Shorties: Fall 2022

Schedule: https://www.sis.hawaii.edu/uhdad/avail.classes?i=MAN&t=202230&s=PHIL

PHIL 101 Intro – Morals and Society – Professor Jonathan Fine (WI), Daniel Brooks

What values, ideals, and principles should guide how we live? Explore ethics, morality, and political power through influential works by Aristotle, Mill, Kant, Nietzsche, and Simone de Beauvoir.

PHIL 100 Introduction to Philosophy: Survey of Problems – Taylor Hunter

An introduction to philosophy through the study of persistent problems like mind-body dualism, skepticism, and the existence of God. The course will explore these problems by looking at different answers offered by various philosophers.

PHIL 103 Introduction to Environmental Philosophy (WI) – Professor Steve Odin

This course is an introduction to both Western and Eastern approaches to environmental philosophy, including ecological ethics, land aesthetics, animal rights, conservation, and concepts of nature as an interconnected web of life. In addition to theories of ecological ethics, there will be discussions about environmental problems such as climate change, global warming, overpopulation, pollution, deforestation, overfishing, species extinction, loss of biodiversity, water shortage, and other causes of ecological collapse.

PHIL 110 Introduction to Deductive Logic - Neil Sims

An introduction to the study of deductive logic. Sentential and predicate calculus will be covered. This course counts for the logic credit required for all philosophy majors.

PHIL 111 Introduction to Inductive Logic – Professor Masato Ishida

This is a FQ course which introduces students to basic concepts and skills of inductive reasoning including probability and statistics. It will be of particular interest to students interested in the philosophy of science, quantifiable forms of uncertainties in the world, and gambling.

PHIL 131 Introduction to World Philosophy II – Micah Sadoy

A survey of the history of philosophy beginning from 1500 CE until today. This course counts as a Foundations credit (FGB)

PHIL 212 Between Ancient and Modern – Emma Irwin

"This course discusses philosophers active from the 9th to 18th centuries who wrote their texts either in post-classical Latin or Arabic. We will study medieval, renaissance and early modern theories of knowledge, being, mind, body and will."
PHIL 222 Existentialism: Being, Freedom, Death – Professor Joseph Tanke

This course provides undergraduate students with an introduction to the 19th- and 20th-century intellectual movement known as Existentialism by way of an analysis of its literary, philosophical, artistic manifestations. We will consider topics like: anxiety, finitude, authenticity, alterity or otherness, and death.

PHIL 242 Philosophy and Science Fiction – Professor Frank Perkins

In this course we will use works of science fiction and philosophical works of non-fiction to explore key philosophical questions about reality, personal identity, ethics, and the meaning of human life. This is a writing intensive (WI) course.

Philosophy of Religion Phil 305 - Professor Arindam Chakrabarti

Can one be spiritual without being religious? Concepts of divine or Buddha’s Omniscience, arguments for and against the existence of God and the problem of evil, the nature of meditative and mystical experience, discussed from a comparative Hindu, Christian, Islamic, Buddhist, Jaina, Jewish, and Hawaiian points of view, with special focus on speech-act and phenomenology of prayer, engaging the question of whether an atheist can pray. This course is Writing Intensive (WI).

PHIL 306 Philosophy of Art – Professor Steve Odin

This course is an introduction to Aesthetics, including the major philosophies of art and beauty that have emerged in the history of both Western and Eastern traditions. Also we will study the creative media in which these aesthetic principles of beauty and the sublime are exemplified, such as painting, film, literature, theater, sculpture, architecture, music and other arts.

PHIL 309 Philosophy of Education – Ben Lukey

An introduction to the study of how philosophy shapes education and pedagogy. This course will be taught in the context of the Philosophy for Children program (P4C).

PHIL 310 Ethics in Health Care – Sharon Rowe

The course will begin with the assumption that students bring with them a basic ethical point of view. We will draw upon theory to support the articulation and critique of these ethical assumptions and with careful thought and discussion, consider a range of contemporary issues in health care. Students are encouraged to bring forward specific cases, issues and questions to develop the content of the course.

PHIL 317 Critical Thinking Pre-Law – Cindy Scheopner

Topic: Should the State of Hawai’i restrict or regulate tourism?

The sudden cessation of travel due to the COVID-19 pandemic gave many Hawai’i residents the first opportunity to experience life without tourists. While the economic impact was dire, the openness and
accessibility of the islands was something many are loath to surrender. Should there be a limit on the number of tourists to Hawai‘i, or restrictions on where they are allowed to stay and visit? As a state, could Hawai‘i make and enforce any such limitations? Students in the class will each write a proposed law, administrative rules to implement it, and argue a brief in support of the law. The final group project is to meet as the Supreme Court to rule on the constitutionality of one of the proposed laws.

**PHIL 318 Philosophy of Law** – Professor George Tsai

An advanced undergraduate course in legal philosophy. Questions to be considered include: What is the nature of law? What is legal authority? What is the relation between law and morality? What is a “guilty mind” (*mens rea*)? What is criminal intent? What justifies punishment? What justifies private property? What is the basis of freedom of expression? What is hate speech?

**PHIL 321 Bodies, Minds, and Selves** – Professor Sean Smith

An survey introduction to the philosophical study of the mind. The course will have three parts. First, it will analyze the mind-body problem and various metaphysical positions designed to solve it. Second, the class will explore the nature of consciousness. Finally, there will be a unit on personal identity and the self with an eye to answering the question: what makes it the case that you are the same person today as you were yesterday?

**PHIL 330 Islamic Philosophy** - David Falgout

This “Islamic Philosophy” course explores major developments in Islamic philosophy from its pre-Islamic roots to the present day. As a survey of the major Islamic philosophers and schools of thought, the course will include such topics as reflections on revelation and divinity, philosophy of science, epistemology, philosophy of history, ethics, mysticism, law, modernity, political philosophy, and other areas of philosophical inquiry.

**PHIL 340 Hawaiian Philosophy: Aloha ʻĀina** – Bruce Kaʻimi Watson

This course will provide students an introduction to an ʻŌiwi philosophy of Hawai‘i as well as the opportunity to engage with Aloha ʻĀina relying upon a methodology and pedagogy consistent with the philosophy being discussed.

**PHIL 350 Indian Philosophy** – Professor Vrinda Dalmiya

A survey of some Classical Indian philosophical systems. Emphasis on understanding the arguments behind ancient world views and the rich tradition of internal debates about the nature of Reality, the self and the good life in Classical India. The course has been approved for a WI and Ethics Focus.

**PHIL 387 The Meaning of War** – Professor Brien Hallett

This course is an in depth look at the moral foundations of war as observed in the world. Is the 1999 WTO protest in Seattle a war? Are the 1960 Nashville lunch counter sit-ins a war? Is the 1943 Battle of San Pietro a war? The just-war criteria, military necessity, the moral status of self/national-defense, AKA self/national-preservation, and the contrast between appearance and reality are discussed.
**PHIL 402 Introduction to Phenomenology** – Professor Sean Smith

This course will survey the Phenomenological tradition starting with the *Logical Investigations* of Husserl and tracing the evolution of his thought through three distinct stages. We will then look at large sections of Martin Heidegger’s *Being and Time* and Merleau-Ponty’s *Phenomenology of Perception*. The course concludes with three critical perspectives on the project of Phenomenology coming from ethics, feminism, and anti-foundationalism.

**PHIL 406 Intro to Zen Buddhism** – Professor Chung-Ying Cheng

Phil 406 on Chan/Zen Buddhism will explore major doctrines of the Chan Buddhistic philosophy including Huineng and 5 schools of the Chan.

**PHIL 414B Western Movements and Periods: Ancient** - Professor Jonathan Fine

The theme of this course will be: Beauty and the Good Life. How does beauty help or harm us in living well? We focus on Plato’s and Aristotle’s responses to this question and consider their modern legacies and challenges.

**PHIL 414G Western Movements and Periods: British Empiricism** – Professor Frank Perkins

This course will consist of a close reading of Hume’s most systematic and comprehensive work, *A Treatise of Human Nature*. We will read the whole book but pay particular attention to those topics that remain most relevant, such as Hume’s account of the self and his ethics. This is a writing intensive (WI) course.

**PHIL 417 Philosophy in Literature** – Professor Joseph Tanke

This advanced undergraduate seminar in the philosophy of literature will be dedicated to analyzing the differences between literary and philosophical languages.

**PHIL 422 Philosophical Psychology** – Professor Arindam Chakrabarti

Mind-Body Dualism, Eliminative Physicalism, Functionalism, Brain-Mind Identity Theories and No-Self theories in contemporary Western and classical Indian Philosophy, the Hard Problem of Consciousness, Panpsychism and Fictionalism about the Mental discussed critically and analytically. This course is Writing Intensive (WI).

**PHIL 492 Philosophy with Children** – Thomas Jackson

This course examines both the theory and practice of doing philosophy with children, where “children” is understood primarily as students and teachers grades K-12. Two key themes are woven together throughout the course. The first is that of creating “an intellectually safe community.” i.e., a place where topics that arise out of the interests of the community are pursued in responsible ways. The second theme is a clarification “Inquiry” that grows out of this intellectually safe community. This idea of inquiry will connect with philosophy. “Philosophy” in this sense is an activity, a way of responding to “content” that begins with the questions & wonderings of the students. The questions/topics
typically arise from their encounter with the subject. The inquiries then aim toward a deeper understanding of their initial wonderings. This is a “philosopher's pedagogy” that shifts the primary energy from the teacher to the classroom community in a search for deeper understanding.

These two themes together provide a framework for the examination of current assumptions concerning the abilities of students, questions of the traditional role of the teacher, views of the role of students in determining the content of instruction, and possible new directions in education.

**PHIL 493 Teaching Philosophy** - Ben Lukey

This course will combine a 90-min. weekly class meeting with practicum visits to local schools. The class will thus combine in-class discussion of how to teach philosophy to children with hands on experience of doing so in a local context.

**PHIL 611 Studies in Ethics** - Professor George Tsai

We will examine recent work in ethics and moral psychology. In particular, we will take up work that addresses the nature and normative significance of the emotions, and how they relate to character, relationships, and social practices. How, or in what ways, do different emotions enable or frustrate the achievement of human good and fulfillment? How could seemingly reasonable or unproblematic motivations and sentiments end up being self-defeating for the agent who possesses them? How might they lead to morally problematic and objectionable forms of relating to other people? Specific topics include: desire, resentment, gratitude, forgiveness, love, trust, promising, hypocrisy, self-deception, and sexual objectification.

**PHIL 617 Studies in Epistemology** - Professor Vrinda Dalmiya

This seminar will discuss some contemporary theories of epistemic injustice in the analytic feminist tradition. We will begin with Miranda Fricker's now classic book on epistemic injustice and move to the further development of its ideas by Jose Medina as well as its critiques. We will take up issues in the "epistemology of ignorance" made famous by Charles Mills but also look critically at the positive role of ignorance in epistemology. Feminist work on Gaslighting, Cognitive Justice, and Vice Epistemology will also be touched upon given class interest.

**PHIL 670 Confucianism** - Professor Chung-Ying Cheng

A seminar looking at Confucian and Neo-Confucian philosophers such as Kongzi, Mengzi, and Xunzi.

**PHIL 720 Seminar on Individual Philosophers (Descartes)** - Professor Tamara Albertini

This seminar is divided into two parts. In the first part, students will read three closely related Cartesian texts: the *Discourse on Method*, *Meditations on First Philosophy*, and *Rules for the Direction of the Mind*. The second part will explore research articles on Descartes’ critiques Pierre Gassendi (d. 1655), Anne Conway (1679), G. F. Leibniz (d. 1716), and Ghanaian philosopher Anton W. Amo (1759) regarding the mind-body problem, mechanical vs vitalist worldviews, and notions of method, certainty and probability.
**PHIL 725 Seminar in Philosophical Topics (Philosophy for Children)** - Thomas Jackson

A graduate level seminar explore the principles and foundations of the Philosophy for Children movement as it has been taught in Hawaii.

**PHIL 780 Seminar in Japanese Philosophy** - Professor Masato Ishida

Advanced seminar on Japanese philosophy with particular emphasis on Dogen (1200-1253) and Nishida Kitaro (1870-1945). “The union of Buddhism and the modern scientific spirit [of the West] . . . this is what I hope most and what I take to be my ultimate goal,” says the late Nishida Kitaro, which reflects how modern Japanese philosophy related itself to classical Japanese Buddhist philosophy. If time permits, we shall also discuss such figures as Kukai (774-835), Saicho (767-822), Shinran (1173-1263), Hakuin (1686-1769), and Watsuji Testuro (1889-1960).