

Spring 2017 Philosophy Courses

Major/Minor Coordinator
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New Courses

PHI 216 Ethics and Information Technology Provides an introduction to the primary philosophical frameworks for reasoning about global problems of applied ethics in information, communication, and computer technology use – from surveillance, free speech, privacy, intellectual property, hacking, distributed denial of service, whistleblowing, cybercrime, cyberterrorism, and the digital divide, to ethics in social networking and online communities. The course will discuss the ethical responsibilities of information technology students, professionals and users, and promote responsible use of technology.

PHI 317 Philosophy of Law in a Global Perspective (Satisfies College Option: Justice Core III) Introduces problems drawn from struggles for justice in jurisdictions around the globe and looks at how philosophers and legal theorists have tried to answer the question- what is law?

PHI 398 Latin-American Philosophy This course will be a general survey of Latin American philosophy from the 19th Century to the present. More specifically this course will explore the philosophical ideas behind concepts of race, ethnicity, and gender in Latin America (including the Caribbean). Possible questions the course will explore include: What are race and gender in Latin America? How do they intersect? Is race or gender central to one's subjectivity, or sense of self? What is the relation between racial identity, gender identity and cultural identity in today's Latin American political reality?

Courses that satisfy General Education Requirements

PHI 201 Philosophy of Art (Creative Expression) Examines issues concerning the creation, interpretation and viewing of art, discusses- Can art be viewed objectively? Who is the best judge of good art? Non-western philosophies of art are included.

PHI 202 Philosophical Visions of American Pluralism (US Experience/Diversity) Reflects the broad diversity of American thinkers in terms of its ever-changing demographics and the many philosophical questions that have inspired Americans.

PHI 210 Ethical Theory (Individual and Society) Explores what should we do and how should we do it. The course also asks-Does character determine our actions, or are we at the mercy of situations, external cues and non-moral forces?

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PHI 231 The Big Questions (Individual and Society) Examines such questions as “How should I live?,” “What is the right thing to do?,” “What is justice?,” and “What does it mean to know something?”

PHI 302 Philosophical Issues of Rights (College Option: Justice Core III) Investigates the nature of rights and the justifications for rights claims as well as examines contemporary issues such as immigration, privacy, torture, concern for animals and the environment.

PHI 317 Philosophy of Law in a Global Perspective (College Option: Justice Core III)

Of Special Interest

PHI 304 Philosophy of Mind Assesses some recent (and some older but still powerful) philosophical attempts to construct theories of important aspects of our mental life, including stances on the mind-body problem, artificial intelligence, consciousness, intentionality, rationality, and personal identity.

PHI 330 Philosophical Modernity Surveys Western European philosophy from Montaigne to Kant in the context of the reformation, scientific and political revolutions, the Enlightenment, colonialism and the slave trade.

PHI 333 Theories of Gender and Sexuality Introduces theoretical perspectives and traditions that give Gender Studies its interdisciplinary identities. Following a series of basic yet deep, conceptual questions about gender and sexuality as our narrative threads, we will explore some of the sociological, psychological, philosophical, economic, literary, and historical theories that continue to shape and expand the field.

PHI 400 Senior Seminar in the History of Philosophy Focuses on a particular historical period, tradition, or figure and will address broader methodological questions in the scholarship of the history of philosophy, as well as relevant critical responses and alternative perspectives.

Also Offered in Spring 2017

PHI 105 Critical Thinking

PHI 204 Logic

PHI 204 Philosophy of Religion

PHI 224 Death, Dying and Society

PHI 310 Ethics and the Law

PHI 322 Judicial and Correctional Ethics