APHI 110 - Introduction to Philosophical Problems (#2157)
TTH 1:15PM-2:35PM, ES 147
Instructor: Nathan Powers
What is a person? What is a mind? What is knowledge? Do I have certain knowledge about some things, or could all my beliefs about the world turn out to be false? Is there a god? Am I truly free, or are my actions and experiences ultimately determined by forces beyond my control? Answers to difficult and important questions like these form the core of the western philosophical tradition, now over 2,500 years old. This class explores answers that have been given to such questions by some of the best philosophers of the past and present in this tradition. Emphasis will be placed on the central role that arguments play in philosophy: a good philosopher gives reasons for his or her view that support that view in a rigorous way.

APHI 110 - Introduction to Philosophical Problems (#10352)
TTH 8:45AM-10:05AM, ES 147
Instructor: Matthew Mosdell
Survey of representative problems in some of the major areas of philosophy; topics such as free will, morality, justice and social order, knowledge and truth, God and religion, art, and beauty.

APHI 111 - The Mind and the World (#4986)
MWF 12:35PM-1:30PM, LC 1
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 (#6693)
TTH 10:15AM-11:35AM, HU 123
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? Should you do more than you do to help the poor? Under what circumstances, if any, is the killing of innocent civilians permissible in war? We will finish by considering our individual and social responsibilities regarding climate change.

APHI 114 - Morals and Society (#10070)
MWF 11:30AM-12:25PM, LC 22
Instructor: TBD
Philosophical study of the conflict between personal values and the needs of society. Topics include personal and social values, the nature of moral reasoning, and ways to resolve conflicts between values. Readings from philosophers such as Plato, Aristotle, Locke and Mill. Only one version of A PHI 114 may be taken for credit.
This course is designed to be a survey of philosophical issues related to contemporary ethical problems. As such, it will cover several topics with only superficial depth. We will dedicate the first half of the course to ethical theory, by asking what we should and should not do and for what reasons. The rest of the course will focus on specific ethical issues related to euthanasia, abortion, sexual morality, affirmative action, the death penalty, animal rights and others. The course is likely to challenge deeply held beliefs and presuppositions but that is one important goal of doing philosophy. The objectives are to expand your understanding of various moral views, develop critical thinking and writing skills, and learn how to evaluate arguments. By learning how to evaluate philosophical arguments you will also learn how to construct and defend your own arguments—a skill that is broadly applicable outside of philosophy.

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.

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.

This course surveys various perspectives on the moral and political relationship between individuals and society. Authors include Hobbes, Rousseau, Marx, Mill, and others. Grading will be based on a series of quizzes, short papers, a midterm, and a final exam.

Introduction to classical and modern logic with an emphasis on the theory and application of truth functions. Introduction to quantification; discussion of the structure and properties of formal systems of logic. Students should be prepared to do daily homework assignments. Only one version of A PHI 210 may be taken for credit.
APHI 210 - Introduction to Logic (#5994)
MWF 12:35PM-1:30PM, LC-22
Instructor: Marcus Adams
This course provides an introduction to deductive logic. We will discuss topics such as translation from everyday language, deductive validity, truth-functional logical connectives, truth tables, and proofs. We will examine these topics in two formal languages—sentential logic and quantified logic. This course may be used to fulfill the general education requirement for Humanities or for Mathematics. For more about General Education courses, see http://www.albany.edu/undergraduate_bulletin/general_education.html

APHI 212 - Introduction to Ethical Theory (#2167)
TuTh 11:45AM-1:05PM, LC-22
Instructor: Rachel Cohon
What is the basis of our moral judgments and attitudes? What makes right actions right, and wrong actions wrong? What sort of person should I be? What is valuable in life? The course examines answers to these classic philosophical questions about ethics in the works of traditional and contemporary authors. Theories discussed may include: the divine command theory of ethics, ethical relativism, utilitarianism, Kantian ethics, and virtue ethics. Theories will be subjected to critical analysis. Course assignments will probably include short-essay tests and longer argumentative essays, and some participation exercises.

APHI 310 – Ancient Philosophy (#2221)
TuTh 10:15AM-11:35AM, BA-225
Instructor: Nathan Powers
This course is a survey of the major achievements of classical Greek philosophy, focusing mainly on the pivotal figures of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle.

APHI 321- 17th-19th Century Ethics (#10072)
MWF 1:40PM-2:35PM, BB-133
Instructor: Jonathan Mandle
This course will investigate the ethical theories of Hobbes, Kant, and Nietzsche. Grades will be based on class participation, quizzes, and a series of written assignments.

APHI 338 - Moral Problems in Medicine (#6690)
MWF 11:30AM-12:25PM, BA-225
Instructor: Monika Piotrowska
This course investigates moral problems in medicine. In the first few weeks, students are introduced to theories and concepts used in biomedical ethics, which will serve as background aid for thinking through the particular issues to be discussed. Topics to be covered include the doctor-patient relationship, biomedical enhancement, experimentation on human and nonhuman subjects, end-of-life care, human reproduction, and access to healthcare. The aim is to help students develop views on these topics by critically analyzing arguments advanced by academics, judges, and healthcare professionals.

APHI 361 - Philosophy in Science Fiction (#10073)
MWF 10:25AM-11:20AM, BA-225
Instructor: Ronald McClamrock
An examination of some central issues in philosophy, using the occurrence of those issues in science fiction as a starting point. Topics to be covered will likely include the following: Can machines think? Through what changes can our self-identity persist? What kinds of beings count as persons? Is time-travel possible? Could the world be a huge illusion? This course will focus primarily on the traditional philosophical issues raised in science fiction rather than on the science fiction itself as literary or cinematic. But the settings for framing these problems will come from science fiction readings, movies, and television. Grades will come from a combination of in-class exams, short papers, and in-class and online participation. More information will be available on the course web page at http://profron.net/phi361.
Critical study of one or more topics in bioethics. Possible topics include: advance directives; assisted reproductive technologies; death; genetic engineering; screening and testing; health care reform; informed consent; maternal-fetal conflicts; medical experimentation; medical futility; organ transplantation; physician-assisted suicide; proxy consent; and the right to refuse treatment. Prerequisite(s): A PHI 338 or permission of instructor. **Shared resource with PHI 517.**

This course consists of two parts. The first half of the semester will focus on philosophical approaches to fundamental issues in feminist theory, such as how to understand sex, gender, and oppression. We will examine different schools of feminist thought, and investigate both similarities and differences between the subordination of women and the subordination of other social groups (racial or ethnic groups, for example). The second half of the semester will address feminist critiques of various fields in philosophy (including epistemology, philosophy of science, ethics, and political philosophy). In this section we will also examine the current status of women and other underrepresented groups in the field of philosophy through a feminist lens. This course should be of interest to graduate students in any area of philosophy who are interested in feminist theory and/or the impact that feminist scholarship has had in the field. This course is also appropriate for advanced undergraduates majors who are interested either in pursuing philosophy in graduate school or simply in deepening their understanding of feminist philosophy.