

**UMBC  
PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT COURSES  
FALL 2021**

*Please note: All Philosophy Department courses are currently planned to be held in person, subject to classroom availability as well as evolving information about the situation with COVID-19. Classroom locations will be updated as more information becomes available.*

<u>Course</u>	<u>Meeting Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
<b>INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY</b>			
<b>PHIL 100</b> 01	MWF 9:00-9:50am	TBD	James Thomas
02	MWF 10:00-10:50am	TBD	James Thomas
03	MW 1:00-2:15pm	TBD	James Thomas
04	MW 2:30-3:45pm	TBD	Amy Payne
05	MW 4:00-5:15pm	TBD	Amy Payne
06	MW 5:30-6:45pm	TBD	Daniel Jenkins
07	TTh 10:00-11:15am	TBD	Kathryn Brophy
08	TTh 11:30am-12:45pm	TBD	Christopher Arledge
09	TTh 1:00-2:15pm	TBD	Kathryn Brophy
10	TTh 2:30-3:45pm	TBD	Amy Payne
11	TTh 4:00-5:15pm	TBD	Auksuole Rubavichute
12	TTh 5:30-6:45pm	TBD	Michael Harding
<b>INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY – HONORS</b>			
<b>PHIL 100H</b> 01	MW 2:30-3:45pm	TBD	Eric Campbell
<b>CRITICAL THINKING</b>			
<b>PHIL 146</b> 01	MWF 9:00-9:50am	TBD	Andrew Bridges
02	MWF 10:00-10:50am	TBD	Andrew Bridges
<b>CONTEMPORARY MORAL ISSUES</b>			
<b>PHIL 150</b> 02	MWF 11:00-11:50am	TBD	Blake Francis
03	MW 1:00-2:15pm	TBD	Daniel Jenkins
<b>INTRODUCTION TO ETHICS</b>			
<b>PHIL 152</b> 01	MWF 10:00-10:50am	TBD	Greg Ealick
02	MWF 11:00-11:50am	TBD	Greg Ealick
03	MW 2:30-3:45pm	TBD	Daniel Jenkins
04	TTh 1:00-2:15pm	TBD	Greg Ealick
05	TTh 2:30-3:45pm	TBD	Patrick Mayer
<b>INTRODUCTION TO SCIENTIFIC REASONING</b>			
<b>PHIL 248</b> 01	TTh 1:00-2:15pm	TBD	Lisa Cassell

## **HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY: ANCIENT**

**PHIL 321** 01 MW 4:00-5:15pm TBD Whitney Schwab

The history of major philosophical views from the pre-Socratics through Hellenistic philosophy, with special emphasis on the early and middle dialogues of Plato and the physical, ethical and metaphysical works of Aristotle.

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

## **PHILOSOPHY OF LANGUAGE**

**PHIL 345** 01 TTh 10:00-11:15am TBD Greg Ealick

A survey of philosophical issues concerning the nature of meaning, understanding, communication and language. Topics to be discussed may include the relations between meaning, intention and belief; the relationship between mental content and linguistic meaning; interpretation; the possibility of thought without language; the factual status of meaning and understanding; the nature of naming and referring; the relation between individual understanding and the physical and social environment.

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

## **DEDUCTIVE LOGIC**

**PHIL 346** 01 TTh 4:00-5:15pm TBD Lisa Cassell

An introduction to symbolized deductive logic, including the construction of formalized systems for traditional logic, the sentential calculus and first-order predicate calculus. These systems will be constructed semantically (as formalizations of deductive reasoning in natural languages) and syntactically (as uninterpreted systems).

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

## **PHILOSOPHY OF HUMOR**

**PHIL 369** 01 MWF 11:00-11:50am TBD James Thomas

A survey of issues related to the question of whether and how humor can be defined and understood. A variety of psychological and philosophical theories of humor and the causes of laughter will be examined. Examples from different media, including stand-up comedy, podcasts, television, and film, will be used to test competing theories. Special attention will be paid to the ethical implications of offensive humor. Readings will be drawn from historical and contemporary sources.

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

Recommended Preparation: PHIL 100 or PHIL 150 or PHIL 152

## **EPISTEMOLOGY**

**PHIL 371 01** MW 1:00-2:15pm TBD Whitney Schwab

A survey of central issues concerning knowledge, belief and justification. Topics to be covered may include: a priori knowledge, perception, skepticism, the problem of other minds, self-knowledge, coherence and correspondence theories of knowledge and truth, internalist and externalist accounts of justification, foundationalism, naturalism and transcendental arguments. Readings will be drawn from historical and contemporary sources.

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

## **PHILOSOPHY OF MIND**

**PHIL 380 01** MW 2:30-3:45pm TBD Steven Yalowitz

A survey of central issues about the nature of mind and its relation to the physical world. Topics to be discussed may include: the nature of belief, intention, desire, action, emotion, pain; special problems raised by consciousness; competing accounts of personal identity; competing conceptions of the relation between mental and physical states and events, the possibility of psychological laws, and how mental phenomena can play a casual/explanatory role in the physical world.

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

## **METAETHICS**

**PHIL 450 01** MW 5:30-6:45pm TBD Eric Campbell

A close study of the nature of ethical discourse and its relations to the mind and the world. Topics to be considered include: whether there are ethical facts; naturalism vs. non-naturalism about ethical facts; the relationship between ethical judgments and personal attitudes; whether ethical judgments are inherently motivating; whether ethical judgments can be true or false; moral relativism; moral skepticism. Readings will be drawn from historical and contemporary sources.

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

Recommended Preparation: One 300 level course in philosophy with a grade of C or better, especially PHIL 350, PHIL 353, PHIL 380

## **CONSEQUENTIALISM AND ITS CRITICS**

**PHIL 451** 01 TTh 5:30-6:45pm TBD Patrick Mayer

According to Consequentialism, the rightness or wrongness of an action, law, or institution is determined by the value of its consequences. While typically taken for granted in public policy debates, it is often rejected as an adequate moral theory, because it is too demanding in what it requires of moral agents and deviates too far from commonsense morality. This course starts with its classical formulation - Utilitarianism - and then looks at contemporary variants developed in response to these and other criticisms.

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

Recommended Preparation: One 300 level course in philosophy with a grade of C or better, especially PHIL 350, PHIL 353

## **ADVANCED TOPICS IN PHIL. OF SCIENCE: PHILOSOPHY OF SPACE AND TIME**

**PHIL 472** 01 TTh 2:30-3:45pm TBD Christopher Arledge

An investigation into the philosophical implications of modern spacetime theories. Topics include the paradoxes of relativity of simultaneity, the reality of space and time in special and general relativity, the metaphysics of time, temporal perception, time travel and will conclude with a brief look at cutting edge work on black holes and cosmology. Emphasis will be placed on philosophical issues rather than mathematical or physical rigor. No prior background in college mathematics or physics will be presupposed. The minimal relevant physics will be taught along the way.

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

Recommended Preparation: One 300 level course in philosophy with a grade of C or better, especially PHIL 372, PHIL 394, PHIL 395, or a background in some particular science.

## **PARADOXES**

**PHIL 479** 01 TTh 11:30am-12:45pm TBD Jessica Pfeifer

The course will examine some of the central paradoxes that have and continue to puzzle philosophers. A classic example of a paradox is the liar's paradox: 'This sentence is false.' If it is true, then it is false; if it's false, then it's true. Paradoxes have not only led to puzzlement, but also to revolutions in thought about various philosophical issues, such as the nature of truth, meaning, metaphysics, knowledge, and space and time. Amongst the paradoxes the course will consider are logical paradoxes (such as the liar's paradox), paradoxes of space and time, paradoxes of meaning, and paradoxes of knowledge.

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

Recommended Preparation: One 300 level course in philosophy with a grade of C or better, especially PHIL 346, PHIL 371, PHIL 372, PHIL 373, PHIL 380

