

MINI-CATALOG

THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY, RELIGION & CLASSICAL STUDIES  
COURSE OFFERINGS  
SPRING 2018

**PHILOSOPHY COURSES**

<b>PHL 100/Introduction to Philosophy</b>	Sec.01 (40507) McAndrew	9:30-10:50 AM MR
	.02 (40511) McAndrew	2:00 – 3:20 PM TF
	.03 (40513) Conley	11:00-12:20 PM TF
	.04 (40524) Edwards	2:00 – 3:20 PM TF

A course that examines the fundamentals of philosophical argument, analysis and reasoning, as applied to a series of issues in logic, epistemology, metaphysics and ethics. Topics covered may include: logical validity, theories of knowledge and belief, the nature of mind, the nature of reality, arguments for the existence of God, and theories of right and wrong. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

<b>PHL 120/Introduction to Logic</b>	Sec.01 (40508) Kang	12:30 – 1:50 PM MR
	.02 (40509) Kang	2:00 – 3:20 PM MR
	.03 (40510) Roberts	3:30 – 6:20 PM T
	.04 (42340) Conley	9:30 – 10:50 AM TF

A course on the basic principles and techniques of correct reasoning in ordinary life, philosophy, the liberal arts, and the law. Study of the formal systems of sentence logic and predicate logic. Translation of natural language statements and arguments and analysis and evaluation of deductive arguments through the construction of proofs. Focus particularly on the power and precision of the natural language with the aim of helping students increase their ability to think and write with creativity, precision and rigor.  
(This course is recommended for pre-law students and satisfies a requirement for the Law and Society Interdisciplinary Concentration and for the Law, Politics, and Philosophy Interdisciplinary minor.)  
(LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing; Writing Intensive)

<b>PHL 135/Contemporary Moral Issues</b>	Sec.01 (40512) Howarth	2:00 – 3:20 PM MR
	.02 (40514) Howarth	3:30 – 4:50 PM MR
	.03 (40515) Taylor	9:30-10:50 AM MR
	.04 (40518) Taylor	11:00-12:20 PM MR

This course provides an introduction to ethics, one of the main branches of philosophy. It aims to familiarize students with basic concepts and theories in ethics, and with how they may be applied to a range of contemporary moral issues. Topics addressed may include racism, sexism, abortion, euthanasia, cloning, capital punishment, our obligations to the disadvantaged, the treatment of non-human animals, just war, and the like. Students will be encouraged to learn from great thinkers of the past and of the present, to examine their own moral values and beliefs, and to take reasoned and informed stands on the issues treated. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

<b>PHL 205/History of Modern Philosophy</b>	Sec.01 (41818) McAndrew	9:30 – 10:50 AM TF
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*Prerequisite:* One course in philosophy or permission of instructor

In this course we will address some of the most central (and exciting!) questions in philosophy through the work of some of the most important philosophers within the Western tradition. Drawing primarily on the work of the Rationalists Descartes, Leibniz, and Spinoza, and the Empiricists Locke, Berkeley, and Hume, together with the work of Kant, we will address three major issues: How can we have knowledge of the external world? Does God exist? Do humans possess free will? Since all three of these issues are live philosophical questions this course will not merely

focus on providing an exegetical account of the views of the above philosophers whose work we will read. Although you will become familiar with their views we will also examine these philosophers' work critically, and seeing how and in what way it has implications for contemporary philosophical debates.

(LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing; Writing Intensive)

**PHL 210/Indian Philosophy** Sec.01 (41814) Le Morvan 2:00 – 3:20 PM TF  
*Prerequisite:* One course in philosophy or religion or permission of instructor

This course critically examines major issues and positions in Indian philosophy of the Hindu, Buddhist, and Jain traditions. The course will revolve around four main questions: What is Indian philosophy? Who or what am I? What is reality and how can it be known? How should I live? Students will be encouraged to learn from great thinkers of the past and of the present, to examine their own values and beliefs, and to take reasoned and informed stands on the issues treated. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

**PHL 245/Existentialism** Sec.01 (41840) Kamber 12:30 – 1:50 PM MR

Existentialism is a philosophical movement that examines the world from the standpoint of the individual human being. It strives to illuminate the journey from birth to death that each of us travels in a search for meaning and personal identity. Our focus this semester will be on Soren Kierkegaard, Friedrich Nietzsche, Martin Heidegger, Jean-Paul Sartre, Albert Camus, and Simone de Beauvoir. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

**PHL 265/Environmental Ethics** Sec.01 (42341) Conley 3:30 – 6:20 PM T  
*Prerequisite:* One course in philosophy or permission of instructor.

This course provides a comprehensive overview of the key issues and arguments within the field of environmental ethics. The course includes an examination of some basic issues in metaethics and normative ethical theory, and several kinds of ethical arguments for animal rights and environmental protection. We will also study major environmental movements, such as deep ecology, social ecology, ecofeminism and the environmental justice movement, and will consider selected public policy issues such as habitat preservation, land-use management, or pollution abatement. Special attention will be given to the issue of climate change, in particular, whether the present generations of human beings have a moral responsibility to future generations mitigate the effects of atmospheric pollution believed to be causing global warming. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

**PHL 311/Philosophy of Science** Sec.01 (42524) Le Morvan 11:00 – 12:20 AM TF  
*Prerequisite:* One philosophy course and one natural or social science course or permission of instructor

A seminar examining the epistemological, metaphysical, and ethical issues raised by science. Issues addressed may include: scientific realism vs. anti-realism, scientific explanation, the historical development of science, induction, scientific observation, confirmation theory, and the ethical responsibility of scientists. Students will be encouraged to learn from great thinkers of the past and of the present, to reflect on their own values and beliefs concerning science, and to take reasoned and informed stands on the issues treated.

**PHL 420/Metaphysics** Sec. 01 (41817) Preti 2:00 – 3:20 PM R  
*Prerequisite:* One course in philosophy or permission of instructor

A seminar promoting deeper understanding of core issues in contemporary theories of consciousness in the analytic tradition. Topics covered may include: dualist theories, type-identity theories, token-identity theories, the logic of identity, the nature of causation and scientific explanation, models of explanation, causation, theories of mental representation, artificial intelligence and zombies.

**PHL 494/Senior Project**  
*Prerequisite:* Senior status or junior status, and permission of instructor

A writing project prepared under the advisement of a member of the philosophy faculty. Students must complete a carefully researched and written, in-depth work in philosophy on a topic of significance in philosophy, selected by the student in consultation with faculty and written under the close supervision of a faculty member who serves as advisor.

**PHL 495/Senior Thesis Research**

*Prerequisite:* Senior standing as a philosophy major and permission of instructor

Independent research under the guidance of a full-time faculty member on a mutually agreed-on topic. Students will be expected to define a topic suitable for a capstone thesis, conduct a series of appropriate literature reviews, and develop a writing plan.

**PHL 496/Senior Thesis**

*Prerequisite:* PHL 495 and permission of instructor

A substantial writing project prepared under the advisement of a member of the philosophy faculty. Students must complete a carefully researched and written, in-depth work in philosophy on a topic of significance in philosophy, selected by the student in consultation with faculty and written under the close supervision of a faculty adviser.

**RELIGION COURSES****REL 100/Basic Issues in Religion**

Sec.01 (41841) Rech

8:00-9:20 AM TF

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to: different ways of analyzing religion as part of human culture, different forms of religious expressions (such as rites), and different religious beliefs.

(LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

**REL 110/World Religions**

Sec.01 (40648) Richardson

2:00-3:20 PM MR

This course focuses on the exploration of the world's major religious traditions. Students will examine and compare the essential teachings, and the historical and cultural context, of most or all of the following: Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and one or more additional non-western traditions.

(LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing; Global)

**REL 111/Buddhism & Buddhist Thought**

Sec.01 (40649) Thomas

9:30 – 10:50 AM MR

This course will study the historical and philosophical development of Buddhism from its origin in India to its modern day practice in Japan and Tibet. It will explore the essential teachings and practice of Buddhism both in its early and modern form found in India, Sri Lanka, China, Japan and Tibet. It will examine both primary texts from various Buddhist traditions and secondary materials in order to gain a better appreciation for this religious tradition which has survived in Asia for centuries and is gaining popularity in the West in recent times.

(LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing; Global)

**REL 112/Hinduism and Hindu Thought**

Sec.01 (41820) Thomas

11:00 – 12:50 PM MR

The goal of this course is to introduce students to the main ideas of Hinduism through an exploration of those issues which reveal basic beliefs, attitudes and the important values in the Hindu religious community. The course will combine a broadly historical approach highlighting major movements and persons with a focused exploration of some philosophical issues that shape and inform the Hindu worldview. Topics to be covered include the Vedas and the Upanishads, Yoga and the Bhagavad Gita, and the contemporary Hindu revivalist movements. The course will attempt to combine scholarship with a concern for an appreciative understanding of the subject.

(LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing; Global)

**REL 121/Modern Judaism**

Sec.01 (41820) Greenbaum

11:00 – 12:20 PM MR

This course will examine the fundamentals, history and development of the Jewish faith and way of life. The relationship between Jewish historical experience and the evolving theological responses to that experience will be traced. Primary texts, drawn primarily from the Jewish experience in the modern period, will be examined as illuminations of this relationship. The vocabulary of Jewish theological expression will be explored as it relates to the history of Jewish philosophical inquiry. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

**REL 170-01/Special Topic: Jewish Mysticism**

Sec.01 (40651) Greenbaum 12:30 – 1:50 PM MR

This course will cover a broad scope of Mystical concepts. From the afterlife, angels and demons to the inner makeup of the human psyche, students will become familiar with many of the major topics as well as leading scholars in this field. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

**REL 210/Indian Philosophy**

Sec.01 (41842) Le Morvan 2:00 – 3:20 PM TF

*Prerequisite:* One course in philosophy or religion or permission of instructor

This course critically examines major issues and positions in Indian philosophy of the Hindu, Buddhist, and Jain traditions. The course will revolve around four main questions: What is Indian philosophy? Who or what am I? What is reality and how can it be known? How should I live? Students will be encouraged to learn from great thinkers of the past and of the present, to examine their own values and beliefs, and to take reasoned and informed stands on the issues treated. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

**REL373/Women and Spirituality**

Sec.01 (40652) Hopps 11:00-12:20 PM MR

This course focuses on the intersections of feminism and spirituality, examines the experiences of women in a variety of spiritual traditions, and examines how worldview is shaped by historical context. The question of how feminists connect to, critique, transform, and remember spiritual experience will be considered. The course explores several aspects of spirituality including language, ritual and creativity; it also considers what happens when feminists alter, shape, retell and interpret rituals and traditions. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing; Gender)

**CLASSICAL STUDIES COURSES****CLS 108/Late Antiquity**

(same as HIS 108)

Sec.01 (40494) Chiekova

9:30 – 10:50 AM MR

Sec.02 (42094) Chiekova

12:30 - 1:50 PM MR

Tracing the breakdown of Mediterranean unity and the emergence of the multicultural-religious world of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> centuries as the European, West Asian, and North African hinterlands interact. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

**CLS 111/Rome and the Barbarians**

(same as HIS 111)

Sec.01 (42455) Chazelle

11:00 – 12:20 PM MR

Sec.02 (42456) Chazelle

2:00 – 3:20 PM MR

An examination of western Eurasia and the Mediterranean from the third to the ninth centuries. Topics include the "fall" of Rome; the impact of contacts between "Roman" and "barbarian" populations (Huns, Vandals, Goths, etc. etc.); barbarian society and culture; artistic developments; relations among Christians, Jews, Muslims, and pagans. (LL: Social Change in Historical Perspectives)

**CLS 250/Introduction to Greek Mythology**

Sec.01 (40487) Dakin

11:00 – 12:20 PM TF

.02 (40488) Pilney

2:00 – 3:20 PM MR

.03 (40490) Haynes

9:30 – 10:50 AM TF

.04 (41821) Haynes

2:00 – 3:20 PM TF

This course is an introduction to ancient Greek mythology through primary texts such as Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, Aeschylus' *Agamemnon*, Sophocles' *Ajax*, et al. We shall focus on the Trojan War cycle of myths and its greatest heroes in order to understand how the ancient Greeks explored important aspects of their society through literature that



Requirements for Major in Philosophy
Ten PHL courses, including:
<b>Logic (1 course unit)</b> PHL 120/Introduction to Logic <i>or</i> PHL 220/Metalogic
<b>History of Philosophy (2 course units)</b> PHL 201/History of Ancient Philosophy <i>and</i> PHL 205/History of Modern Philosophy
<b>Ethics (1 course unit)</b> PHL 350/Ethical Theory <i>or</i> PHL 375/Law and Ethics
<b>Epistemology or Metaphysics (1 course unit)</b> PHL 410/Theory of Knowledge <i>or</i> PHL 420/Metaphysics
<b>Philosophy Electives (4 course units)</b> Four additional philosophy courses including at least two at the 300 or 400 level.
<b>Senior Capstone (1-2 course units)</b> PHL 494/Senior Project (1 course unit) <i>or</i> PHL 495/Senior Thesis Research <i>and</i> PHL 496/Senior Thesis (2 course units)

Required Courses for Philosophy Major with Specialization in Ethics	Required Courses for Philosophy Major with Specialization in Law and Philosophy
Ten PHL courses, including:	Ten PHL courses, including:
PHL 255 (Biomedical Ethics), 350 (Ethical Theory) and 430 (Advanced Ethics); Senior capstone in ethics (10 courses total)	PHL 275 (Philosophy of Law) and 375 (Law and Ethics); Senior capstone in law and philosophy (10 courses total)
For more information, see Melinda Roberts.	For more information, see Melinda Roberts.

Requirements for Minor in Philosophy	Requirements for Minor in Religion	Requirements for Interdisciplinary Concentration in Religious Studies	Requirements for Interdisciplinary Minor in Classical Studies	Requirements for Interdisciplinary Concentration in Classical Studies
Five PHL courses, including:	Five courses, including:	Six courses, including:	Five courses, including:	Six courses, including:
PHL 120/Introduction to Logic; PHL 201/History of Ancient Phil. <i>or</i> PHL 205/History of Modern Phil.; One additional PHL course at any level; Two additional PHL courses at 300 or 400 level	Two REL courses; Three courses from selected list. Two of the five courses must be at the 300 or above level.	One course in each of world religions, religious culture and critical issues; two courses from social science and history, all from selected lists. One additional course approved by program coordinator.	GRE 201 or LAT 201 One course in ancient history of philosophy from selected list; One course in ancient art or literature from selected list; Two additional courses approved by program coordinator. Two of the five courses must be at the 300 or above level.	Five courses satisfying the requirements for the Classical Studies Minor; one additional course approved by program coordinator. At least two courses must be at the 300 or above level.
For more information, see Melinda Roberts	For more information, see Pierre Le Morvan.	For more information, see Pierre Le Morvan.	For more information, see Holly Haynes.	For more information, see Holly Haynes.

For more information, please see <http://www.tcnj.edu/~philos/index.html>