FALL 2014 UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OFFERINGS

APHI 110 - Introduction to Philosophical Problems (#2245)
MWF 11:30AM – 12:25PM
Location: HU-123
Instructor: Susan Henry

This general education humanities course will provide an introduction to the age-old questions philosophy has attempted to answer. These questions will include: ‘What is knowledge?’, ‘What do we know?’, ‘Does God exist?’, ‘Do we exist?’, ‘Are we free?’. In order for students to develop the skills necessary to critically engage these questions, the first part of the semester will be spent going over the question ‘What is philosophy?’ and examining what types of arguments are considered valid philosophically. We will then move on to an in-depth study of relevant philosophical texts and the questions they pose and attempt to answer. At the end of the semester, each student will be asked to present a key philosophical idea from a particular philosopher of their choice, making a persuasive case for why that person and idea are important when considering one of the above questions.

APHI 110 - Introduction to Philosophical Problems (#5739)
TuTh 10:15AM – 11:35AM
Location: HU-123
Instructor: Robert Howell

This course has two goals. First, it is meant to acquaint you with some important answers which philosophers have given to three central questions about our lives: What are the limits of human knowledge? How are our minds related to our bodies? Can we justify any belief in human freedom? Second, it is intended to help you acquire the intellectual skills needed to understand and evaluate such questions and their answers. So we will attend to matters of this sort: how to read, understand, and assess philosophical texts, and how to produce both critical and constructive philosophical arguments.

In considering each of the three above questions, we will read original works by present and past philosophers which state the most important of the positions which have been held on these topics. Class will proceed by lecture and discussion, with an emphasis on thinking for yourself, giving reasons for your views, and focusing your attention on the main points at issue.

Work and Basis of Grading: Careful reading of the assigned texts, plus some short papers on the topics to be considered and (tentatively) final and midterm examinations. There may also be a series of short quizzes. Class participation will not be ignored.

APHI 111 - The Mind and the World (#5287)
MWF 10:25AM – 11:20AM
Location: LC 25
Instructor: Ronald McClamrock

A survey and critical examination of topics in contemporary philosophy, focusing largely on the relationship between the human mind and the natural world. Topics will include skepticism about knowledge of the external world, the relationship between the mind and the brain, the possibility of the mind causing free actions, and the existence or non-existence of God. Grade will be based on a combination of in-class exams (80%) and in-class quizzes and participation (20%, using the iClicker). More information will be available on the course web page at http://profron.net/phi111.
APHI 114 - Morals and Society (#5566)
MWF 10:25AM – 11:20AM
Location: HU-124
Instructor: Jonathan Mandle

In this course, we will read three books dealing with various moral issues, both theoretical and applied. Topics may include: relativism and universalism, moral pluralism, hedonism and moral psychology, the diversity of cultures, climate change, globalization, and human rights. Grades will be based on three exams - one on each book - a series of short papers, quizzes, and group-based projects.

APHI 114 - Morals and Society (#7197)
TuTh 2:45PM – 4:05PM
Location: HU-132
Instructor: Kristen Hessler

Some of the most difficult and persistent questions in moral philosophy concern the relationship between the individual and society. We will begin studying these issues by exploring the famous conflict between the philosopher Socrates and the democracy of ancient Athens. The rest of the course will trace some important themes raised by this conflict throughout the subsequent development of Western moral and political philosophy, looking for insight into ethical questions that we face today, including the following: Is it ever morally permissible to cheat on college coursework? What moral obligations do you have, if any, to the poor? Under what circumstances, if any, is the killing of innocent civilians permissible in war? NOTE: This course utilizes Team-Based Learning. On the first day of the semester, you will be assigned to a team that will work together throughout the duration of the course. Individual grades will be influenced (nearly always improved!) by team performance on team-based assignments.

APHI 115 - Moral Choices (#2246)
MWF 11:30AM – 12:25PM
Location: LC-19
Instructor: Rachel Cohon

This course is devoted to the philosophical analysis of some selected controversial topics in the ethics of personal behavior and social policy. Students will need to learn to recognize, construct, and criticize logical arguments on these topics. Our topics will be related to the conflict between individual liberty and the social good, and may include the legalization of recreational drugs, hate speech, pornography, and/or the legitimacy of war, terrorism, and torture. The subject matter of the course is not personal feelings or convictions (of the professor, the student, or anyone else), but rational arguments for and against positions on the selected topics. Readings include works in ethical and political theory and in applied philosophical ethics. Grading is based on examinations and at least one analytical essay (paper).

APHI 115 - Moral Choices (#6050)
MWF 1:40PM – 2:35PM
Location: HU-124
Instructor: Jennifer Tillman

Critical examination of contemporary moral problems in the light of the most influential moral theories. The problems discussed vary with semesters, but they typically include such topics as abortion, affirmative action, animals and the environment, capital punishment, euthanasia, free speech and censorship, liberty and paternalism, sex and love, terrorism, and world hunger. Only one version of A PHI 115 may be taken for credit.

This class will be using Clickers in class.
FALL 2014 UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OFFERINGS

APHI 116 - World Views (#3918)
TuTh 8:45AM – 10:05AM
Location: HU-133
Instructor: Mark Brennan

Examination of some of the major systems of assumptions and values humans have used in attempting to understand reality, the meaning of life, and their dealings with others. World views studied may vary from semester to semester. Examples are Greek, Judeo-Christian, Marxist and libertarian. Only one version of A PHI 116 may be taken for credit.

APHI 116 - World Views (#8202)
TuTh 1:15PM – 2:35PM
Location: HU-129
Instructor: Mark Brennan

Examination of some of the major systems of assumptions and values humans have used in attempting to understand reality, the meaning of life, and their dealings with others. World views studied may vary from semester to semester. Examples are Greek, Judeo-Christian, Marxist and libertarian. Only one version of A PHI 116 may be taken for credit.

APHI 210 - Introduction to Logic (#2256)
MWF 9:20AM – 10:15AM
Location: HU-128
Instructor: Christopher Andreski

Formal logic studies the formal properties of correct or 'valid' reasoning. When mathematical techniques and concepts came to be applied to logic around the mid-19th century, the rich and varied discipline of modern mathematical logic was born. This course is an introduction to that discipline, covering such central topics as propositional logic, predicate logic, model-theoretic semantics, and natural deduction as a proof system.

APHI 210 - Introduction to Logic (#6406)
TuTh 1:15PM – 2:35PM
Location: LC-24
Instructor: P.D. Magnus

An introduction to modern logic, semantics, and proof theory of first-order logic with identity.

TPHI 210 - Philosophy Honors College Seminar - Introduction to Logic (#9480)
TuTh 11:45AM – 1:05PM
Location: BB-221
Instructor: Bradley Armour-Garb

This course is an introduction to modern logic. Students will learn how to translate English language arguments into formal logical languages and then evaluate those arguments. Some topics that will be surveyed include: validity, equivalence, consistency, sentential logic, truth tables, quantified logic, formal semantics, and natural deduction. Open to Honors College students only.
**APHI 212 - Introduction to Ethical Theory (#2258)**
MWF 12:35PM – 1:30PM  
Location: HU-128  
Instructor: Lisa Fuller

This course is an introduction to some central problems and approaches in the field of ethical theory. We will consider questions such as: “Why behave morally?” “How can I live a good life?” “How can I be a good person?” and “What makes right actions right?” Our preliminary topics will include egoism, moral relativism and the nature of moral value. We will then work our way through a series of classic and contemporary readings from the three major ethical traditions: utilitarianism, Kantianism (deontology), and virtue ethics.

**PHI 212 - Introduction to Ethical Theory (#9469)**
TuTh 10:15AM – 11:35AM  
Location: HU-128  
Instructor: Jason D’Cruz

What is the basis of our moral judgments and attitudes? What do morally right actions have in common that makes them right, and what do wrong actions have in common that makes them wrong? (Is it that they are commanded by a divine being? Required by existing social rules? Are actions right or wrong because of their consequences for human happiness? Their conformity to a rule of reason?) What sort of person is it best to be? What is valuable in life? In clarifying these questions, and seeking answers, we will study the following theories: ethical relativism, the divine command theory, utilitarianism, Kantian ethics, virtue ethics.

**APHI 214 – World Religions (#7295)**
TuTh 8:45AM – 10:05AM  
Location: HU-129  
Instructor: William Mehl

In this course we will explore (some of) the world’s religions, which focus of course on the nature of reality and of human being. We will ask religion’s basic questions, “What is this world?” (What’s walking around on earth all about?), and “What am I?” (What is a human being and how can I be a good one?). Another way to put it: we will seriously investigate the deepest or highest place human consciousness can be; we will inquire into true-human-spirituality and reality-just-as-it-is. This exploration is the philosopher’s journey: gaining a deeper understanding of reality and human life and becoming a better person.

**APHI 310 – Ancient Philosophy (#10095)**
MWF 11:30AM – 12:25PM  
Location: ED-125  
Instructor: Marcus Adams

This course provides an overview of Ancient Greek Philosophy. The focus of the course is on three major influences: the Pre-Socratics and Sophists, Plato, and Aristotle. Much of the course will be devoted to Plato and Aristotle, as their influence has been lasting upon Western Philosophy and upon Western culture more generally. Many of the issues that arose in this period continue to dominate philosophical debates today, such as the nature of justice, the good for humans and how to achieve it, the origins and structure of the universe, the nature of scientific knowledge, and causality.
FALL 2014 UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OFFERINGS

APHI 320 – Political and Social Philosophy (#9471)
TuTh 11:45AM – 1:05PM
Location: BA-223
Instructor: Kristen Hessler

According to international law, all human beings have a human right to food, education, and health, as well as to freedom of conscience and expression, and to participate in their government. Recently, some commentators have argued that everyone has a human right to be free from poverty, to have one’s society recognize one as an equal member, and to live in a healthy environment. Are these really human rights, and if they are, what makes them so? This course will examine current literature in political philosophy with the aim of enabling students to understand and contribute to ongoing academic debates and political movements concerning human rights. Accordingly, our study of the philosophy of human rights in this class will be grounded in discussions of human rights issues from around the world and close to home as they unfold over the course of the semester.

APHI 338 – Moral Problems in Medicine (#7193)
MWF 10:25AM – 11:20AM
Location: AS-15
Instructor: Lisa Fuller

This course is designed as an introduction to moral problems in medicine and healthcare. The early classes will focus on models of health and disease as well as the major ethical theories. We will then consider four broad problem areas in medical ethics:

- The relationship between patient & healthcare professional - including issues of medical confidentiality and informed consent.
- Decision-making in end-of-life care - including physician-assisted suicide and the use of advance directives.
- Parents, minors & the disabled - including the legitimacy of parental proxy consent, the (non)treatment of disabled newborns
- Justice and health care - including the importance of health care for social justice, and health-care rationing.

The class will include a regular discussion component. Prerequisites: junior or senior class standing.
APHI 417 – Bioethics (#9472)
Instructor: Bonnie Steinbock

Online course offered completely through Blackboard Learning System

This is an advanced course in philosophical bioethics, which presupposes a general knowledge of its central themes. (Students who have not fulfilled the prerequisite – Phi 338, Moral Problems in Medicine – are expected to get the recommended text by Steinbock, Arras, and London, eds., Ethical Issues in Modern Medicine, and read the Introduction: Moral Reasoning in the Medical Context, and the introductions to Parts Four and Five.)

The course is conducted completely online using Blackboard. The final grade is based on online discussion forum (30%), weekly short essays (30%) and a term paper (40%).

I anticipate that each student will need to dedicate at least 12 hours per week to the course, including assigned lectures and readings, written assignments, and discussion forum participation.

The focus of the course is reproductive ethics. We begin with the notion of procreative liberty, understood as the right to make one’s own reproductive decisions, whether to have or avoid having offspring. We first consider abortion, a means of avoiding reproduction. Abortion raises two philosophical topics: the moral standing of the unborn and the nature and scope of the pregnant woman’s obligation to the unborn.

The second topic is the right to reproduce, to have biologically related offspring as it relates to assisted reproductive technology (ART). Do infertile people have a right to ART? Should ART be limited to infertility? Which social concerns, if any, justify limiting individuals’ access to ART? Should individuals be able to contract with others for the use of their reproductive parts or functions, as in commercial gamete donation and surrogate motherhood?

The third topic concerns decisions about which people will be born. In this section, we discuss prenatal testing and selective abortion, and preimplantation genetic diagnosis and embryo discard. This topic brings up the disability critique, and the claim that prenatal testing is morally problematic because of the harmful effects it has on existing people with disabling conditions.

The fourth topic is the morality of genetic enhancement to change the characteristics of unborn and unconceived children. The fifth topic is “wrongful life”: whether children can be harmed by being brought into the world under certain adverse social or physical conditions. If this is possible, what are the implications for responsible procreative decision making? Shared resource with PHI 517.

APHI 425 – Contemporary Ethical Theory (#9491)
MWF 1:40PM – 2:35PM
Location: AS-15
Instructor: Rachel Cohon

Theoretical controversies in contemporary normative ethical philosophy, and possibly some contemporary metaethical issues as well. Selected topics may include consequentialism vs. deontology and conduct-based ethics vs. character ethics. We will consider the consequences of particular ethical theories for such matters as negative responsibility, the moral worth of actions, personal relationships, and the possibility of moral dilemmas. We may also consider the nature of moral language and whether there are any moral facts. Grading is based on essays (papers), essay examinations, written follow-up work after discussion exercises, and possibly an oral presentation. Prerequisites: APHI 212 or TPHI 212 or APHI 326, and a 300-level course in philosophy.
FALL 2014 UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OFFERINGS

APHI 442 – Phenomenology (#9473)
MWF 12:35PM – 1:30PM
Location: BA-223
Instructor: Ron McClamrock

This course examines the historical and conceptual development of phenomenology in the 20th century, starting with Husserl's "presuppositionless and purely descriptive science of the structures of consciousness", and including works by Sartre, Heidegger, and Merleau-Ponty. We'll emphasize (a) the idea of a presuppositionless account of consciousness; (b) the motivations for and nature of the "existential turn", and (c) connections between phenomenology and both analytic philosophy and scientific psychology.

Grades will be based on 2 of 3 exams, 2 short papers, and a combination of in-class and online participation.

Note: Undergraduates should sign up for PHI 442; graduate students should sign up for PHI 542.

More information can be found on the course web page at http://profron.net/phi542.

APHI 474 – Society and Values (#9474)
MW 2:45PM – 4:05PM
Location: AS-15
Instructor: Jon Mandle

This course will focus on the work of John Rawls and some of his critics. We will read his book, Justice as Fairness: A Restatement, and then a series of articles and book chapters discussing various aspects of his theory. Grading will be based on two papers and class participation. Shared resources with PHI 574.