

PHILOSOPHY (PHI) - ROCK COUNTY

Courses

PHI 101 Introduction to Philosophy 3 Units

An Intro to Phil. as an activity of clarifying ideas, developing & evaluating positions & arguments, & thinking critically about the Big Ideas That Matter, such as right & wrong, free will, God, the good life, knowledge, truth, education, & rationality. Typically involves reference to the leading figures & schools of thought in the history of Phil..

PHI 201 Asian Philosophy 3 Units

(PHI 201 & REL 201 are the same course.) An exploration of philosophically significant topics pertaining to the traditions of Asia. Typically includes the traditions of Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Confucianism, Daoism, & Shinto. May include topics such as the nature of ultimate reality & its relationship to the self, liberation & enlightenment, ethical ideals & practices, social institutions, & the nature of government. Attention will be paid to arguments pertaining to these topics as well as careful analysis of such classic primary sources as the Upanishads, Bhagavad Gita, Analects, Daodejing, & Zhuangzi

PHI 202 Feminist Philosophy 3 Units

(PHI 202 & GSW 202 are the same course.) An Intro to feminist philosophies through a study & critique of traditional & feminist views about women, their lives, society, & knowledge, with particular attention to theories of women's oppression.

PHI 203 American Indian Philosophies 3 Units

(PHI 203 & REL 203 are the same course.) A study of philosophical aspects of American Indian world views & practices in contrast to those of the larger culture in the US. Attention will be given to historical & contemporary relations between American Indian cultures & the larger culture in the US.

PHI 205 Philosophy of Love, Sex, and Friendship 3 Units

A philosophical examination of personal relationships & interactions such as family, friendship, sex, & romance, with an eye toward their relevance to the individual life & the pursuit of happiness, as well as society as a whole & the manner in which it is & ought to be structured around such relationships.

PHI 210 Thinking Critically 3 Units

An Intro to critical thinking, with an emphasis on its importance to human life (e.g., education, employment, morality, politics, religion). The primary focus of the class is the practical application of critical thinking by way of competence in key reasoning methods, typically including the construction & analysis of informal arguments, the identification of fallacies, basic inductive logic, statistical reasoning, etc

PHI 211 Elementary Logic 3 Units

An Intro to the principles & methods of logic, as a tool for distinguishing good reasoning from bad, as present in anything from Sci. & math to politics & personal relationships. This specific course focuses on symbolic, deductive logic (primarily propositional logic, with an Intro to predicate logic), but may also include some informal or inductive logic (e.g., fallacies).

PHI 215 Theory of Knowledge 3 Units

An examination of the nature & limits of knowledge & the methods used for obtaining it. Topics typically include the distinction between knowledge & belief, problems of evidence & truth, the role of perception & memory, social aspects of knowledge, realism, relativism, skepticism, correspondence & coherence theories of truth, & the role of various disciplines (e.g., Phil., Sci., religion) in attaining knowledge.

PHI 220 Philosophy of Science 3 Units

A critical examination of the methods, assumptions, & common misconceptions of the Sci.s as a source of knowledge of the natural world. The course typically involves some discussion of major figures in the history & Phil. of Sci. (e.g., Aristotle, Newton, Einstein, Hume, Popper, Kuhn), central concepts & theories (e.g., induction, causality, probability, falsificationism, instrumentalism), & some discussion of the relationship of Sci. to other aspects of society (e.g., morality, politics, religion).

PHI 226 Philosophical Ideas in Literature 3 Units

A study of philosophical & moral ideas as embodied in selected works of literary art: aesthetic analysis of their structure & content.

PHI 233 The Concept of Mental Illness 3 Units

Examination of various definitions of mental illness & exploration of the issues different definitions raise. Topics include but are not confined to: the history of ideas of madness; the concept of disease & mental health &/or normalcy; the medical model; legal definitions. Representation of how various mental conditions appear is part of the course.

PHI 237 Technology, Values and Society 3 Units

An examination of the philosophical issues that emerge from the world of technology in which we live. Topics may include: freedom, censorship, privacy, equality, democratic participation, intellectual property, education, law enforcement, institutional change, work, & all the personal & public choices about technology & its use with which we are confronted today

PHI 240 Existentialism 3 Units

An Intro to existential Phil. through critical examination of philosophical problems found in the writings of selected existential philosophers from Kierkegaard to the present.

PHI 241 Ethics 3 Units

An exploration of philosophical ethics, with attention paid to the philosophical methods of analysis & argumentation used to drive & evaluate moral theories & judgments. Topics may include the nature of moral truth (e.g., absolute truth, relativism, pluralism), prominent moral theories (e.g., virtue ethics, deontology, utilitarianism), important figures form the history of Phil. (e.g., Aristotle, Kant, J.S. Mill), & contemporary moral issues (e.g., abortion, capital punishment, euthanasia).

PHI 242 Social and Political Philosophy 3 Units

An examination of differing philosophical views about human kind & its social & political life. Topics may include the question of political legitimacy, the function of the state, the possible rights & obligations of citizens vis-?-vis the state, general concepts of justice, liberty, equality, & community (as well as possible specific conceptions of these terms), & how social goods should be distributed.

PHI 243 Business Ethics 3 Units

(BUS 242 & PHI 243 are the same course.) Critical discussion of ethical reasoning & moral values in business & industry; includes relevant case studies & readings

PHI 244 Environmental Ethics 3 Units

A philosophical examination of both traditional & recent concepts & values which structure human attitudes towards the natural Env.. Theories may include anthropocentrism, biocentrism, ecocentrism, Leopold's l& ethic, deep ecology, & ecofeminism. Topics may include the ethics of using l& for large-scale agricultural purposes, factory farming, fishing, hunting, xenotransplantation, species depletion, ozone depletion, & climate change.

PHI 248 Biomedical Ethics 3 Units

Study of ethical issues pertaining to medicine & related biological Sci.s. Issues covered usually include abortion, euthanasia, truth telling, confidentiality, experimentation on human subjects, behavior modification, genetic engineering, criteria of death, organ transplants, professional relationships, & professional duties.

PHI 250 Bioethics of Reproductive Medicine 3 Units

An intensive study of the ethical & public policy issues raised by advances in reproductive medicine. Topics include in vitro fertilization & other forms of assisted reproduction, reproductive & therapeutic cloning, embryonic stem cell research, genetic screening & genetic selection, neonatal care, contraceptive methods & pregnancy termination. Prereq: None

PHI 253 Philosophy of the Arts 3 Units

An examination of production, appreciation, & criticism of art. Topics may include the nature of art, the nature of beauty, the function(s) of art (if any), the moral status of works of art, aesthetic evaluation, the antimony of taste, the paradoxes of fiction, tragedy, & horror, & public financing of art. Theories may include the imitation/representation theory, expressionism, formalism, aesthetic experience theory, & institutional theory.

PHI 258 Human Nature, Religion and Society 3 Units

(PHI 258 & REL 258 are the same course.) Study & critique of the views of theistic & secular writers concerning religion & its relationship to individual & social problems

PHI 259 Philosophy and Racism 3 Units

Examination of the concept of race in the societies that use this notion to structure themselves - with concentration on its use in the U.S.. The following topics are part of the course: what racism is, particularly how racism is seen from the dominant st&point as opposed to how racism is seen from those who experience it; how the structure of racism has differed in regard to different ethnic groups; comparison of the experience of at least two different ethnic groups in the US in this regard; the place (or lack of place) of (im)morality in the creation of & in solutions to the problem.

PHI 261 Philosophy of Religion 3 Units

(PHI 261 & REL 261 are the same course.) An exploration & critical examination of philosophically significant topics pertaining to religion & its claims of knowledge of reality, divine or otherwise. Topics may include attempts to define religion, monotheism & its alternatives, God's existence, evil, the nature of faith, the status of sacred texts, religious experience, religious diversity, faith & reason, Sci. & religion, miracles, & life after bodily death. Attention will be paid to relevant arguments, both contemporary & historical (e.g., Aquinas, Hume, Kierkegaard, James). Various philosophical methods including but not limited to conceptual analysis, skepticism, & existentialist criticism are employed to better underst& the rich & diverse cross-cultural phenomenon of religious experience.

PHI 262 Philosophy of Sport 3 Units

An Intro to philosophical issues concerning the playing of sports & games. Areas of emphasis may include: the nature of play, sports, games; ethical issues in sports (e.g., cheating, sportsmanship, exploitation of college athletes, intentional rule-breaking, & performance enhancing drugs & technologies); social aspects of sports & f&om; & the aesthetics of sports.

PHI 291 Selected Topics in Philosophy 3 Units

Each course offering must be approved by both the local campus & the chair of the department.

PHI 299 Independent Reading in Philosophy 1-3 Units

Program must be approved by chair of the department.

PREREQ: CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR