PHILOSOPHY & WORLD RELIGIONS COURSE BOOK

There's a class for that.

Fall 2024

Summer 2024
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Philosophize!

Philosophy Courses, Fall 2024

PHIL 1030: Elementary Logic w/ Prof. Boedeker on mwf @ 12:00-12:50--UNIFI
Critical thinking, using both formal and informal methods, including proof techniques and recognizing logical fallacies. Enhances reading, writing, and thinking in any area of study, and in preparing for grad school exams (e.g. LSAT, GMAT, & GRE).

PHIL 1040: Justice & the Good Life--UNIFI
What makes a society just or unjust? What does it mean to lead a happy and satisfying life? Gain philosophical perspectives on how to do good in our communities and lead meaningful lives.
10:00-10:50 and 11:00-11:50 mwf w/ Prof. Lahroodi
1:00-1:50 and 2:00-2:50 mwf w/ Prof. Preston

PHIL 1050: The Art of Critical Thinking & Writing w/ Prof. Earle on mwf @ 12:00 & 1:00 --UNIFI
Critical thinking and academic writing skills using philosophical texts.

PHIL 1560: Science, Technology & Ethics--UNIFI
Interdisciplinary survey of ethical issues raised by recent developments in science and technology. Sample topics may include, but are not limited to, artificial intelligence, genetic engineering, big data, privacy, energy, medicine, and science itself.
12:30-1:45 and 3:30-4:45 tth with Prof. Hesse        online with Prof. Earle

PHIL 2230: Age of Reason: Phil in the Renaissance & Enlightenment w/ Prof. Boedeker on tth 12:30-1:45
History of philosophy from Renaissance through Hume, with emphasis on continental rationalism & British empiricism.

PHIL 2570: Good Sex: The Ethics of Human Sexuality w/ Prof. Earle on tth @ 3:30-4:45
This course introduces students to a range of ethical perspectives (religious and non-) on what constitutes good sex, morally speaking. It then brings these perspectives to bear on a number of issues in the realm of sexual ethics including: homosexuality, casual sex, sex for sale, and abortion.

PHIL 3350: How We Know: Philosophical Perspectives w/ Prof. Lahroodi on mwf @ 1:00-1:50
This introduction to contemporary epistemology examines fundamental questions about human knowledge: What distinguishes knowledge from mere belief? What can we know with certainty? What makes certain beliefs irrational?

PHIL 3370 Philosophy of Law w/ Prof. Preston on mwf @ 11:00-11:50
This course provides an introduction to philosophy of law that is both thematically and historically oriented. Our chief concern will be to understand the nature of law and its implications for morality and our social and political existence together. Prerequisite(s): junior standing or consent of instructor.

PHIL 3510 Biomedical Ethics w/ Prof. Degnin Weds @ 5:00-7:50--UNIFI
Application of principles and analytic methods of ethical theory to contemporary issues in medical practice and research. Topics include fundamental concepts of health and disease, life and death; rights and obligations of medical practitioners and their patients; informed consent and confidentiality; abortion and euthanasia; reproductive and transplantation technologies; and health policy and the provision and rationing of health care.

MGMT 3974 Business, Ethics, & Society w/ new professor! @ 9:00 & 10:00 mwf
Application of ethical principles and analytic methods to contemporary issues in business, including how ethical considerations factor into your prospective profession.

PHIL 4490 Professional Development Seminar w/ Prof. Boedeker mw @ 2:00-3:15
This course focuses on the multiple ways in which the philosophy major can prepare you for whatever you decide to do after you graduate. Junior standing or consent of instructor.
RELS 1020--Religions of the World--UNIFI
Living religions with emphasis on texts, beliefs, tradition, values, and practices.
th 2:00-3:15 & 3:30-4:45 Graziano
online via eLearning Steed

RELS 1040: The Power of Myth: Creation w/ Prof. Burnight on mwf @ 1:00-1:50 &
2:00-2:50 (honors)—UNIFI
How did the world come to exist. How did we get here? Why are we here? Exploration of creation myths from around the world.

RELS 1040: Power of Myth: Heroes & Tricksters w/ Prof. Hill, tth @ 12:30-1:45—UNIFI
Considers the meaning and importance of myth through the idea of the hero and the trickster. Reading myths from many different cultures, what do heroes and tricksters tell us about the world around us? what do they reveal about the sacred? What do they tell us about what it means to be human?

RELS 1060: American Religious Diversity w/ Prof. Burnidge, mwf @ 10 & 11—UNIFI, FYO
This course considers instances of religious intolerance experienced by minority communities in the United States and how religious minorities have contributed to American ideas about religious freedom and other aspects of American democracy.

RELS 2100: Hinduism & Buddhism w/ Prof. Steed on tth @ 9:30-10:45 on Zoom
Examination of Hinduism and Buddhism in detail.

RELS 2570: Good Sex: The Ethics of Human Sexuality w/ Prof. Earle tth @ 3:30-4:45
This course introduces students to a range of ethical perspectives (religious and non-) on what constitutes good sex, morally speaking. It then brings these perspectives to bear on a number of issues in the realm of sexual ethics including: homosexuality, casual sex, sex for sale, and abortion.

RELS 2600: Religion & the Public Schools w/ Prof. Graziano on tth @ 11:00-12:15
This course is a study of the relationship between religion, law and public education in the United States. Through this course, students will understand how and why the role of religion in public education has been lived, legislated, and adjudicated in complicated (and sometimes contradictory) ways. This interdisciplinary course draws from studies of education, law, political science, history, and religion.

RELS 3159: Sacred Texts: Liberation & Oppression w/ Prof. Burnight on mwf @ 10:00-10:50
This course will explore the twin themes of liberation and oppression in a number of ancient religious texts, including those of Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism. We will examine these sacred scriptures through the lens of a variety of moral and ethical theories, paying particular attention to how they have challenged—and sometimes reinforced—the status quo of the various cultures and time periods in which they emerged.

RELS 3500: Religion & Ethics w/ Prof. Degnin on tth @ 2:00-3:15—UNIFI
Examination of key issues having to do with religion and ethics, including the moral function of religion, religious pluralism, war and peace, freedom and responsibility, religion and politics, religion and gender, and social justice.

PHIL/RELS 3510: Bio-Medical Ethics w/ Prof. Degnin on w @ 5:00-7:50 p.m.—UNIFI
Application of principles and analytic methods of ethical theory to contemporary issues in medical practice and research. Topics include fundamental concepts of health and disease, life and death; rights and obligations of medical practitioners and their patients; informed consent and confidentiality; abortion and euthanasia; reproductive and transplantation technologies; and health policy and the provision and rationing of health care.

RELS 4490: Professional Development Seminar w/ Prof. Burnidge on mw @ 2:00-3:15
Through reflection, integration, and professional discernment, majors in the study of religion will bring their work in the major to critical integration, clarifying what they have done and linking their achievements with life goals. Prereq: Junior standing or consent of instructor.
The Study of Religion Club

The Study of Religion Club (STORC) is a student organization that is aimed towards creating a welcoming and open environment for discussion of religion as it relates to popular culture, current events, and society in an academic setting. We meet primarily on Monday evenings periodically throughout the year, hosting a variety of events ranging from game nights to lectures. For more information you can find us on Facebook @STORC.UNI, Instagram @uni.storc, or email us at uni.storc@gmail.com to be added to our email list!

Get Involved in our Department Clubs!

Philosophy Club

Philosophy Club works to create a space in which students of any background can come together, make friends, and build their community by collaboratively exploring questions and ideas found in philosophy through student-led discussions, activities, guest appearances from professors, and much more!
Summer 2024
UNIFI COURSES

MAY TERM 2024
PHIL 1040: JUSTICE AND THE GOOD LIFE
w/Professor Lahroodi Online ARR
(UNIFI-Responsibility)

PHIL 1560: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, & ETHICS
w/ Professor Earle Online ARR
(UNIFI-Responsibility)

RELS 1020 RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD
w/Professor Hill Online ARR
(UNIFI-Human Condition: Global)

JUNE-JULY 8-WEEK
PHIL 3110/RELS 3110
PERSPECTIVES ON DEATH & DYING
w/Professor Degnin
TTH, 6:00-7:50 p.m. on Zoom + ARR
(UNIFI-Human Condition: Global)
The perfect minor for any major: 15 credits to enhance your resume, your work, and your life.

The Ethics minor is intended to provide students of diverse major fields of study a way to focus and develop their interest in ethics both by offering them a core of courses essential to an understanding of the field of ethics and by advising them in the selection of courses that enable them to develop depth and detail in theoretical, professional, and applied ethics.

For more information visit uni.edu/philrel
We will explore ethical issues raised by developments in science and technology (both recent and historical). Prof. Hesse’s classes emphasize nuclear power, information technologies, and climate change through the reading of Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein*, George Orwell’s *1984*, and Jared Diamond’s *Collapse*. Prof. Earle’s sections focus on historical and late 20th century philosophical perspectives on science and technology with a focus on virtual reality simulations.

**We all need to know about the ethics of technology.**

**There’s a class for that.**
GOOD SEX:
The Ethics of Human Sexuality

Ever wondered about the connections and tensions between sex and human flourishing?

There's a class for that.
What makes a being a “person?” Is it ever ok to “pull the plug?”

Is it ever ok to lie to a patient?

How much do we “defer” to parent’s religious beliefs, particularly if it means that their child may die?

Is it ethical for a provider (doctor, pharmacist...) to refuse an otherwise legal treatment on the basis of that provider’s moral beliefs?

There's a class for that.
Where is the line between loyalty to one’s company and obligations to report wrongdoing? Can corporations have goals beyond profit maximization? Do we have obligations to be charitable with our money and time? Is capitalism compatible with environmental sustainability? Do we “vote with our wallets” when we make purchases? What principles justify various rights: collective bargaining, intellectual property, equal opportunity?

These are among the most pressing questions of our time, affect each of our lives, and will be the focus of our course.

How do ethical considerations factor into your prospective profession?

There’s a class for that.