

**UMBC
PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT COURSES
SPRING 2021**

Please note: Classes will meet online during their scheduled times for at least the first session. Instructors will contact students to explain how to access the first session prior to meeting. Instructors will explain the teaching format for the course during this first meeting session.

<u>Course</u>	<u>Meeting Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY			
PHIL 100 01	MWF 9:00-9:50am	Online	James Thomas
02	MWF 10:00-10:50am	Online	James Thomas
03	MW 1:00-2:15pm	Online	James Thomas
04	MW 2:30-3:45pm	Online	Amy Payne
05	MW 4:00-5:15pm	Online	Eric Campbell
06	TTh 11:30am-12:45pm	Online	Amy Payne
07	TTh 1:00-2:15pm	Online	Auksuole Rubavichute
08	TTh 2:30-3:45pm	Online	Amy Payne
09	TTh 4:00-5:15pm	Online	Auksuole Rubavichute
10	TTh 5:30-6:45pm	Online	Auksuole Rubavichute
CRITICAL THINKING			
PHIL 146 01	MWF 9:00-9:50am	Online	Andrew Bridges
02	MWF 10:00-10:50am	Online	Andrew Bridges
CONTEMPORARY MORAL ISSUES			
PHIL 150 01	MWF 10:00-10:50am	Online	Greg Ealick
02	MWF 11:00-11:50am	Online	Greg Ealick
INTRODUCTION TO ETHICS			
PHIL 152 01	MW 1:00-2:15pm	Online	Greg Ealick
02	MW 2:30-3:45pm	Online	Daniel Jenkins
03	TTh 1:00-2:15pm	Online	Michael Harding
04	TTh 2:30-3:45pm	Online	Patrick Mayer
05	TTh 4:00-5:15pm	Online	Michael Harding
INTRODUCTION TO SCIENTIFIC REASONING			
PHIL 248 01	TTh 1:00-2:15pm	Online	Lisa Cassell
ETHICAL ISSUES IN SCIENCE & ENGINEERING			
PHIL 251 01	MW 1:00-2:15pm	Online	Daniel Jenkins
HISTORY OF MODERN PHILOSOPHY			
PHIL 322 01	TTh 2:30-3:45pm	Online	Michael Nance
An examination of major philosophical positions in the 17th and 18th centuries. Philosophers studied typically include Descartes, Spinoza, Locke, Leibniz, Berkeley, Hume and Kant.			

Prerequisites: One course in philosophy with a grade of C or better, or permission of instructor.

MORALITY AND PSYCHOLOGY

PHIL 353 01 MW 1:00-2:15pm Online Eric Campbell

An examination of some of the central issues connecting psychological research to ethical inquiry. Topics to be covered may include: psychological egoism; the nature of moral judgment and moral motivation and their relations; the role of reasoning vs. emotional processes in moral judgments; the social and evolutionary functions of moral sentiments and concepts; how psychological research might shape our understanding of and responses to the questions about whether morality is objective and whether we can be morally responsible for our actions.

Prerequisites: One course in philosophy with a grade of C or better, or permission of instructor.

Recommended Preparation: PHIL 150 or PHIL 152 or PHIL 350 or PSYC 100

POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 355 01 TTh 11:30am-12:45pm Online Michael Nance

A critical examination of selected philosophical theories aimed at addressing such questions as: What is the extent of political authority, and what (if any) legitimate forms can it take? Can coercion by the state be justified? What are the obligations of citizens? What is the nature of law, and can the rule of law extend to states? What understanding of human nature and human needs underlies the various particular answers to such questions? Readings may be drawn from historical as well as contemporary sources. Please see the current Course Schedule for further details.

Prerequisites: One course in philosophy with a grade of C or better, or permission of instructor.

PHILOSOPHY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

PHIL 357 01 MWF 11:00-11:50am Online James Thomas

A philosophical survey of foundational issues about the existence, nature, and origin of human rights, looking at both classic historical as well as contemporary discussions. Topics to be addressed include: competing accounts of the source of human rights; the connection between human rights and the state; the identification and proliferation of specific human rights; the relationship between human rights and social justice; and the role of human rights claims in discussions of pressing global problems such as poverty, economic development, climate change, humanitarian intervention, and obligations to future generations.

Prerequisites: One course in philosophy with a grade of C or better, or permission of instructor.

Recommended Preparation: PHIL 150 or PHIL 152 or PHIL 355 or PHIL 356

ETHICS, INTEGRITY, AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

PHIL 359 10 MW 5:30-6:45pm Online Daniel Jenkins

This course is a survey of topics concerning the ethical responsibilities of scientists in a variety of contexts, emphasizing issues arising in the context of designing and engaging in scientific research. Students will investigate the key features of different fundamental ethical theories, and then use this background to engage with topics such as: data acquisition and management, conflict of interests and scientific objectivity, misconduct in research and publication, the use of human and other animal subjects in research, the social responsibility of scientists. **This course is restricted to BUILD students only.**

Recommended Preparation: PHIL 150 or PHIL 152

PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

PHIL 372 01 TTh 1:00-2:15pm Online Jessica Pfeifer

What is the exact nature of science? This course considers answers given by different philosophical schools. We examine how these schools explicate central scientific terms such as laws, explanations, theories, models, confirmation, justification, scientific progress and scientific revolutions.

Prerequisites: One course in philosophy with a grade of C or better, or permission of instructor.

TOPICS IN PHILOSOPHY: SELF, IDENTITY, AND SURVIVAL

PHIL 399 01 MW 4:00-5:15pm Online Kathryn Brophy

What are we (souls, bodies, persons, etc.), and what guarantees our survival over time? Through the use of thought experiments such as fission, brain transplants, and mind uploading, we will consider several different answers to these questions, ranging from views that take us to be persons with fully psychological persistence conditions to views that take us to be human animals with fully biological persistence conditions. Related topics covered in the course will include embodied cognition and the ontological status of selves.

Prerequisites: One course in philosophy with a grade of C or better, or permission of instructor.

PHILOSOPHY OF LOGIC

PHIL 432 01 TTh 4:00-5:15pm Online Lisa Cassell

This course looks at philosophical questions that arise when we think about logic as an object of study rather than as a system of symbols that we use. We will consider questions like: What is logical truth? How do we know the truths of logic? Is there more than one correct logic? What is the relation between logic and reasoning? We will also explore extensions and alternatives to classical logic and use formal techniques to prove certain things about these logical systems.

Prerequisites: PHIL 346 with a grade of C or better, or permission of instructor.

THE ETHICS OF AGGREGATION

PHIL 453 01 TTh 5:30-6:45pm Online Patrick Mayer

This course looks closely at ethical decisions involving trade-offs, where each decision has a cost, as in the case of a runaway trolley that is going to kill people no matter what you do, but you can decide how many. In such cases should we always do the thing that saves the most lives, or is it unfair to think that the numbers alone determine the ethical issue? Are all lives worth the same, and does this force us to think that only the numbers count?

Prerequisites: One course in philosophy with a grade of C or better, or permission of instructor.

Recommended Preparation: One 300 level course in philosophy, especially PHIL 350 or PHIL 355

SELF-KNOWLEDGE

PHIL 473 01 MW 2:30-3:45pm Online Steve Yalowitz

We seem to know the contents of our own minds – our sensations, thoughts, beliefs, meanings, intentions, emotions – in away quite different from, and far more secure than, our knowledge of the external world. Some philosophers have concluded that self-knowledge does not depend on either knowledge or the existence of the external world. This course looks at attempts to account for this peculiar feature of the mind as well as its relation to the external world.

Prerequisites: One course in philosophy with a grade of C or better, or permission of instructor.

Recommended Preparation: One 300 level course in philosophy, especially PHIL 371, PHIL 373 , PHIL 380

PHILOSOPHY AND EVOLUTION

PHIL 478 01 TTh 10:00-11:15am Online Greg Ealick

An examination of central philosophical debates about the theory of evolution, including foundational issues and broader implications of the theory. Topics may include: What is natural selection and ‘survival of the fittest’? In what sense are organisms adapted to their environments? Can we make sense of the idea of ‘human nature’? What does evolutionary theory imply about groupings of individuals? Can evolutionary theory be used to explain social, ethical, or psychological phenomena? Prior knowledge of evolutionary theory is not required.

Prerequisites: One course in philosophy with a grade of C or better, or permission of instructor.

Recommended Preparation: One 300 level course in philosophy, especially PHIL 372, PHIL 394