Philosophy Courses Fall 2020

PHIL 3375, CRN 2436: Philosophy of Mind

9:00-9:50 MWF Dr. Jesse Butler **Irbv 307**

What are minds? What do we know about them? What should we do with them? This course will investigate a variety of answers to these and other related issues in one of the most active areas of philosophy today. Specific topics covered will include the mind/body problem, consciousness, intentionality, rationality, free will and agency, the nature of the self, personal identity, animal minds, artificial intelligence, the extended mind thesis, and mental disorders. Philosophy majors and minors may take this course to fulfill 3 credit hours in the required "Epistemology & Metaphysics" area or as a general elective. Cognitive Neuroscience minors may take this course to fulfill 3 credit hours of required coursework.

PHIL 3345, CRN 24439: Feminist Philosophy

9:25-10:40 TTh

Dr. Taine Duncan

Irby 316

In this course we will analyze the tradition and breadth of feminist philosophy. We will focus on the ways that feminist philosophical positions have emerged from, provided challenges to, and reached beyond canonical philosophy. We will also explore the various feminist movements and periods within the tradition of feminist philosophy itself—addressing the political, existential, epistemological and ethical questions inherent in the feminist tradition. Probing further, we will discuss the ways in which feminist ideas affect our own lives and lived experience.

PHIL 3341, CRN 24440: Theories of Knowledge

10:50-12:05 TTh

Irby 311 Dr. Sharon Mason

What is knowledge? How is knowing different from merely believing or having an opinion? Are some sources of knowledge better than others? Can someone have knowledge without knowing it? Why is knowledge valuable? This course is an introduction to epistemology, the philosophical study of knowledge and related concepts like belief, truth, and justification. Our focus will be almost entirely on contemporary epistemology, and the course is guided by two main objectives. First, students will learn about many of the key epistemological positions and theories that have shaped the development of present-day epistemology and that are of ongoing philosophical interest. Second, we will be paying close attention to practical questions about how and why epistemology matters in today's world. This course fulfills one 3-credit hour elective in the Epistemology and Metaphysics distribution area.

PHIL 3300, DRN 10189: Greek and Roman Philosophy

10:00-10:50 MWF

Dr. Benjamin Rider

Irby 102

This course is a survey of the major figures and philosophical movements in Greece and Rome, from the beginnings of philosophy in Ionia up through the early Roman Empire. The main focus of the course will be on close reading of texts by Plato and Aristotle, but we will also spend several weeks on pre-Socratic philosophers and Hellenistic philosophy. This course is required for all philosophy majors. Philosophy minors may use this course to fulfill 3 credits in the "History of Philosophy" area or as a general elective.

PHIL 3395, CRN 24441: Topics in Philosophy, Ethics Bowl

12:15-1:30 TTh

Dr. Benjamin Rider

Irby 316

PHIL 3390, CRN 21963: Internship in Philosophy

Mr. Phillip Spivey

Students must have the permission of the instructor to enroll in this course.

PHIL 3310, CRN 24443: Symbolic Logic

2:40-3:55 TTh

Dr. Gary Thiher

Irby 316

One of the great intellectual achievements of the late 19th and early 20th centuries was the development of symbolic logic (sometimes called formal or deductive logic). Symbolic logic is the result of a philosophical effort to, as George Boole puts it "investigate the fundamental laws of those operations of the mind by which reasoning is performed; to give expression to them in the symbolical language of a Calculus." This class fulfills the logic requirement for philosophy majors OR one 3-credit hour elective in the Epistemology and Metaphysics distribution area (not both). It also fulfills one Upper Division "I" (Critical Inquiry) designation for the UCA Core.

Philosophy Courses Fall 2020

PHIL 2310, CRN 10107: Introduction to Logic

10:50-12:05 TTh

Dr. Gary Thiher

Irby 316

This class OR PHIL 3310: Symbolic Logic is required of all philosophy majors and minors.

A thorough grounding in the basics of logic - i.e., in the study of good form in arguments and evidence. Includes deductive logic through the basics of modern symbolic techniques and a review of criteria for inductive logic in uses ranging from sample surveys to scientific method.

PHIL 4340, CRN 24298: Meaning of Life TBD

8:00-9:15 TTh

Irby 316

This course will focus on philosophical issues revolving around the meaning(s) of life. As a Capstone Course for students in philosophy and religious studies, students will be expected to play a significant participatory role in the class. (This course will provide capstone course credit for philosophy or religious studies, if so desired, and 3 hours credit in the "Social, Political, Values" area in Philosophy or 3 hours elective credit in "Religious Thought" area of Religious Studies.)