

**UMBC
PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT COURSES
FALL 2021**

Please note: All Philosophy Department courses are currently planned to be held in person, subject to evolving information about the situation with COVID-19.

<u>Course</u>	<u>Meeting Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Instructor</u>	
INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY				
PHIL 100	01	MWF 9:00-9:50am	FA 303	James Thomas
	02	MWF 10:00-10:50am	MP 104	James Thomas
	03	MW 1:00-2:15pm	ENG 022	James Thomas
	04	MW 2:30-3:45pm	IT 233	Amy Payne
	05	MW 4:00-5:15pm	UC 302	Amy Payne
	06	MW 5:30-6:45pm	PAHB 234	Daniel Jenkins
	07	TTh 10:00-11:15am	BS 120	Kathryn Brophy
	08	TTh 11:30am-12:45pm	IT 227	Christopher Arledge
	09	TTh 1:00-2:15pm	UC 302	Kathryn Brophy
	10	TTh 2:30-3:45pm	PHYS 201	Amy Payne
	11	TTh 4:00-5:15pm	FA 215	Auksuole Rubavichute
	12	TTh 5:30-6:45pm	FA 303	Michael Harding
INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY – HONORS				
PHIL 100H	01	MW 2:30-3:45pm	SHERM 108	Eric Campbell
CRITICAL THINKING				
PHIL 146	01	MWF 9:00-9:50am	SOND 103	Andrew Bridges
	02	MWF 10:00-10:50am	SOND 103	Andrew Bridges
CONTEMPORARY MORAL ISSUES				
PHIL 150	02	MWF 12:00-12:50pm	SOND 103	Blake Francis
	03	MW 1:00-2:15pm	ENG 022	Daniel Jenkins
INTRODUCTION TO ETHICS				
PHIL 152	01	MWF 10:00-10:50am	SOND 101	Greg Ealick
	02	MWF 11:00-11:50am	IT 231	Greg Ealick
	03	MW 2:30-3:45pm	PAHB 234	Daniel Jenkins
	04	TTh 1:00-2:15pm	UC 302	Greg Ealick
	05	TTh 2:30-3:45pm	MP 106	Patrick Mayer
INTRODUCTION TO SCIENTIFIC REASONING				
PHIL 248	01	TTh 1:00-2:15pm	UC 312	Lisa Cassell

HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY: ANCIENT

PHIL 321 01 MW 4:00-5:15pm IT 102 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 PAHB 108 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 SHERM 003 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 12:00-12:50pm SONND 101 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 PAHB 107 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 PP 208 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 PAHB 229 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 SHERM 108 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 SHERM 108 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 SHERM 108 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