

PHILOSOPHY – FALL 2019

VARIABLE TITLES AND OTHER SPECIAL OFFERINGS



See the catalog/course schedule for a full list. This flier highlights new courses and courses that are unlikely to be offered again for roughly two years.



BRAND NEW THIS TERM (both serve as PHIL electives in any of our programs)

- **PHIL 126-001: *Introduction to Global Philosophies* (Ramsey, M/W/F 11:15-12:05) CRN 15207**



Philosophy, or the “love of wisdom,” is a human activity found in most, if not all, cultures. This course explores the formative philosophical thought of some of the world’s great cultures so to come to a better understanding of what philosophy is and how philosophy has been done in other cultures and periods. This section examines early Confucianism, early Buddhism, Islamic philosophy and Aztec philosophy, respectively. We will discuss each of the four philosophical traditions on their own terms as well as in terms of the other three. Because we will be juxtaposing these four traditions, students will have an opportunity compare their ways of understanding of concepts like wisdom, good and bad, the human condition, personhood, reality, truth, and knowledge; and hence to deeper their own understanding of these concepts as well.

- **PHIL 280-001: *Philosophy of Science* (Brown T/R 11-12:15) CRN 15215**



This is an introduction to the philosophy of science focused on questions about its nature, methods and goals. Some of the questions we explore include: *What distinguishes science from pseudo-science? What constitutes the ‘scientific method?’ and What is scientific objectivity?* Students in this course will learn to deploy a variety of philosophical methods to explore both conceptual and practical issues embedded in scientific work. Although the course emphasizes contemporary manifestations of these issues, students will be exposed to episodes from the history of science illustrating how and why such issues arise.

Please note: while the course is designed to be accessible and relevant to undergraduate students generally and no prior coursework in philosophy is expected or assumed. However, the course may be of particular interest to students pursuing degrees in the theoretical and applied sciences.

HISTORY of PHILOSOPHY ELECTIVE

- **PHIL 246-001: *Early Chinese Philosophy* (Ramsey M/W/F 12:20-1:10) CRN 15214**



Is there human nature and is it morally good? What is the nature of ethical inquiry and knowledge? How should political systems be organized to encourage individuals’ ethical development? What is the role of society in shaping responsive and responsible persons? This course explores those questions through six important philosophical texts written between 600-221BCE — the Confucian Analects, Mengzi, & Xunzi; the Daoist classics Daodejing & Zhuangzi; and the legalist Hanfeizi. We will also consider the historical and cultural context of the texts and some challenges they pose to traditional Western philosophical paradigms.

VALUE-THEORY ELECTIVE (May be substituted as a PHIL Elective in any of our programs)

- **MIND 288-001: *Ethics Through Fiction & Film* (Matchett T/R 3:30-4:45) CRN 14766**



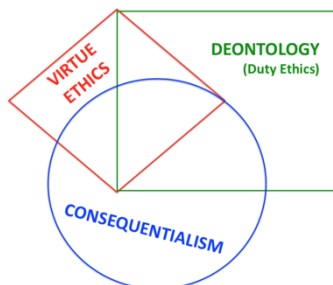
This course places theoretical writings alongside works of literature, film, and television to explore both the nature of morality and some of its practical applications. Although you will learn about the philosophical justifications for different forms of moral agency and different ways of thinking about morality, the emphasis of the course will be on the way these approaches are exemplified in narratives (including both fictional creations, and the real-life stories we tell about ourselves) and in particular on the extent to which

they can, or should, be embodied in concrete characters (again including both fictional characters and actual human beings). Along the way, we will also consider the relevance of storytelling to moral development and ethical decision-making. Students in this course work together to interpret the moral lessons found in various works.

COURSES that are ONLY OFFERED IN FALL :

- **PHIL 350-001: *Ethical Theory* (Matchett, T/R 12:30-1:45)**

CRN 13569



We are engaged in ethics any time we seek answers to questions about how we should live. Some of these questions are specific and practical (*Is it ever acceptable to lie for a friend? Should confederate monuments be removed from public places in the US?*). Others are more abstract and general (*What does it mean to be a good person? How do we determine whether an action is morally appropriate?*). This course focuses *primarily* on questions of the second sort, and in particular, on some of the theories western philosophers have developed in an attempt to explain the nature of morality and the general structure of an ethical life. But since those theories also provide guidance for moral decision-

making, practical questions will never be far from our minds. *Note: this course is organized to provide an overview of western philosophical ethics while also highlighting topics and issues that are especially central among philosophers working today; but there are no pre-requisites and it is designed to be suitable for non-majors too.*

- **PHIL 360-001: *Feminist Theories* (Talbot, T/R 11-12:30)**

CRN 11129

In this course, our task will be to begin to explore the varieties of philosophies and theories that call themselves "feminist," even as we interrogate the very meaning of the term. The beginnings of the women's movement in the 1960s invigorated a variety of competing approaches to the study of gender ideologies have emerged out of feminist thought. These approaches have both used and challenged the traditions of Western philosophy and epistemology in a number of ways. All feminist theories share very little. Rather, they can furiously contest each other, work against each other, and deny each other credibility. Feminist theories define gender, patriarchy, inequality, and injustice in different ways and criticize social structures of power diversely. They also enjoy a variety of sometimes competing solutions as they attempt to envision a gendered universe other than it is.



- **PHIL 422: *Ethics Bowl Directed Study* (Peterson, flexible schedule, 1-6 credits)**

Each fall, teams from colleges and universities in CO, WY, NM and NE meet to compete in an annual Ethics Bowl. Join the UNC team as we work to hone our understanding of ethical theories and principles and apply them to 15 intriguing cases. We will defend our positions at the regional bowl, and if we are among the top-ranking teams, we will go on to compete nationally (expenses paid by UNC). Weekly team meetings and outside prep time required. All students are welcome, and no background in ethics is expected! Credit hours earned depend on how much time you have to commit, so contact Baillie.Peterson@unco.edu to process your registration. Note: Directed Studies do not appear on the online schedule but this course IS happening.

DON'T FORGET ABOUT INTERNSHIPS!

- **PHIL 492: *Philosophy Internship* (Peterson/any faculty member, flexible schedule, 1-6 credits)**

Internship credit is available to students who complete Research or Community Service projects. Research internships may be supervised by any philosophy department faculty member; professional and community service internships are coordinated by Bailie Peterson. Contact Baillie.Peterson@unco.edu for details and advice about how to put your philosophical skills to practical use (and to process your registration).

PLEASE NOTE THAT WE HAVE RENUMBERED/RETITLED SEVERAL EXISTING COURSES:

- PHIL 150 Ethics in Theory and Practice is now **PHIL 150 *Moral Issues***
- PHIL 140 Basic Logic is now **PHIL 221 *Basic Logic*** (still an intro course with no pre-requisites)
- PHIL 246 ***Early Chinese Philosophy*** was previously offered as a subtitle of PHIL 300
- PHIL 260 History of Ancient Philosophy is now **PHIL 231 *Ancient Greek Philosophy***
- PHIL 350 Ethics is now **PHIL 350 *Ethical Theory***

If you have taken them under the previous number/title they cannot be retaken under the new number/title