

**UMBC  
PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT COURSES  
SPRING 2023**

<b><u>Course</u></b>	<b><u>Meeting Time</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Instructor</u></b>
<b>INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY</b>			
<b>PHIL 100</b> 01	MWF 9:00-9:50am	ITE 227	James Thomas
02	MWF 10:00-10:50am	SOND 111	James Thomas
03	MW 1:00-2:15pm	PAHB 108	James Thomas
04	MW 2:30-3:45pm	ONLINE	Daniel Jenkins
11	MW 4:00-5:15pm	BS 120	Auksuole Rubavichute
05	MW 5:30-6:45pm	PAHB 107	Amy Payne
06	TTh 10:00-11:15am	PAHB 108	Amy Payne
07	TTh 11:30am-12:45pm	PAHB 107	Amy Payne
08	TTh 1:00-2:15pm	PAHB 108	Jessica Pfeifer
10	TTh 5:30-6:45pm	PAHB 107	Michael Harding
<b>INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY – HONORS</b>			
<b>PHIL 100H</b> 01	TTh 4:00-5:15pm	PAHB 229	Whitney Schwab
<b>CRITICAL THINKING</b>			
<b>PHIL 146</b> 01	MWF 9:00-9:50am	PP 206	Andrew Bridges
02	MWF 10:00-10:50am	PP 206	Andrew Bridges
<b>CONTEMPORARY MORAL ISSUES</b>			
<b>PHIL 150</b> 01	MWF 11:00-11:50am	PAHB 132	Blake Francis
<b>INTRODUCTION TO ETHICS</b>			
<b>PHIL 152</b> 01	MW 1:00-2:15pm	ONLINE	Daniel Jenkins
02	MW 4:00-5:15pm	PAHB 107	Patrick Mayer
04	TTh 11:30am-12:45pm	PAHB 108	Greg Ealick
05	TTh 2:30-3:45pm	PAHB 108	Greg Ealick
06	TTh 4:00-5:15pm	SOND 113	Michael Harding
<b>INTRODUCTION TO SCIENTIFIC REASONING</b>			
<b>PHIL 248</b> 01	TTh 1:00-2:15pm	SOND 109	Lisa Cassell
<b>PHILOSOPHY, RACE, &amp; GENDER</b>			
<b>PHIL 258</b> 01	MW 1:00-2:15pm	PAHB 234	Greg Ealick
This course considers challenges to a central assumption of Western Philosophy: that theories of rational and ethical judgments ought not consider personal characteristics of agents such as their race and gender. The central challenges are that such judgments neither can nor should be separated from such personal characteristics, and that failure to attend to these characteristics not only results in inaccurate conceptions of science, ethics, and other normative disciplines, but also leads to unjust contempt for already marginalized persons.			

## **HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY: MODERN**

**PHIL 322** 01 TTh 1:00-2:15pm PAHB 132 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 TTh 5:30-6:45pm M&P 101 Patrick Mayer

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, PHIL 152, PHIL 350, or PSYC 100

## **PHILOSOPHY AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

**PHIL 357** 01 MWF 11:00-11:50am PAHB 229 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, PHIL 152, PHIL 355, or PHIL 356

## **ETHICS, INTEGRITY, & SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH**

**PHIL 359** 10 MW 5:30-6:45pm PAHB 108 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 LOGIC**

**PHIL 432** 01 TTh 4:00-5:15pm PAHB 456 Lisa Cassell

This course looks at the 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 the 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: PHIL346 with a grade of C or better, or permission of instructor.

## **THE ETHICS OF AGGREGATION**

**PHIL 453** 01 MW 5:30-6:45pm PAHB 456 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: PHIL 150, PHIL 152, PHIL 350, or PHIL 355

## **HARM IN MORALITY AND LAW**

**PHIL 457** 01 MW 1:00-2:15pm PAHB 456 Blake Francis

This course explores the nature of harm, and what justifies various injunctions against harming or failing to prevent harm. Competing theories of harm must address a range of puzzling issues, including whether further people can be harmed, whether the bad Samaritan does harm by failing to benefit, whether being conceived or born can count as a harm or benefit, and whether death harms the person who dies. Implications for criminal and tort law will be addressed.

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

## **SELF-KNOWLEDGE**

**PHIL 473** 01 MW 2:30-3:45pm PAHB 456 Steve Yalowitz

We seem to know the contents of our own minds – our sensations, thoughts, beliefs, meanings, intentions, emotions – in a way 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: PHIL 371, PHIL 373, or PHIL 380

## **POSSIBLE WORLDS**

**PHIL 474 01** TTh 10:00-11:15am PAHB 456 Jessica Pfeifer

There are numerous ways the world might have been different. Possible worlds provide a way of making sense of this. For every way the world might be there is purported to be a possible world that is that way. Possible worlds have been introduced primarily to deal with modal notions, such as necessity and possibility, but they have also proved fruitful in dealing with a number of other philosophical issues, such as the nature of properties, propositions, causation, laws, and counterfactuals. This course will look at various accounts of what possible worlds are and how they can be used to address various philosophical issues.

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 or PHIL 380

## **PHILOSOPHY AND EVOLUTION**

**PHIL 478 01** MW 4:00-5:15pm PAHB 456 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 or PHIL 394

## **PLATO'S REPUBLIC**

**PHIL 483 01** TTh 2:30-3:45pm PAHB 456 Whitney Schwab

The aim of this course is to develop a detailed and comprehensive understanding of Plato's Republic, from the first page to the last. The book will serve as a springboard to discuss fundamental philosophical questions such as: What is the best life for human beings to live? What is the best political organization? What is the nature of the human soul? What is the fundamental structure of reality? What can be known and how can it be known?

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 321