

**PHILOSOPHY ADVANCED UNDERGRADUATE  
AND GRADUATE COURSE OFFERINGS  
FALL 2004**

**Philosophy 4015: Special Topics in Philosophy:  
Wittgenstein**

**Ludwig Wittgenstein** (1889-1951) is widely considered to be the most important philosopher of the 20th Century. He produced two influential yet very different philosophies in his lifetime, and he was thought by most everyone who knew him to be a genius. Though his work is often alluded to by philosophers as well as other intellectuals, it is not easily read and understood. In this course we will carefully read and study his two most significant works, the *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus* (1921), and the *Philosophical Investigations* (1953), as well as a recent biography. Among the philosophical topics we will discuss are: the nature of language, the relationship between language and reality, the nature of philosophy and its relationship to science, the place of value, and the nature of thought and the mind. The aim is to give students an understanding of his main philosophical ideas, the place of his ideas in the history of philosophy, and the relationship between his life and his work.

Instructor: J. Klagge  
Lecture: 11:00a-12:15p T Th CRN: 95549  
MAJWM 225

**Philosophy 4204: Philosophy of Mind**

In this course we will examine several theories concerning the relationship between "mental" and "physical" properties, including dualism, behaviorism, identity theories, functionalism, and materialism. We will follow up with some more specific topics, including the nature of consciousness and experience, mental causation, and reductionism. Readings will include some classical articles and articles by such contemporary philosophers of mind as Ned Block, David Chalmers, Paul Churchland, Daniel Dennett, Jerry Fodor, Frank Jackson, Jaegwon Kim, David Lewis, and John Searle.

Instructor: R. Burian  
Lecture: 2:00p-3:15p T Th CRN 95548  
MCB 219

**Philosophy 4984: Special Study:  
Philosophy of Science and Economic Methodology  
(Also offered as PHIL 5984)**

This course will be a solid introduction to the central problems of the philosophy of science and their relationships with fundamental issues of methodology in economics and other social sciences. We will begin with a study of the central topics that form the backdrop for philosophical problems in economics: Hume and the problem of induction; logical positivism and empiricism, discovery/justification distinction; confirmation theory; Popper, testability and falsificationism; Lakatos and the methodology of scientific research programs; Kuhn and scientific revolutions; problems of underdetermination, theory-laden data, Duhem-Quine theses, and relativity of science to context and values (social, ethical, policy, and economic). Midway through, we will interweave, and increasingly turn our main attention to, key contemporary views on economic methodology that have arisen in reaction to the current "crisis in philosophy of science". We will read several papers by economists and philosophers of economics on the special problems of testing, modeling, prediction, and experimentation in economics, and will end with a discussion of the "new experimentalism" in philosophy of science, and related, current topics of interest to the participants of the course.

*This course does not require any philosophical background—only the interest in acquiring one. It is intended to provide students sufficient philosophical and logical tools to (a) understand the relationship between problems in economics and those of philosophy of knowledge and philosophy of science; (b) critically evaluate work in interdisciplinary arenas of social science methodology, economic science, and foundations of scientific and statistical inference; and (c) bring a broad philosophical perspective to bear on more advanced research across the spectrum of empirical modeling and experimental methods.*

Instructor: D. Mayo  
Lecture: 2:30-3:45 MW CRN: 96673  
MCB 210  
(Cross listed with: ECON 4984 --CRN 96253 and STS 4304—CRN 96584)

**Philosophy 5204: Topics in the History of Philosophy: Stoicism**

This seminar is a systematic study of ancient Stoicism. On a first reading, ancient Stoicism often strikes as a collection of strange and unattractive doctrines; but the more these doctrines are studied together, the more their depth and complexity can be appreciated. Stoic philosophy is in fact a self-supporting edifice in which no part is prior to any other, and what really matters is the system as a whole and its articulation. Unlike Plato and Aristotle, who argued that the physical world could not be explained without an appeal to a certain number of transcendent and non-sensible entities, the Stoics committed themselves to the view that whatever exists is a body. God itself is a body. We shall study the Stoic conception of body as well as the way the Stoic rational investigation of the divine ended up in a revision of the received views about the gods. However radical this revision was, it retained some of the pre-theoretical intuitions about the divine. The Stoic God is a perfectly rational agent that arranges the world down to the smallest detail in such a way that this world is the best possible world. We shall examine the peculiar idea of providence and management of the world that is involved in this conception of the divine as well the Stoic commitment to the related view that there is no room for chaos or indeterminacy in the world, not even at the microscopic level. Put differently, the world we live in is a completely deterministic system. The Stoics were, however, also concerned to preserve human responsibility in the context of their completely deterministic system. They believed that determinism and commitment to human responsibility could be integrated in a single position. We shall evaluate the Stoic solution to the problem of the compatibility of human responsibility and determinism. Stoic compatibilism, given definitive expression by Chrysippus (*circa* 280-207 BCE), formed the background to much of the subsequent debate over determinism. Many later theories of free will started as modification of, or reaction to, the Stoic position. Whoever is interested in the debate over determinism and free will is encouraged to attend the seminar.

Instructor: A. Falcon  
Lecture: 2:30p-5:30p W CRN 95551  
MAJWM 225

**Philosophy 5305: Philosophy of Modern Science & Technology**

This course is the first in a two-semester sequence that introduces students to the philosophy of science and technology. It focuses on 20th century analytical philosophy of science and on recent philosophy of technology. It will explore such issues as: How does science differ from other human enterprises? Are there sharp criteria of demarcation between science and related activities? What roles do observation, experiment, technological innovation, logical argument,

and theorizing play in science? How do scientific explanations work, and can we provide strong criteria for good explanations? How are scientific claims supported, and how well are they supported? Does science aim at a literally true account of our world, or does it merely provide "as if" stories that organize our knowledge, but cannot, or should not, be evaluated for literal truth?

It will also critically examine the 'spectator' view of science typically presumed by philosophers of science. On this view, philosophical accounts of science depend primarily on how scientists represent the world with their theories. Recent work in the philosophy of technology offers an alternative perspective on science that focuses on what scientists do. Questions to be discussed include: What distinguishes the perspectives of (traditional) philosophers of science and philosophers of technology? What can philosophers of science learn from philosophers of technology? Is the account of scientific theories offered by philosophers of technology consistent with the traditional philosophical models of explanation? Do technological arguments give us good reasons to believe the truth of scientific theories?

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be acquainted with 20th century philosophy of science and technology, able to understand and articulate competing positions on the relevant issues, and able to form and defend positions on them intelligently. Because the course is a graduate introduction to philosophy of science and technology, the aim is general understanding and appreciation of the philosophical issues involved, not technical philosophical expertise.

Instructor: V. Hardcastle CRN: 93931  
Lecture: 11:15a-2:15p M MAJWM 225  
(Cross listed with: STS 5305; CRN 94479)

#### Philosophy 5334: Philosophical Ethics

This seminar is a systematic examination of central topics in philosophical ethics. The focus will be on some of the most influential work by leading contemporary moral philosophers (i.e. Harman, Sturgeon, Railton, Boyd, Gibbard, Blackburn, McDowell, Wiggins, Rawls, Korsgaard, Nussbaum, Nagel, Parfit, Williams, Foot, Darwall, Raz). Some typical questions to be addressed: What kind of meaning do ethical terms have, and what is the nature of ethical judgment? In what sense can ethical judgments be said to be true or false, and what makes them so? (Divine commands? Facts about human nature? The hypothetical emotional responses of an 'ideal observer'? The very logic of agency?) Are ethical properties such as goodness or rightness objective features of the world, i.e. real properties of people or actions? If so, how are they related to the natural properties investigated by the sciences, and how do we perceive them? If not, should they be understood as rooted instead in contingent human emotions or commitments, or perhaps as necessary constructions of human reason? How is ethical justification related to political justification? What is it for there to be genuine reason for someone to do something, and can it be argued that there is always reason to act ethically? Can reason itself motivate us, independently of the operation of prior desires? Are ethical reasons always overriding, trumping other kinds of reasons a person might have for acting differently? What factors are ultimately relevant to something's being right or wrong, or valuable? To what extent are ethical values universal, and to what extent are they historically or socially dependent?

Instructor: W. Fitzpatrick CRN 95553  
Lecture: 6:30p-9:15p T MAJWM 225

#### Philosophy 5505: Symbolic Logic

Modern deductive symbolic logic and its metatheory. Logical metatheory: consistency, completeness, and decidability of logical systems.

Instructor: B. Epstein CRN: 93932  
Lecture: 5:00p-6:15p T, Th NOR 200

#### Philosophy 5984: Special Study: Philosophy of Science and Economic Methodology

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Instructor: D. Mayo CRN: 96674  
Lecture: 2:30-3:45 MW MCB 210  
(Cross listed with: ECON 5984 –CRN 96254 and STS 5424—CRN 96585)

#### Philosophy 6014: Special Topics in Philosophy: Wittgenstein

**Ludwig Wittgenstein** (1889-1951) is widely considered to be the most important philosopher of the 20th Century. He produced two influential yet very different philosophies in his lifetime, and he was thought by most everyone who knew him to be a genius. Though his work is often alluded to by philosophers as well as other intellectuals, it is not easily read and understood. In this course we will carefully read and study his two most significant works, the *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus* (1921), and the *Philosophical Investigations* (1953), as well as a recent biography. Among the philosophical topics we will discuss are: the nature of language, the relationship between language and reality, the nature of philosophy and its relationship to science, the place of value, and the nature of thought and the mind. The aim is to give students an understanding of his main philosophical ideas, the place of his ideas in the history of philosophy, and the relationship between his life and his work. There will also be an opportunity for interested students to study the influence or relevance of his work to disciplines outside of philosophy, such as architecture, literary theory, sociology, science studies, and cultural studies. This course will meet concurrently with Phil 4015, but graduate students who are registered for 6014 will also meet for an additional hour each week (at a time to be determined), and will have additional readings and assignments. There will also be an opportunity for interested graduate students to study the influence or relevance of his work to disciplines outside of philosophy, such as architecture, literary theory, sociology, science studies, and cultural studies.

Instructor: J. Klage CRN: 95550  
Lecture: 11:00a-12:15p T, TH MAJWM 225