

**UMBC
PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT COURSES
SPRING 2024**

<u>Course</u>	<u>Meeting Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY			
PHIL 100 01	MWF 9:00-9:50am	PAHB 107	James Thomas
02	MWF 10:00-10:50am	PAHB 107	James Thomas
03	MW 1:00-2:15pm	ONLINE	Daniel Jenkins
04	MW 2:30-3:45pm	PAHB 107	Amy Payne
05	MW 4:00-5:15pm	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 234	Patrick Mayer
09	TTh 2:30-3:45pm	PAHB 234	Auksuole Rubavichute
10	TTh 4:00-5:15pm	PAHB 107	Auksuole Rubavichute
11	TTh 5:30-6:45pm	ONLINE	Michael McCourt
CRITICAL THINKING			
PHIL 146 01	MWF 9:00-9:50am	PAHB 108	Andrew Bridges
02	MWF 10:00-10:50am	PAHB 108	Andrew Bridges
CONTEMPORARY MORAL ISSUES			
PHIL 150 01	MW 2:30-3:45pm	ONLINE	Daniel Jenkins
02	TTh 11:30am-12:45pm	PAHB 108	Patrick Mayer
INTRODUCTION TO ETHICS			
PHIL 152 01	MWF 11:00-11:50am	PAHB 107	Greg Ealick
02	MW 4:00-5:15pm	PAHB 108	Andrew Fyfe
03	MW 5:30-6:45pm	ILSB 237	Andrew Fyfe
04	TTh 10:00-11:15am	ONLINE	Michael Harding
05	TTh 1:00-2:15pm	ONLINE	Michael Harding
INTRODUCTION TO ETHICS - HONORS			
PHIL 152H 01	TTh 2:30-3:45pm	PAHB 456	Patrick Mayer
INTRODUCTION TO SCIENTIFIC REASONING			
PHIL 248 01	TTh 4:00-5:15pm	SOND 108	Andrew Fyfe
PHILOSOPHY, RACE, & GENDER			
PHIL 258 01	MW 1:00-2:15pm	FA 014	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 ITE 233 Michael Nance
02 TTh 1:00-2:15pm 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. *For PHIL 322-02, please note that this class is online but requires students to meet with the in person section of the class to take exams.*

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

ETHICS, ANIMALS, AND THE ENVIRONMENT

PHIL 354 01 TTh 11:30am-12:45pm PAHB 229 Greg Ealick

A survey of central issues concerning the moral status of non-human animals and the natural world, focusing on questions concerning the obligations, if any, that humans owe to them. Topics to be discussed include: the existence and nature of animal rights; ethical issues concerning animal experimentation, zoos, and owning pets; vegetarianism; whether the environment has intrinsic or derived value; obligations concerning development of sustainable resources; climate change and obligations to future generations. Readings will be drawn from classical and contemporary sources.

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

POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 355 01 TTh 10:00-11:15am PAHB 229 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.

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

PHILOSOPHY OF LAW

PHIL 356 01 MWF 11:00-11:50am PAHB 108 James Thomas

What is the rule of law, and why is it a good thing? This course addresses these foundational questions and attempts to connect them with practical issues that confront contemporary society. Students will have the opportunity to study various accounts of Constitutional interpretation and judicial review through the examination of landmark and recent Supreme Court decisions. The course will occasionally focus on a special topic such as: race and American law, feminist jurisprudence and International criminal tribunals.

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

ETHICS, INTEGRITY, & SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

PHIL 359 01 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 is a hybrid class and will meet in person on Mondays. The Wednesday class meeting will meet synchronously online.*

Recommended Preparation: PHIL 150 or PHIL 152

EPISTEMOLOGY

PHIL 371 01 MW 4:00-5:15pm PAHB 229 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.

Prerequisite: One PHIL course with a grade of 'C' or better, or permission of instructor

PHILOSOPHY OF MIND

PHIL 380 01 TTh 2:30-3:45pm PAHB 229 Greg Ealick

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 causal/explanatory role in the physical world.

Prerequisite: One PHIL course with a grade of 'C' or better, or permission of instructor.

PHILOSOPHY OF PHYSICS

PHIL 395 01 TTh 5:30-6:45pm PAHB 229 Christopher Arledge

This course is a survey of central issues in the philosophical foundations of physics. We consider some of the major theories in the history of physics, such as Newtonian mechanics, relativity theory, and quantum mechanics. A special emphasis will be given to the consideration of central concepts in these theories, such as time, space, cause, matter, motion, force, field, geometry and probability, as well as scientific paradoxes arising concerning some of these concepts. No familiarity with physics is required.

Prerequisites: One course in philosophy with a grade of C or better, or permission of instructor.
Recommended Preparation: PHIL 372, PHIL 373

METAETHICS

PHIL 450 01 TTh 4:00-5:15pm PAHB 456 Patrick Mayer

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 PHIL course with a grade of 'C' or better, especially PHIL 350, PHIL 353, or PHIL 380.

JUSTICE AND CLIMATE CHANGE

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

This course explores questions concerning justice that arise in finding solutions to climate change, which threatens the lives, livelihoods, homelands, and cultures of billions of people over the next century. Climate change is clearly unjust: it is a side effect of quality-of-life improvements from industrialization, yet most of its victims are poor. Preventing many of its impacts requires interventions and policies that raise questions of fairness. Topics include justice between generations, global justice, environmental racism, reparations, and democratic decision-making.

Prerequisites: One course in philosophy with a grade of C or better, or permission of instructor.
Recommended Preparation: PHIL 354 or PHIL 355

ARISTOTLE'S ETHICS

PHIL 482 01 MW 2:30-3:45pm PAHB 456 Whitney Schwab

Aristotle's ethical theory has exerted a profound influence on the history of Western Philosophy, increasingly so in the last half century. In this course we will aim to gain a comprehensive understanding of his ethics, focusing on his presentation of it in the *Nicomachean Ethics*. Central notions we will examine include happiness, virtue, friendship, and pleasure. We will also delve into some of the scholarly interpretative debates, as well as the recent literature that takes inspiration from Aristotle.

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