforehand which questions will be selected.

**Discussion Essay (Term Paper):** Students will write an essay of approximately 6-8 pages in length (1,500-2,000 words), which will be worth 30% of the overall grade. This will be a discussion paper, not a research paper, which will involve analyzing and evaluating some issue central to the course. A list of topics for students to choose from will be posted on Brightspace early in the course. The Discussion essay will be due about Mon.

**Final Examination:** There will be a final exam scheduled during the examination period, worth 40% of the overall grade for the course grade. The format for the final exam will be very similar to that described above for the midterm.

## STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM

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, artworks, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, material on the internet 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.

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.

## BRIGHTSPACE

This course will be supported by Brightspace. All of the PowerPoint slides for the course will be posted on Brightspace, as well as other materials. It is important, therefore, that students regularly check the Brightspace page to keep informed of the progress of the course.

## SHORT LIST OF TOPICS/ISSUES (For more details see the complete list of Topics and Readings below)

What is the definition of religion?  
Does morality depend on religion?  
Traditional arguments for God’s existence  
The ontological argument

The cosmological argument  
The argument from design  
Traditional arguments against God’s existence:

The argument from evil  
 The “hiddenness” of God  
 Is the concept of God coherent?  
 How is religion to be explained?  
 Pascal’s Wager  
 Are miracles real?  
 The nature of religious experience

Kierkegaard’s “leap of faith”  
 Transcendental Naturalism  
 Do science and religion conflict?  
 Do immaterial souls exist?  
 Is there an afterlife?  
 Religion and the meaning of life  
 Using science to explain religion

## Complete List of Topics and Readings

### I. Introduction

**Reading 1:** Louis Pojman and Michael Rea, *Philosophy of Religion: An Anthology*, (Belmont, CA: Thomson/Wadsworth, 2008) pp. xiii-xvi

### II. What Is Religion?

**Reading 2:** “What Is Religion?”, in *Encyclopedia.com*, online at:

<https://www.encyclopedia.com/religion/encyclopedias-almanacs-transcripts-and-maps/what-religion>

**Reading 3:** Phil Zuckerman, “What is Secular Humanism?”, online at:

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/ca/blog/the-secular-life/202002/what-is-secular-humanism>

### III. Religion and Ethics: Does Morality Depend on Religion?

**Reading 4:** William Lane Craig, “The Indispensability of Theological Meta-Ethical Foundations for Morality”, online at:

<https://www.reasonablefaith.org/writings/scholarly-writings/the-existence-of-god/the-indispensability-of-theological-meta-ethical-foundations-for-morality>

**Reading 5:** Erik J. Wielenberg, “The Moral Argument for God’s Existence; or, How I Learned To Stop Worrying and Love Godless Morality”, from *The Philosopher’s Magazine*, online at:

<https://archive.philosophersmag.com/the-moral-argument-for-gods-existence-or-how-i-learned-to-stop-worrying-and-love-godless-morality/>

**Reading 6 (online):** Theodore Schick, "Morality Requires God-Or Does It?"

<https://secularhumanism.org/1997/06/morality-requires-god-or-does-it/#:~:text=Theodore%20Schick%20Jr.&text=Although%20Plato%20demonstrated%20the%20logical,the%20Christian%20fundamentalist%27s%20social%20theory>

**Reading 7 (online optional):** James Rachels, *The Elements of Morality*, chapter 4, "Does Morality Depend on Religion?" (only sections 1 & 2 are required) available online at:

<https://faculty.uca.edu/rnovy/Rachels%20--%20Does%20Morality%20Depend%20on%20Religion.htm>

## IV. The Three Traditional Arguments for the Existence of God

### a) The Ontological Argument

**Reading 8:** Rene Descartes: "The Supremely Perfect Being Must Exist", taken from *Philosophy of Religion: Selected Readings*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., ed by William Rowe and William Wainwright, (New York: Harcourt, Brace, Jovanovich Publishers, 1989) pp. 103-105

**Reading 9:** St. Anselm, selections from *Proslogium*, in *Argument and Analysis: an Introduction to Philosophy*, edited by Martin Curd (New York: West Publishing Company, 1992) pp. 5-6

**Reading 10:** Martin Curd, *Argument and Analysis: An Introduction to Philosophy ... Part I*, Discussion: The Ontological Argument, pp. 46-51

**Reading 11:** Jim Holt, "Existence Is Not A Predicate", on line at:

<https://www.philosophyofreligion.uk/theistic-proofs/the-ontological-argument/st-anselms-ontological-argument/existence-is-not-a-predicate/>

### b) The Cosmological Argument

**Reading 12:** Saint Thomas Aquinas, "The Five Ways", *Argument and Analysis: An Introduction to Philosophy*, edited by Martin Curd, p. 7.

**Reading 13:** Richard Taylor, "The Cosmological Argument", from *Philosophical Horizons: Introductory Readings*, ed. by Steven Cahn and Maureen Eckert ... pp. 36-41.

**Reading 14:** William Rowe, "The Kalam Cosmological Argument", from *The World of Philosophy: An Introductory Reader*, edited by Steven Cahn (Oxford: Oxford U. Press, 2015) pp. 156-157.

**Reading 15 (online):** Anthony Flew, "Stephen Hawking and the Mind of God", 1996, from the website *The Secular Web*, at: [https://infidels.org/library/modern/antony\\_flew/hawking.html](https://infidels.org/library/modern/antony_flew/hawking.html)

**Reading 16 (optional online):** Ron Rosenbaum, "Has the Meaning of Nothing Changed?", from the website *Slate.com*, July 23, 2012, at: <https://slate.com/technology/2012/07/jim-holts-why-does-the-world-exist-an-inquiry-into-why-there-is-something-rather-than-nothing.html>

### c) The Argument from Design

**Reading 17:** William Paley, "The Watch and the Watchmaker", taken from *An Introduction to Philosophy*, edited by David E. Ohreen (Toronto: Nelson Education, 2009) pp. 143-146

**Reading 18:** David Hume, selections from *Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion*, taken from *An Introduction to Philosophy*, edited by David E. Ohreen ... pp. 146-151

**Reading 19:** Richard Dawkins, "The Improbability of God", taken from *An Introduction to Philosophy*, edited by David E. Ohreen ... pp. 151-157

**Reading 20 (optional):** Stephen Davis, "Fine-Tuning: The New Design Arguments", from *Philosophy and Faith: A Philosophy of Religion Reader* (New York: McGraw Hill, 2002), pp. 222-229

**Reading 21:** John Perry, "The Fine-Tuning Argument for God", online at:  
<https://www.philosophytalk.org/blog/fine-tuning-argument-god>

## V. Traditional Arguments Against the Existence of God

### a) The Argument from Evil

**Reading 22:** Louise Antony, "No Good Reason – Exploring the Problem of Evil", from *The Norton Introduction to Philosophy*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, edited by Gideon Rosen et al (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2018) pp. 36-45

**Reading 23 (optional online):** J.L. Mackie, "Evil and Omnipotence", *Mind*, New Series, Vol. 64, No. 254. (Apr., 1955), pp. 200-212, available online at:  
<http://www.ditext.com/mackie/evil.html>

**Reading 24:** Richard Swinburne, "The Problem of Evil", from *Philosophy of Religion: An Anthology*, ed by Louis Pojman, (Belmont, CA, Wadsworth Publishing Co., 1987) pp. 174-185

**Reading 25 (online):** Anonymous, "Why Does God Allow Animals to Suffer?" From the website: *500 Questions About God*, <https://500questions.wordpress.com/2013/01/27/42-why-does-god-allow-animals-to-suffer/>

### b) The Hiddenness of God

**Reading 26 (online):** "Divine Hiddenness Makes Faith Possible", from *Philosophy of Religion*, by Phillip Pecorino, at:

<http://www.philosophyofreligion.info/arguments-for-atheism/the-problem-of-evil/the-argument-from-unbelief/divine-hiddenness-makes-faith-possible/>

**Reading 27:** Robert McKim, "The Hiddenness of God", from *Philosophical Horizons: Introductory Readings* ... pp. 82-86

**Reading 28 (optional online):** Adam Green, Review of the book *The Hiddenness Argument: Philosophy's New Challenge to Belief in God* by J.L. Schellenberg, from *Notre Dame Phil. Reviews*, online at: <https://ndpr.nd.edu/news/the-hiddenness-argument-philosophys-new-challenge-to-belief-in-god/>

### c) Is the Concept of God Coherent?

**Reading 29 (online):** Michael Lacewing, "The Divine Attributes", available from Routledge online at: [http://www.alevelphilosophy.co.uk/handouts\\_religion/IdeaGod.pdf](http://www.alevelphilosophy.co.uk/handouts_religion/IdeaGod.pdf)

**Reading 30 (online):** Michael Lacewing, "Are the Divine Attributes Singularly or Mutually Coherent?", available from Routledge online at:

[http://www.alevelphilosophy.co.uk/handouts\\_religion/Divineattributescoherent.pdf](http://www.alevelphilosophy.co.uk/handouts_religion/Divineattributescoherent.pdf)

**Reading 31 (optional online):** Yoram Hazony, "An Imperfect God", taken from the New York Times, at: <https://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/11/25/an-imperfect-god/>

## VI. Explaining Religion

**Reading 32:** Elizabeth Culotta, "On the Origin of Religion", *Science* 06 Nov 2009, Vol. 326, Issue 5954, pp. 784-787, at: [https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.326\\_784](https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.326_784)

**Reading 33:** Michael Lacewing, "Can Social Science Explain Religion Away?", On Brightspace.

**Reading 34 (optional online):** Rachel Nuwer, "Will Religion Ever Disappear?", taken from the BBC.com, Dec. 9, 2014, at:

<http://www.bbc.com/future/story/20141219-will-religion-ever-disappear>

**Reading 35:** Roger Trigg, "A Defense of Religious Realism", online at:

[file:///Users/kenferguson/Desktop/Religion%20Definition/\\*Trigg:%20A%20Defense%20of%20Religious%20Realism%20%7C%20Two%20Thirds%20of%20the%20Average.html](file:///Users/kenferguson/Desktop/Religion%20Definition/*Trigg:%20A%20Defense%20of%20Religious%20Realism%20%7C%20Two%20Thirds%20of%20the%20Average.html)

## VII. Other Types of Reasons or Evidence for Believing in God

### a) Pascal's Wager

**Reading 36:** Blaise Pascal, "The Wager", from *The World of Philosophy: A Reader*, edited by Steven Cahn (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016, pp. 185-187

**Reading 37:** Linda Trinkaus Zagzebski, "Pascal's Wager: An Assessment", from *The World of Philosophy: A Reader ...* pp.187-189

**Reading 38 (online):** Peter Kreeft, "The Argument from Pascal's Wager", online at: <http://www.peterkreeft.com/topics/pascals-wager.htm>

### b) Should We Believe in Miracles?

**Reading 39 (online):** David Corner, "Miracles", *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, available online at: <https://www.iep.utm.edu/miracles/>

**Reading 40:** David Hume, “The Evidence for Miracles Is Weak”, taken from *Philosophy of Religion: Selected Readings*, 5<sup>th</sup> ed, ed by Michael Peterson et al (Oxford: Oxford U. Press, 2014) pp. 465-471.

**Reading 41:** Richard Swinburne, “Miracles”, taken from *Philosophy of Religion: Selected Readings*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, William Rowe and William Wainwright ... pp. 446-453

### c) Religious Experience as Evidence of Divine Beings

**Reading 42:** C.D. Broad, “The Argument from Religious Experience”, taken from *Philosophy of Religion: An Anthology*, ed. by Louis Pojman and Michael Rea (Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing Co., 1987) pp. 119-126

**Reading 43:** Louis Pojman, “A Critique of the Argument from Religious Experience”, from *Philosophy of Religion: An Anthology*, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. pp. 127-136

**Reading 44:** David Hall, Review of Richard Swinburne’s “Is There A God?”, in the journal *Philosophy Now*, available online at: [https://philosophynow.org/issues/15/Is\\_There\\_a\\_God](https://philosophynow.org/issues/15/Is_There_a_God)

**Reading 45:** Catherine Giordano, “The Truth About Near Death Experiences: Scientific Explanations of NDE and OBE”, From the website *Owlcation*, Feb. 3, 2017, online at: <https://owlcation.com/stem/The-Truth-About-Near-Death-Experience-Scientific-Explanations>

## VIII. Other Approaches to Religion and Its Justification

### a) Religious Faith – Believing in God Without Reasons

**Reading 46:** Soren Kierkegaard, “The Leap of Faith and the Limits of Reason”, taken from *Twenty Questions: An Introduction to Philosophy*, 7<sup>th</sup> edition, edited by G. Lee Bowie et al (Boston, MA: Wadsworth, 2011) pp. 71-74

**Reading 47:** William Clifford, “The Ethics of Belief”, taken from *Philosophy of Religion: Selected Readings*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition ... pp. 400-405

### b) Thoreau’s Transcendental Naturalism

**Reading 48 (online):** Robert Michael Ruehl, “Henry David Thoreau (1817–1862)”, *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, section 5 only, at: <https://www.iep.utm.edu/thoreau/#H5>

### c) “Reformed Epistemology”: Belief in God is Justified Without Evidence

**Reading 49 (online):** Anthony Belos and Kyle Scott, “Reformed Epistemology”, *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, sections 1, 4, 6 (c), and section 7, available online at: <https://www.iep.utm.edu/ref-epis/#H6>



### d) Fideism

**Reading 50:** Ludwig Wittgenstein, "Religious Belief", taken from *Philosophy of Religion: Selected Readings*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition ... pp. 275-279

**Reading 51 (online):** Stephen Law, "Wittgenstein and Religion", from Aeon, online at: <https://aeon.co/essays/atheists-vs-religious-belief-with-wittgenstein-on-the-stand>

## IX. On the Existence of Souls and An Afterlife

**Reading 52 (online):** Susan Blackmore, "Life After Death or A Dying Brain?", Excerpts from Susan Blackmore's book *Dying to Live: Near-Death Experiences*, (1993. New York: Prometheus Books)

**Reading 53 (online):** Edward A. Morris, "The Problem of Personal Identity for the Hope of an Afterlife", March 31, 2017, available at: <http://www.noble-minded.org/afterlife.html>

**Reading 54 (optional online):** Steve Stewart-Williams, "Life After Death", from the online publication *Philosophy Now*, 2002, at: [https://philosophynow.org/issues/39/Life\\_After\\_Death](https://philosophynow.org/issues/39/Life_After_Death)

**Reading 55:** Bernard Williams, "Reflections on the Tedium of Immortality", from an *Introduction to Philosophy: Knowledge and Reality*, by Rockney Jacobson (Toronto, Pearson Canada Inc., 2016) pp. 104-109

## X. Religion and the Meaning of Life

**Reading 56:** "The Absurdity of Life Without God", by William Lane Craig, online at: <https://www.reasonablefaith.org/writings/popular-writings/existence-nature-of-god/the-absurdity-of-life-without-god>

**Reading 57 (online):** Daniel Hill, "The Meaning of Life", from the publication *Philosophy Now*, Issue 35, Sept/Oct, 2014, at: [https://philosophynow.org/issues/35/The\\_Meaning\\_of\\_Life](https://philosophynow.org/issues/35/The_Meaning_of_Life)

**Reading 58:** Robert Nozick, from *The Meaning of Life: A Reader*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, edited by E.D. Klemke and Steven M. Cahn, (Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2008) pp. 224-232

**Reading 59:** Adam Lee, "How Religion's Demand for Obedience Keeps Us in the Dark Ages", from the website *BigThink*, available at: <http://bigthink.com/daylight-atheism/how-religions-demand-for-obedience-keeps-us-in-the-dark-ages>

## XI. Religion and Science

**Reading 60:** Stephen J. Gould, “Nonoverlapping Magisteria”, online at:  
[http://www.stephenjaygould.org/library/gould\\_noma.html](http://www.stephenjaygould.org/library/gould_noma.html)

**Reading 61:** Richard Dawkins, “Science Discredits Religion”, taken from *Philosophy of Religion: Selected Readings*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition ... pp. 546-548

**Reading 62 (online):** David Kyle Johnson, “Identifying the Conflict between Science and Religion, Parts 1, 2 & 3”, From the website *Scientia Salon* (Editor-in-chief Massimo Pugliucci) April 8 & 9, 2014, online at: <https://scientiasalon.wordpress.com/2014/04/08/identifying-the-conflict-between-religion-and-science-part-i/>

**Reading 63 (online):** “Naturalism”, from the website *The Basics of Philosophy*, available at: [https://www.philosophybasics.com/branch\\_naturalism.html](https://www.philosophybasics.com/branch_naturalism.html)

**Reading 64:** Alvin Plantinga, “When Faith and Reason Clash: Evolution and the Bible”, from *Philosophy and Faith: A Philosophy of Religion Reader*, ed. by David Shatz, pp. 342-354

## XII. Religion and Politics: The Right to “Religious Freedom”

**Reading 65:** “Why the onslaught of religious freedom laws?”, by Ray Sanchez, CNN, April 7, 2016, available at: <https://www.cnn.com/2016/04/06/us/religious-freedom-laws-why-now/index.html>

**Reading 66 (online):** “4 Reasons Why Religious Liberty Laws Don’t Discriminate”, from the website *The Gospel Coalition*, by Andrew Walk, April 8, 2016, at: <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/three-reasons-why-religious-liberty-laws-dont-discriminate>

**Reading 67:** “The [American] Supreme Court Rules for a Designer Who Doesn’t Want to Make Wedding Websites for Gay Couples”, by Jessica Gresko, APNews.com, June 30, 2023, online at: <https://apnews.com/article/supreme-court-gay-rights-website-designer-aa529361bc939c837ec2ece216b296d5>

## Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies (Fall/Winter 2023-24)

### **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](mailto: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. 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. Withdrawals after this date will result in a permanent notation of WDN on the official transcript.
Oct. 9	Statutory holiday. University closed.
Oct. 23-27	Fall Break – no classes.
Nov. 24	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. 8	Last day of fall term classes. <b><i>Classes follow a Monday schedule.</i></b> 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. Withdrawals after this date will result in a permanent notation of WDN on the official transcript.
Feb. 19	Statutory holiday. University closed.
Feb. 19-23	Winter Break – no classes.
Mar. 15	Last day for academic withdrawal from fall/winter and winter courses.
Mar. 27	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.
Mar. 29	Statutory holiday. University closed.
Apr. 10	Last day of two-term and winter term classes. <b><i>Classes follow a Friday schedule.</i></b> 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. 11-12	No classes or examinations take place.
Apr. 13-25	Final examinations for winter term and two-term courses. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.
Apr. 25	All take-home examinations are due.

**Addresses:**

Department of Philosophy:  
[www.carleton.ca/philosophy](http://www.carleton.ca/philosophy)  
520-2110

Registrar's Office:  
[www.carleton.ca/registrar](http://www.carleton.ca/registrar)  
520-3500

Academic Advising Centre:  
[www.carleton.ca/academicadvising](http://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