**Philosophy 1204: Knowledge and Reality**

This is a multi-media introduction to philosophy. We will be asking such questions as: What do I know? Who am I? Is there a God? Are we free? Are events fated? And so forth.

We will discuss the answers given to such questions in various contemporary films (such as *The Matrix*, *eXistenZ*, *Dark City*, *The Seventh Seal*, *Gattaca*, *Being John Malkovich*, *Blade Runner*, *12 Monkeys*, *Memento*, *Minority Report*, *Rashomon*, and *The Conversation*) and by classical philosophers (such as René Descartes, John Locke, David Hume, Baruch Spinoza, G. W. Leibniz, and Immanuel Kant).

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**Philosophy 1204: Knowledge and Reality**

Examines the questions: What is the nature of reality? How do I know what is real and what is misleading appearance, error, or illusion? What is knowledge? How do I find out who I am and how I relate to the world around me?

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**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 unselfishly? 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?

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**Philosophy 1304: Morality and Justice**

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Philosophy 1304: Morality and Justice
This is a first course in moral philosophy. We will begin with a short introduction to logical fallacies. Then we will discuss classic theories in ethics such as deontology, consequentialism, natural law and natural rights theories, virtue ethics, as well as the more current feminist care ethics. These deal with such questions as: Can we have objective facts in ethics as we do in science, for example? Should our moral decisions be based on the consequences, or on duty, or on caring? Is there a relation between all of this and the happiness of the individual? These theories will then be applied to contemporary issues such as: Is abortion morally permissible? Do non-human animals have rights? Can we justify capital punishment? Can we justify preferential treatment based on race or gender? By the end of the semester you will be asked to analyze in a critical fashion your own moral beliefs.

Instructor: R. Mayorga  CRN: 13992
Lecture: 12:30p-1:45p  MAJWM 434  T Th

Instructor: R. Mayorga  CRN: 13986
Lecture: 5:00p-6:15p  MAJWM 334  T Th

Philosophy 1304: Morality and Justice
Given contemporary events, has it ever been more important to ask ourselves how we should live our lives and what we want our society to be like? Certainly many people report finding some solace in refocusing their own thinking in this way. We will examine those questions and others: What is the nature of moral reasoning? Can it help? Or are moral views purely relative to cultural or other influences? How should I live my life, and how am I to go about making up my mind on the major moral questions of the day? Students will have some input in deciding which questions they are most interested in, but there will be a special emphasis on moral thinking in our close personal relationships: What kind of relationship do I want for myself and my current or future partner? What kind of son or daughter, friend or neighbor, should I be? We will also take time to examine larger questions about the nature of fairness and justice in society as a whole. By close reading of contemporary and historical examinations of such issues, we will begin to think through some of the deep problems that naturally arise when one thinks about morality in personal and social terms.

Instructor: B. Kelley  CRN: 13977
Lecture: 11:00a-12:15p  MAJWM 334  T Th

Instructor: B. Kelley  CRN: 13987
Lecture: 12:30p-1:45p  MCB 232  T Th

Philosophy 1304: Morality and Justice
In this class we will begin by discussing ethical theory: What do we mean by the terms “right,” “wrong,” “good,” and “bad”? How does one determine which actions are right or wrong? Are there any standards, or is it all relative? We will then use ethical theory to evaluate important contemporary moral issues such as abortion, euthanasia, cloning, and the death penalty.

Instructor: S. Thomson  CRN: 13990
Lecture: 2:30p-3:45p  MAJWM 334  M W

[An additional section of this course is being added. Check the on-line timetable for current information.]

Philosophy 1504: Language and Logic
Basic concepts in logic and critical thinking: argument, validity, deduction and induction, logical form, formal and informal fallacies, introduction to the logic of truth functions and of categorical statements, and critical analysis of arguments in ordinary language.

Instructor: L. Perini  CRN: 13991
Lecture: 12:30p-1:45p  TORG 3100  T Th

Philosophy 2116: Ancient/Medieval Philosophy
Western philosophical thought through the medieval period. Main trends in Post-Aristotelian Greek and Roman philosophy and medieval philosophy, including Augustine Aquinas, and Ockham.

Instructor: E. Lewis  CRN: 13992
Lecture: 2:00p-3:15p  MAJWM 334  T Th

Philosophy 2126: History of Modern Philosophy

Philosophy 2304: Global Ethics
In this course we will examine global issues of ethics and justice, such as: environmental problems, development, poverty, famine, war, technology and the oppression of women.

Instructor: J. York  CRN: 13994
Lecture: 8:00a-9:15a  MAJWM 334  T Th

Instructor: J. York  CRN:16208
Lecture: 3:30p-4:45p  DER 3092  T Th

Instructor: C. Sewell  CRN: 16209
Lecture: 3:30p-4:45p  Smyth 331  T Th

Instructor: C. Sewell  CRN: 16210
Lecture: 5:00p-6:15p  Smyth 331  T Th

Philosophy 3016: Political Theory
Analysis of the fundamental ideas in the history of political theory. Late 17th century to the present.

Instructor: G. Davis  CRN: 14004
Lecture: 9:30a10:45a  MCB 216  T Th
(Cross listed with: PSCI 3016 – CRN14275)

Instructor: G. Davis  CRN: 14005
Lecture: 2:00p-3:15p  NOR 205  T Th
(Cross listed with: PSCI 3016 – CRN14276)

Instructor: G. Davis  CRN: 14006
Lecture: 11:00a-12:15p  WMS 320  T Th
(Cross listed with: PSCI 3016 – CRN14277)

Philosophy 3314: Ethical Theory
We will explore and discuss central topics in ethical theory through a combination of philosophical texts and other relevant literature, including classic works of fiction. Some questions we'll address: What is the purpose of morality? What is the nature of evil? Is morality all just relative, or are there some moral truths that apply across cultures and times? Does life have meaning, and how should this be understood? How, if at all, does God figure into questions about morality or meaning in life? What is the nature of human autonomy and what are its ethical implications? What are the insights and limitations of utilitarian, deontological and virtue-theoretic approaches to ethical theory? In examining these different theoretical approaches to ethics, and their various appeals to utility, rights or duties, and character, we will also look at some particular applications, such as sexual ethics, our duties to other animals, and our duties to the environment.

Instructor: W. Fitzpatrick  CRN: 14007
Lecture: 11:00a-12:15p  SQUIR 236  T Th

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. That means that in this course we will 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? We will examine traditional and contemporary arguments for the existence of God, the problem of evil, the role of faith and religious experience, as well as other related issues such as life after death.

Instructor: R. Mayorga  CRN: 14009
Lecture: 11:00a-12:15p  SQUIR 234  T Th

Philosophy 3506: Symbolic Logic

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This will be an introduction to the metatheory of logics, intended for students who have a solid background in first order logic (e.g., 3505/5505). The focus will be on the central metalogical results of Model theory and Proof theory for
Philosophy 4614 : Philosophy of Science

This course is an introductory graduate course. It is designed to help students become familiar with three major topics prominent in recent philosophy of science and technology and to develop skill in making and evaluating arguments about these and related topics. The topics are:

1. Can the history of science offer shed light on fundamental issues in philosophy of science and technology? Among the issues covered will be the goals of science, the nature of progress in science and technology, various ways in which contextual factors affect scientific and technological change, and the interrelations among theory, experiment, and available technology.

2. What is the relationship between technological and scientific change? This question contains many hidden assumptions. Yet variants of this question are critical for understanding science as scientific advances (“advances?”) have come to depend increasingly on experimental technologies, technological advances (“advances?”) have come to depend increasingly on science, and as “scientific” technologies have come to play an ever-more central role in the dominant culture.

3. Incorporating both the above, what is the relationship between the direction of scientific research and the health of the surrounding society?

We will address the limitations and benefits of working with, and from, historical case studies in dealing with these topics. There will be short written assignments approximately every other week and a term paper. Students will have some opportunity to influence the readings employed and the issues addressed in the course. If student schedules permit, we will hold three or four class sessions at 6:30 on Tuesday evenings to meet jointly, via simultaneous video, with STS/Phil 5306 class in northern Virginia.

Instructor: R. Burian CRN 16370
Lecture: 2:30p-5:30p LANE 132 M*
(*Some classes may be moved to T evenings if that fits student schedules. See explanation above.)