

## PHILOSOPHY COURSES—SPRING 2019

In addition to its regular courses offered every semester, the philosophy department is offering the following courses that full requirements and electives for the major and minor in Spring 2019.

**PHI 203 Political Philosophy** Professor John Pittman

An examination of the philosophical presuppositions about human nature, sovereignty, freedom, authority and law which are inherent in political theories from Plato to Marx.

**PHI 205 Philosophy of Religion** Professor Jonathan Jacobs

An examination of religion from a philosophical view point : including questions such as the existence of God, the nature and reality of miracles, the possibility of an afterlife, and the foundations of morality in religion.

**PHI 235 Philosophy of Science** Professor Matias Bulnes Beniscelli or Professor Sergio Gallegos

(Also fulfills Gen Ed requirement)

This course focuses on the difference between science, non-science and pseudoscience. It introduces students to the fundamental features of scientific thinking, including the logic of induction and confirmation, falsification, and statistical generalization. Students will learn how to assess the quality of scientific studies, in particular the way that scientific studies are reported in the media. Students will also consider the role science can and should play in shaping public policy as well as their personal moral beliefs.

**PHI 238 Philosophy of Comedy** Professor Paul Butterfield (Also fulfills Gen Ed requirement)

This course uses a diversity of tools –historical, psychological, philosophical, and more—to consider the nature of comedy as a form of creative expression. Understanding comedy requires considering questions such as: what makes something funny? When is it okay (and not okay) to laugh at a joke? Why do we laugh at all? Can comedy be used as a tool for pursuing social justice?

**PHI 326 Topics in the History of Modern Thought** Professor John Pittman

An in-depth exploration of one of the basic philosophic movements or conceptual themes that characterize modernity such as individualism, natural rights, freedom/liberty, utilitarianism, the Enlightenment, secularization or existentialism.

**PHI 333 Theories of Gender and Sexuality** Professor Robert Faunce

Students in the course will learn how gender studies theories have re-conceptualized gender and sexuality as products of the interactions among historical, representational, racial, class and cultural constructs.

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### PHI 351 Classical Chinese Philosophy Professor Kyoo Lee

This course analyzes some of the major works, themes and concepts of the classical intellectual tradition of China (722-221BCE) when the schools of Confucianism, Daoism, and legalism developed.

### PHI 374 Epistemology Professor James Digiovanna

An examination of the nature of knowledge that focuses on what counts as knowledge, how we come to acquire knowledge, whether knowledge has a true foundation, what the sources of knowledge are and skepticism about knowledge.

### PHI 398 Latin American Philosophy Professor Sergio Gallegos

A general survey of Latin American Philosophy from the nineteenth century to the present. Central themes include: identity theory, philosophy and culture, feminism and gender and political theory.

### PHI 401 Senior Seminar in the History of Philosophy Professor Catherine Kemp

This course focuses on a particular historical period, question, issue or figure in the philosophical tradition. It will also address broader methodological questions in the scholarship of the history of philosophy, as well as relevant critical responses and alternative perspectives from within and without the tradition.