Philosophy 1204: Knowledge and Reality
We will read and discuss the work of some important historical and contemporary philosophers. We will focus on questions such as: What is the nature of reality and the self? What is the relationship between mind and body? How do I know what is real, and what is misleading appearance, error, or illusion? What is knowledge? Should we fear death? What is the meaning of life?

Instructor: J. Klagge

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRN</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Recitation</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14482</td>
<td>12:20p-1:10p</td>
<td>2:30p-3:20p</td>
<td>M W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14483</td>
<td>12:20p-1:10p</td>
<td>1:25p-2:15p</td>
<td>M W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14484</td>
<td>12:20p-1:10p</td>
<td>9:05a-9:55a</td>
<td>M W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14485</td>
<td>12:20p-1:10p</td>
<td>10:10a-11:00a</td>
<td>M W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14486</td>
<td>12:20p-1:10p</td>
<td>11:15a-12:05p</td>
<td>M W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14487</td>
<td>12:20p-1:10p</td>
<td>1:25p-2:15p</td>
<td>M W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14488</td>
<td>12:20p-1:10p</td>
<td>12:20p-1:10p</td>
<td>M W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14489</td>
<td>12:20p-1:10p</td>
<td>11:15a-12:05p</td>
<td>M W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14490</td>
<td>12:20p-1:10p</td>
<td>8:00a-8:50a</td>
<td>M W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14491</td>
<td>12:20p-1:10p</td>
<td>9:05a-9:55a</td>
<td>M W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14492</td>
<td>12:20p-1:10p</td>
<td>10:10a-11:00a</td>
<td>M W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14496</td>
<td>12:20p-1:10p</td>
<td>12:10p-1:10</td>
<td>M W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Philosophy 1304: Morality and Justice
This course is a comprehensive introduction to moral philosophy. We will combine a survey of some classic works (by Plato, Aristotle, Kant and Mill) with an examination of prominent treatments of issues in ethical theory and applied ethics by leading contemporary philosophers. Some questions we'll explore: What should our ultimate goal in life be? Is living morally most conducive to true happiness? What in general makes something right or wrong? Is it always possible for a good enough end to justify bad means, or do considerations of justice sometimes stand in the way of this? Does morality depend on the commands of God? Are there really objective facts about right or wrong, perhaps transcending differences across cultures and times, or is morality ultimately subjective and/or "relative"? Does anyone ever really act from unselfish motives? Some more particular problems: Is it morally okay to use embryonic stem cells for research or tissue therapy? If so, is it right to deliberately create embryos just for the purpose of harvesting stem cells, as in the case of therapeutic cloning? Can abortion ever be morally justified, and if so, how? In what cases might euthanasia be morally permissible? Is capital punishment morally justifiable in principle? In practice, How far does our duty to aid distant strangers extend? Do non-human animals have moral rights? Is it morally acceptable, for example, to cause harm to them in biomedical research or to factory farm them, or are such practices in violation of their rights?

Instructor: W. FitzPatrick

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRN</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Recitation</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14498</td>
<td>1:25p-2:15p</td>
<td>2:30p-3:20p</td>
<td>M W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14501</td>
<td>1:25p-2:15p</td>
<td>9:05a-9:55a</td>
<td>M W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14502</td>
<td>1:25p-2:15p</td>
<td>10:10a-11:00a</td>
<td>M W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14503</td>
<td>1:25p-2:15p</td>
<td>12:20p-1:10p</td>
<td>M W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14505</td>
<td>1:25p-2:15p</td>
<td>8:00a-8:50a</td>
<td>M W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14506</td>
<td>1:25p-2:15p</td>
<td>12:20p-1:10p</td>
<td>M W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14507</td>
<td>1:25p-2:15p</td>
<td>12:20p-1:10p</td>
<td>M W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14508</td>
<td>1:25p-2:15p</td>
<td>9:05a-9:55a</td>
<td>M W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14509</td>
<td>1:25p-2:15p</td>
<td>11:15a-12:05p</td>
<td>M W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Check the university timetable or the department website [http://www.phil.vt.edu/courses.html](http://www.phil.vt.edu/courses.html) for updated information.
Philosophy 1304: Morality and Justice
We all make moral judgments. We distinguish between right and wrong actions and good and bad people. For better or worse, however, we do not all share the same moral outlook. What should we do when we disagree about moral matters? On what grounds should we base our moral judgments? Students taking this course will learn that the most interesting and important part of our moral lives is not the judgments we make but the reasons we have for making those judgments. Can philosophical thinking improve our chances for moral agreement? Can it make us better people? In an effort to respond to these questions we will closely examine some important ethical theories and apply them to contemporary moral problems.

Instructor: P. Olson
CRN: 14500 Lecture: 12:20-1:10p M W F

Philosophy 1504: Language and Logic
Thinking logically comes naturally to most people. But thinking about logic requires a special kind of effort. This course is designed to introduce students to the rules to which arguments must adhere—the laws of logic. Logic is not just for logicians, mathematicians, and philosophers. It is woven deep into the thread of human thought and human communication. We use it every minute of the day. Understanding the nature of logic and the structure of arguments enhances our ability to reason and to measure the reasoning ability of others. Neither professor, nor politician, nor parent is safe from the long arm of the laws of logic.

Instructor: C. Haufe
CRN: 14511 Lecture: 2:00p-2:50p T Th Recitation: 12:20p-1:10p F
CRN: 14512 Lecture: 2:00p-2:50p T Th Recitation: 8:00a-8:50a F
CRN: 14513 Lecture: 2:00p-2:50p T Th Recitation: 9:05a-9:55a F
CRN: 14514 Lecture: 2:00p-2:50p T Th Recitation: 10:10a-11:00a F
CRN: 14515 Lecture: 2:00p-2:50p T Th Recitation: 10:10a-11:00a F
CRN: 14516 Lecture: 2:00p-2:50p T Th Recitation: 11:15a-12:05a F

Philosophy 2116: Ancient/Medieval Philosophy
The Middle Ages is one of the richest and most complex periods in the development of Western culture. Philosophically, it was a time of synthesis between the thought of ancient Greece, its Arab and Jewish interpreters, and Christian thinkers, resulting in multiple solutions that tried to make sense of the world. Indeed, many of the philosophical problems about which we worry today, as well as the vocabulary we use to express them, were first formulated during that time period. The aim of the course is to explore the way medieval thinkers approached the many problems associated with integrating secular learning with revealed doctrine, the issues at stake, and the solutions they proposed. Some of the most important concerns they had were the problem of how we know, the relation between theology and metaphysics, and the problem of universals. We will begin with the necessary historical and conceptual background before continuing with the different movements of the period, such as Augustinianism, Aristotelianism, realism, nominalism, and others.

Instructor: R. Mayorga
CRN: 14517 Lecture: 12:30p-1:45p T Th

Philosophy 2126: History of Late Modern Philosophy
From Kant to the 19th century
This course will focus on a survey of the most significant movements in 19th century philosophy. The course will be comprised of four units: "Between Kant and Hegel"; "Positivism, empiricism, and Neo-Kantianism"; "Anti-rationalism"; and "Pragmatism." Readings will begin with Kant and will include, among others, Hegel, Fichte, Schelling, Comte, Mill, Dilthey, Peirce, James, and Dewey.

Instructor: L. Patton
CRN: 14518 Lecture: 9:30a-10:45a T Th

Philosophy 2304: Global Ethics
This course examines ethical issues in a global context. Topics will include genocide, the morality of the initiation and conduct of war (including terrorism and torture), immigration, and global poverty. Students will also be provided with a basic introduction to philosophical moral theory and philosophical method.

Instructor: C. Haufe
CRN: 14519 Lecture: 12:20p-1:10p M W F
CRN: 14520 Lecture: 10:10a-11:00a M W F

Philosophy 2304: Global Ethics:
Genocide, War, and Human Rights
The class focuses on various philosophical issues associated with the phenomenon of mass violence. These include the nature and value of human rights and international human rights law; the occurrence of genocide and the moral problem of genocide denial; just war theory, including the ethics of humanitarian intervention; and the possibility of reconciliation after violent social conflict. The course provides scope for historical, political, and legal research in addition to philosophical reflection. Cases discussed may include the depopulation of the Americas post-1492, the Congo Free State, Namibia, Armenia, the Nazi Holocaust, Bangladesh, Cambodia, the former Yugoslavia, Rwanda, Northern Ireland, post-apartheid South Africa, Darfur, and Iraq.

Instructor: S. May
Online

Philosophy 2606: Reason and Revolution
Study of philosophical approaches to understanding and justifying modes of human reasoning both in science and everyday life. Focus of this semester is on justifying the changing paradigms of human inquiry.

Instructor: M. Rea
CRN: 16404 Lecture: 10:10a-11:00a M W F

Philosophy 3015: Political Theory
The course will examine the evolution of political thought from Greek antiquity to the medieval period, but particular attention will be paid to the political ideas that accompanied the rise and fall of democracy in classical Athens.

Instructor: M. Gifford
CRN: 16409 Lecture: 2:00p-3:15p T Th (Crosslisted with: PSCI 3015 – CRN 16673)

Philosophy 3015: Political Theory
The course provides an overview of nearly 2000 years of Western political thinking; it covers the period from the Ancient Greeks to early modern times. In this course, we investigate many different concepts, which still determine contemporary political language, with regard to their origins and transformations in political practice. What does the concept of "democracy" mean to the ancient Greeks? What determines their understanding of a well-organized commonwealth? Who is (and who not) involved in the political process? How do the Greek ideas influence later political thinking? What are the main concerns in the medieval period, how do they differ from ancient concepts, and what new meanings do they acquire during the early modern period? We address these issues by reading and discussing excerpts from the original texts (in English translation). For this purpose, the course is designed to unfold as a combination of lectures and in-class discussions of the assigned texts.

Instructor: B. Koch
CRN: 14523* Lecture: 11:15a-12:05p M W F (Crosslisted with: PSCI 3015 – CRN 14790)
*Students will be dropped for not attending first and/or second class.

Check the university timetable or the department website http://www.phil.vt.edu/courses.html for updated information.
This course examines central themes in the tradition of Western political thought from the early modern period to the present. The emphasis will be on both the ideas of particular political thinkers as well as on concepts like citizenship, liberty, and democracy. We address these issues by reading and discussing excerpts from the original texts (in English translation).

Instructor: B. Koch

**Philosophy 3314 Ethical Theory**

Although Philosophy 1304 ("Morality and Justice") is not a prerequisite for this course, some familiarity with fundamental ethical concepts and theories will be helpful, as we will study in greater depth many of the issues addressed in the introductory course. We will focus our attention on the ethical theories of Aristotle, Kant, and Mill, and on the ways in which their ethical theories have been taken up and developed by contemporary ethicists. We will also consider the roles of reason and emotion in our moral lives, as well as the limitations of ethical theory. The primary aim of this course is to help you appreciate more fully the value of philosophical reflection in a life well lived. Students taking this course will learn to think critically about fundamental ethical questions, and will become familiar with some of the central texts and themes in the history of philosophical ethics.

Instructor: P. Olson
CRN 16888 Lecture: 1:25p-2:15p M W F

**Philosophy 3454: Philosophy of Religion**

This is an introductory course in the philosophy of religion. It is a philosophy course, not a religion course. Philosophy involves the rigorous examination of concepts and assumptions. It is characteristic of philosophy to ask what reasons we might have for holding the beliefs we do, and to ask us to consider the possibility that we might be wrong in some of our most fundamental beliefs. That means that in this course we will be focusing on fundamental questions about religion, for example: What reasons do we have to believe that there is a God? What reasons do we have to reject belief in God? What does it mean to say that God exists? But since philosophical inquiry is also self-reflective, we will be considering questions like: Is it necessary to have good reasons for our beliefs? Is there something wrong about believing something without having evidence for that belief (or in spite of having evidence against it)? We will be looking at the answers proposed by philosophers from ancient times as well as more modern solutions.

The goal of this course is to get you to think philosophically about religious belief. To do this well will require you to think critically about some of the beliefs you hold most dear. Whether you are a theist or an atheist, you will be expected to subject your belief about God to philosophical scrutiny. Although it is a difficult process, it can also be an enlightening and ultimately rewarding one.

Instructor: R. Mayorga
CRN: 14527 Lecture: 11:00a-12:15p T Th

**Philosophy 4214: Metaphysics**

Examination of some of the central problems of metaphysics. Topics may include: existence, necessary truth, the problem of universals, causation, the identity of the self through time, free will. Attention will be given both to the historical development of these problems and to contemporary philosophical responses to them.

Instructor: D. Parker
CRN: 17054 Lecture: 2:00p-3:15p T Th

**Philosophy 4224: Epistemology**

This course is designed to give the student a solid grounding in the main areas of debate in contemporary epistemology. Topics will likely include the analysis of justification and knowledge, externalism and internalism, naturalism, induction, skepticism, relativism, and anti-realism.

Instructor: W. Ott
CRN: 16457 Lecture: 2:30p-3:45p M W

**Philosophy 4604: Philosophy of Biology**

Philosophers are interested in biological science in large part because many issues in biology occupy a place of central importance in our lives -- such as whether race is a biological property, or whether our genes program us to behave in certain ways, what constitutes "human nature, and whether Darwin's theory of Natural Selection undermines our ability to rationally hold religious beliefs. In this class we will use the tools of philosophy to understand race, genes, human nature, religion, and life in general from the perspective of contemporary biology.

Instructor: C. Haufe
CRN: 14532 Lecture: 9:30a-10:45a T Th

Check the university timetable or the department website [http://www.phil.vt.edu/courses.html](http://www.phil.vt.edu/courses.html) for updated information.