Course Offerings

FALL 2015
in the Department of Philosophy

100- & 200-Level
Introductions to Philosophy

100 (1)  Intro to Phil: Survey of Problems
MWF 8:30-9:20A    STOLL
This class will put great emphasis, not just on reading canonical material in order to survey the problems addressed by our ancestors, but on generating our own questions and discussions on the basis of the reading material.

100 (2)  Intro to Phil: Survey of Problems
MWF 9:30-10:20A    LEBEL
A wide-ranging survey of philosophical questions concerning such topics as knowledge, experience, ethics, and the future from philosophies originating in ancient and contemporary traditions from all over the world.

100 (3)  Intro to Phil: Survey of Problems
MWF 9:30-10:20A    MORROW
This course explores the ways in which thought of the infinite and its relationship to the finitude of human lives and perception has shaped human history and society.

101 (1 & 2) Intro to Phil: Morals & Society
An introduction central issues in contemporary moral and political philosophy.
MW 10:30-11:20A    TSAI
Break-out Section (1) F 9:30-10:20A
Break-out Section (2) F 10:30-11:20A

101 (4)  Intro to Phil: Morals & Society
MWF 9:30-10:20A    HARROFF
This course will introduce the concept of ethical agency in a plurality of philosophical traditions.

102 (1)  Asian Traditions
TR 10:30-11:45A    HUDSON
Asian Traditions is an introduction to the philosophies of China and India. We will read and discuss important early Chinese and Indian texts such as the Analects, Dao De Jing, Upanishads, and early Buddhist scriptures.

103 (1)  Intro Phil: Environmental Philosophy
TR 9:00-10:15A    IZOR
This course will review several themes in environmental ethics, non-traditional views of nature, the history of environmental activism, and contemporary debates regarding the relationship between first-world lifestyles and climate instability.

110 (1)  Intro to Deductive Logic
MWF 10:30-11:20A    HOFFMAN
Logic, as a branch of philosophy, is the study of correct reasoning. The primary objects of logic are arguments—roughly, claims supported by reasons—and the basic aim is to identify principles according to which arguments are good or bad. This course serves as an introduction to deductive logic: propositional logic, predicate logic, and formal proofs.

111 (1 & 2) Intro to Inductive Logic
MWF 9:30-10:20A    CHATURVEDI
An introduction to inductive logic and basic probability theory, focusing on how we reason and act under conditions of risk and uncertainty.

211 (1)  Ancient Philosophy
MWF 11:30A-12:20P    CHATURVEDI
This course provides an overview of philosophical issues addressed in the thought of Socrates, Plato and Aristotle.

213 (1)  Modern Philosophy
TR    10:30-11:45A    DALMIYA
A study of the questions about the nature of reality and knowledge in Rationalism. Empiricism and the Copernican Revolution of Kant in what is called the "modern" period in Western Philosophy.

218 (1)  Women’s Philosophers (New Course)
TR    9:00-10:15A    ALBERTINI
This course introduces students to the ideas of women philosophers.

Upper-Division Undergraduate Courses

304 (1)  Introduction to Metaphysics
MWF 1:30-2:20P    HARROFF
This course will allow students to examine major issues in the philosophical discipline of metaphysics.
Making proper sense of the underlying conceptual and ontological differences between early Greek and Chinese thinking will be a central focus of the course; this learning outcome will be pursued alongside of the vital aim of thinking through culture and "ways of world making" more generally via a responsible and responsive use of root metaphors in the interpretation of major metaphysical systems and the appreciation of deep cultural diversity.

308 (1) Philosophy of Science
TR 7:30-9:15A CHENG
This course will deal with logic and methodology of science as well as philosophical analysis of issues arising from scientific study of nature and life.

320 (1) American Philosophy
TR 9:00-10:15A ODIN
In this course, we will study the American transcendentalism of Emerson and Thoreau, as well as the development of classical American philosophy, including the pragmatism of C.S. Peirce, William James, Josiah Royce, John Dewey, George Herbert Mead, and its extension into the process philosophy of A.N. Whitehead.

406 (1) Intro to Zen Ch’an Buddhist Philosophy
TR 10:30-11:45A ODIN
This is an introductory course on Zen Buddhist art, theory, and practice in Japan, presented against the background of Indian, Chinese, and Korean influences.

414-H (1) WMvts & Pds: German Idealism
TR 10:30-11:45A ALBERTINI
This course introduces to Hegel’s major works: Aesthetics, Phenomenology of Spirit, Science of Logic, and Philosophy of Right.

417 (1) Philosophy in Literature
MWF 1:30-2:20P TANKE
This advanced undergraduate seminar on philosophical themes in literature will be dedicated to exploring the ways in which literature and the experience of reading literature sensitizes us to the challenges of morality.

445 (1) Symbolic Logic
MWF 11:30A-12:20P BONTEKOE
This course covers symbolizations, tree diagrams, and derivations in predicate and quantificational logic. It also covers soundness and completeness of PL and PD, as well as some basic-level philosophy of logic.

449 (1) Undergraduate Capstone
W 12:45-3:15 TS AI
Undergraduate capstone seminar on theme of relationships and emotions: their nature and normative significance.

492 (6) Philosophy with Children
MW 4:10-5:30P JACKSON
Examines the theory and practice of doing philosophy with children. The principles of practice apply to “children” in elementary, intermediate, high school, and undergraduate classrooms.

493 (1) Teaching Philosophy
TBA TBA JACKSON
Supervised work in elementary, middle and high school classrooms, facilitating philosophical inquiry with students. (Practicum)
Pre: 492 or consent.

Graduate Seminars

622 (1) Studies of Hermeneutics
R 12:45-3:15P CHENG
This seminar will involve important debates concerning the methodology of textural interpretation.

672 (1) Daoism
M 12:45-3:15P AMES
In this course on philosophical Daoism we will do a close reading of the canonical texts and try to locate them within the interpretative context of early Daoist cosmology.

720 (1) Seminar on Individual Philosophers
M 3:30-6:00P TANKE
This advanced graduate seminar will offer students the opportunity to follow the philosophical development of Friedrich Nietzsche though a close and chronological reading of Nietzsche’s major texts.

725 (1) Seminar on Philosophical Topics
T 12:45-3:15P DALMIYA
A critical exploration of ‘care’ as an intervention in ethics and theories of justice.

Fourth year students may take graduate-level courses with instructor’s approval.

Full course descriptions are available on the table outside Sakamaki D-305.