Department of Philosophy
2016 Undergraduate Student Guide
The Faculty takes very seriously its responsibilities to ensure that its students are ‘work ready’ and able to compete for good graduate traineeships.

To that end we have established a scheme with a range of business partners which include some of Australia’s largest banks, telecommunications, venture capital, insurance, consulting and executive recruitment firms, to give our humanities students the opportunity to undertake a series of specially tailored work placements with these companies.

Associate Professor Richard Miles
Head of the School of Philosophical and Historical Inquiry
Director, ArtSS Career-Ready
I am delighted that you are considering the study of philosophy at the University of Sydney. Our department is exceptionally well regarded both for its teaching and research achievements. We strive to provide you with a rich and varied suite of units that are taught by dedicated and enthusiastic scholars whose outstanding research informs our teaching at every level. Our aim is to excite, provoke, and stimulate you to reflect and argue well about almost anything. We offer study of both classic and novel approaches to philosophical matters from the the great philosophers of the past to the most up-to-date developments in ethics, logic, epistemology, metaphysics and aesthetics of the present.

Plato once described philosophy as “the science of the free”. Philosophy is marked especially by the attempt to free ourselves from error, bias, ignorance or presuppositions that can distort our understanding. An extraordinary amount of ingenuity goes into identifying these distortions in the first place, since they are often deep-seated. They may lie hidden in received ways of understanding human nature, or in uncritical assumptions about perception, or even in the grammar that we use to express our thoughts. Improving our philosophical vision requires careful description and reflection about how things seem or have seemed to us. It may require the respectful revision of authority, common sense, or the opinions that currently predominate. Or it may require suspension of your own opinions for long enough to appreciate another point of view (and after that – who knows? – you may change your mind).

Most of all, philosophy is about learning to think for yourself. The intellectual autonomy of philosophy doesn't just come from having ideas that you call your own – it comes from having ideas that you understand well enough to make them your own. The wider you extend the range of your intellectual autonomy, the more philosophical you will be. Our department seeks to provide the sort of curriculum and training that will foster such development. We ask difficult, often counter-intuitive, questions and don't mind if the first question leads to further even more difficult questions. In what sense is anything ever the same as anything else (or even itself for that matter)? What does that imply about concepts and understanding? What is a person? Can the same person have different bodies, an artificial body or no body at all? What is an obligation? What, if anything, do we owe to future generations, or to Earth itself? Although these questions might seem varied, they do share common ground. Philosophy is concerned to investigate the major domains of human experience: knowledge, existence, action, and human striving. Philosophy at Sydney is a diverse and welcoming community interested in exploring these questions in concert with others. We extend a warm invitation to you to join us in critical reflection and debate.

Students of philosophy can expect to radically improve their abilities to speak and write clearly, logically, and convincingly. These skills, along with the quintessential philosophical bent for independent thought, are powerful aids to future success in any profession. Philosophy at the University of Sydney has an enviable record of placing its students in excellent graduate schools and academic posts. Our former students work in areas as different as law, education, government, NGOs, the private sector, and the arts. The broad skills you will acquire in philosophy are eminently transferable to many desirable professions. Finally, and as many who have studied philosophy in a serious manner will know, a brief acquaintance with philosophy can turn into a lifelong love for an endlessly fascinating and loyal companion.

Rick Benitez

Professor and Chair, Department of Philosophy
WHY STUDY PHILOSOPHY?

According to tradition, the Greek philosopher Epicurus abandoned school at age 14 and turned to philosophy because his teachers couldn’t explain to him the concepts that their ideas depended on. Whether it is ethics, politics, social theory, culture, history, religion, or science, all subjects depend on fundamental concepts that cannot be investigated from within. Philosophy is the subject that investigates foundations, and it does so by attempting to uncover errors in our preconceptions and ways of looking at things. Philosophy subjects preconceptions to rigorous examination (Socrates: “the unexamined life is not worth living”), it may propose new rules for understanding (Descartes: “never to accept anything for true which I did not clearly know to be such”) or it may give us new ways of picturing things (Wittgenstein: “I think with my hand when I write, I think with my mouth when I speak”); philosophers have even provided reasons to be sceptical about scepticism! Most importantly, philosophy always treats method and content as open to review. Even concepts as basic as love, happiness, truth, and reality benefit from fine-grained or wide-ranging philosophical examination. At the very least, philosophy can clarify the conditions under which these things might be realised. Learning to think philosophically about things that perplex us develops a disciplined capacity for critical reflection that will dramatically enhance your reading, writing and communication skills. Learning how to assess the grounds for common beliefs; how to distinguish between belief and certainty, and between truth and meaning, will compose important parts of your tuition in philosophy. Most importantly, however, the study of philosophy will teach you how to engage with different views in a robust but constructive manner. The value of this skill in any walk of life is inestimable. Alongside your peers, you will acquire these skills through the interactive study of historical and contemporary philosophical thought. Your study will be guided by academics who are passionate about their subject matter. The study of philosophical thought can deepen your understanding of the past and promote an appreciation of the vast intellectual resources it holds for dealing with our present, or for imagining our future possibilities. No matter what your interest – art, science, law, computing, politics – philosophical study will deepen your understanding of that interest and allow you to appreciate it and apply it in new and challenging ways.

Philosophy at Sydney

The philosophy department at the University of Sydney is part of the School of Philosophical and Historical Inquiry (SOPHI). The Department is internationally renowned. Your teachers are regularly invited to prestigious national and international conferences. They are passionate about teaching and have interests in all areas of philosophy, including the history of ancient and early modern philosophy, the philosophy of mind, logic, aesthetics, ethics, philosophy of science, political philosophy, and critical theory, as well as many other areas that you will find listed in this guide. Sydney philosophers compose a lively research community with several seminars on offer each week. We have built strong networks with philosophers in the UK, Europe, Canada, North America, and Asia, and each year we host a number of academic visitors from overseas. Students are welcome to join this network and to attend departmental seminars, conferences, and other special research events.

Philosophy and your career

Philosophical training is highly valuable in any career that puts a premium on independence of thought, superior communication, and the exercise of evaluative and evidentiary skills. Philosophy graduates excel in a plurality of flexible competencies useful in many professional roles. Philosophy has been closely associated with significant contributions to science, and social and political reform, and many famous philosophers have made significant contributions beyond philosophy itself. Training in philosophy is highly valued by a range of professions including business, law, journalism, politics and education.
What do we teach?

The Department of Philosophy offers an extensive choice of units of study in a broad range of areas. Philosophy at Sydney begins with an introduction to most of the major branches of the discipline. In the junior units (PHIL1011, PHIL1012, and PHIL1013) students are introduced to some fundamental philosophical issues about the nature of reality (metaphysics), how one should live (ethics), what kinds of human productions have value (aesthetics), theories of society and the state (political philosophy), theories of the self (identity), and the criteria for knowledge (epistemology). We also offer an introductory unit in the formal study of reasoning and argument (logic). Later years continue a more in depth study of these issues in the many units that populate our three programs. These programs are: the History of Philosophy; Epistemology, Metaphysics and Logic; and Aesthetics, Ethics and Political Philosophy. Later senior-intermediate and senior-advanced units of study are chosen from a range of options, some of which rotate from one year to the next. In senior-intermediate units students are able to pursue their interests in a more concentrated and detailed way and in senior-advanced units the topic is intensively studied. For those students wishing to continue the study of philosophy at a higher level, a fourth year of study (Honours) is available to qualified students. In their honours year students take a number of special Honours units of study as well as conducting specialised research resulting in a written thesis that is supervised by a member of staff. Some philosophy units are also available as elective units of study in other Departments.

Undergraduate program

Junior units

There are three junior units of study, each worth 6 credit points:

- PHIL1011 Reality, Ethics and Beauty (semester 1)
- PHIL1012 Introductory Logic (semester 2)
- PHIL1013 Society, Knowledge and Self (semester 2)

You can do any one, any two, or all three of these junior units. The normal requirement for entry to senior-intermediate and senior-advanced philosophy units is 12 junior credit points in philosophy, and for units with this prerequisite the combination of any two of the above is sufficient. (If you have completed PHIL1016 Mind and Morality HSC, this can be counted as equivalent to PHIL1011; and you may apply for special permission to do a senior-intermediate Philosophy unit in first semester.)
Senior-intermediate and senior-advanced units

The following senior-intermediate (2000 level) and senior-advanced (3000 level) units of study will be available in 2016. All are worth 6 credit points. Units with the same title cannot be taken at both the 2000 and the 3000 level. 36 credit points at senior-intermediate and senior-advanced levels constitute a major in Philosophy. The standard pattern of progression through a philosophy major will comprise a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 3 junior units; a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 5 senior-intermediate units; and a minimum of 1 and a maximum of 4 senior-advanced units. The Philosophy Department strongly recommends that students complete at least 6 credit points from each of the three Philosophy programs. How you select units for your major is partly up to you but a forward plan of your course of study in years two and three is advisable. Do not hesitate to approach your lecturer if you need advice about how to construct your major.

History of Philosophy program
- PHIL2613 Plato and Aristotle
- PHIL2626 Philosophy and Psychoanalysis
- PHIL2627 Philosophy and Psychiatry
- PHIL2648 19th Century Philosophy: Kant to Nietzsche
- PHIL2664 Philosophy of Nature and the Environment
- PHIL3638 Hegel

Epistemology, Metaphysics and Logic program
- PHIL2606 Knowledge, Reason and Action
- PHIL2610 Exploring Nonclassical Logic
- PHIL2611 Problems of Empiricism
- PHIL2620 Probability and Decision Theory
- PHIL2622 Reality, Time & Possibility: Metaphysics
- PHIL2642 Critical Thinking
- PHIL2643 Philosophy of Mind
- PHIL2667 From Illusion to Reality
- PHIL2670 Philosophy of Science
- PHIL3643 Philosophy of Mind Advanced
- PHIL3662 Reality, Time & Possibility: Metaphysics Advanced
Aesthetics, Ethics and Political Philosophy program
- PHIL2612 History of Ethics
- PHIL2616 Philosophy of Human Rights
- PHIL2617 Practical Ethics
- PHIL2618 Aesthetics and Art
- PHIL2623 Moral Psychology
- PHIL2633 Theorising Modernity
- PHIL2634 Democratic Theory
- PHIL2635 Contemporary Political Philosophy
- PHIL2645 Philosophy of Law
- PHIL2647 The Philosophy of Happiness
- PHIL2655 Philosophical Ethics
- PHIL2658 Philosophy in Film
- PHIL2663 Justice
- PHIL3617 Practical Ethics Advanced
- PHIL3647 The Philosophy of Happiness Advanced
- PHIL3655 Philosophical Ethics Advanced
- PHIL3663 Justice Advanced
- PHIL3681 Aesthetics and Art Advanced

About the major

Philosophy explores fundamental and important questions such as ‘What is consciousness?’, ‘Are we free agents?’, ‘What makes an action right or wrong?’, ‘How should we live?’, ‘What is truth?’ and ‘Can we reconcile the scientific picture of the world with our ordinary experience?’

Philosophy has a complex relationship to other disciplines: it draws on results from those disciplines and sometimes creates and then spins off whole new disciplines; but always, Philosophy formulates and explores questions that are of fundamental importance to us as human beings and which no other discipline is equipped to answer.

Philosophy is a very broad subject, and in a Philosophy major at Sydney you will have the opportunity to range widely across this subject and to dig deeply into particular issues that interest you.
Pathway through the major

A major in Philosophy requires at least 36 senior credit points from the unit of study table including at least 6 credit points at 3000 level.

The units of study for the major can be found in the Table A unit of study table (in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Handbook) for Philosophy. The table shows units of study on offer in the current handbook year. You will find information regarding a full list of units of study available to the major on the departmental website.

Junior units of study (1000 level)

Junior units of study provide an overview of the major branches of the discipline, including metaphysics (the nature of reality), epistemology (the nature of knowledge), ethics, aesthetics, political philosophy and logic. You complete 12 junior credit points from a choice of three units of study offered in first year.

Senior units of study (2000 and 3000 level)

You can choose senior-intermediate (2000 level) units based on your own interests. These units allow you to look at more specific topics and develop a working understanding of philosophical methodology, including techniques of critical thinking and cogent argumentation. 2000 level units will introduce you to more detailed content in the various areas of philosophy. 2000 level units prepare you for 3000 level units by giving training in reading and understanding philosophical texts, identifying philosophical problems and assessing proposed answers to these problems, and identifying the various respects in which arguments can be good or bad and distinguishing good arguments from bad ones. You complete at least 12 credit points at 2000 level before enrolling in a 3000 level unit of study.

Senior-advanced (3000 level) units are also chosen based on your own interests and allow you to look further at specific topics. These units invite you to engage deeply in the relevant debates. Senior units continue to introduce more detailed content in the various areas of philosophy, and in these units, you will critically engage with philosophical texts, formulate philosophical problems and answers to these problems, and through this process gain a deep knowledge of the areas of philosophy covered by the units taken. You complete at least 6 credit points at 3000 level.

Honours

Applicants will need an average of 70 or above in 48 senior credit points of Philosophy. Meeting the minimum entry requirements does not guarantee you entry into the Honours program. Honours places can only be granted where there is supervisory capacity.
Philosophy Pathway

There are many ways to structure the Bachelor of Arts degree. The following diagram provides an example of how students enrolled full-time in a Bachelor of Arts (ie 24 credit points per semester) over 3 years, completing one major, might structure their degree in order to major in Philosophy.

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| TOTAL = 144 |

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>S1</th>
<th>S2</th>
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<tr>
<td>First Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>S1</td>
<td>Philosophy Junior Pre-req Unit</td>
<td>Arts (Table A) Junior Unit Choice</td>
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<tr>
<td>S2</td>
<td>Philosophy Junior Pre-req Unit</td>
<td>Arts (Table A) Junior Unit Choice</td>
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| Second Year |
| S1 | Philosophy Major Senior Unit | Arts (Table A) Senior Unit Choice | Arts (Table A or B) Senior Unit Choice | Arts (Table A or B) Senior Unit Choice |
| S2 | Philosophy Major Senior Unit | Philosophy Major Senior Unit | Arts (Table A or B) Senior Unit Choice | Arts (Table A or B) Senior Unit Choice |

| Third Year |
| S1 | Philosophy Major Senior Unit | Arts (Table A) Senior Unit Choice | Arts (Table A or B) Senior Unit Choice | Arts (Table A or B) Senior Unit Choice |
| S2 | Philosophy Major Senior Unit | Philosophy Major Senior Unit | Arts (Table A or B) Senior Unit Choice | Arts (Table A or B) Senior Unit Choice |

You complete two junior Philosophy units

You must complete 6 units of study at senior level, including at least one 3000 level unit.
# Units of study in 2016

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<th>SEMESTER 1</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Introductory Logic</td>
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<td>PHIL2606</td>
<td>PHIL1013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Knowledge, Reason and Action</td>
<td>Society, Knowledge and Self</td>
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<td>PHIL2611</td>
<td>PHIL2610</td>
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<tr>
<td>Problems of Empiricism</td>
<td>Exploring Nonclassical Logic</td>
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<td>PHIL2617</td>
<td>PHIL2612</td>
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<td>Practical Ethics</td>
<td>History of Ethics</td>
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<td>PHIL2619</td>
<td>PHIL2613</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philosophy of Mathematics</td>
<td>Plato and Aristotle</td>
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<td>PHIL2620</td>
<td>PHIL2616</td>
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<td>Probability and Decision Theory</td>
<td>Philosophy of Human Rights</td>
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<td>PHIL2622</td>
<td>PHIL2618</td>
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<td>Reality, Time &amp; Possibility: Metaphysics</td>
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<td>PHIL2623</td>
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<td>Moral Psychology</td>
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<td>Democratic Theory</td>
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<td>PHIL2642</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theorising Modernity</td>
<td>Critical Thinking</td>
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<td>PHIL2635</td>
<td>PHIL2643</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contemporary Political Philosophy</td>
<td>Philosophy of Mind</td>
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<td>PHIL2640</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental Philosophy</td>
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<td>Philosophy of Law</td>
<td>Philosophy in Film</td>
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<td>PHIL2647</td>
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<td>The Philosophy of Happiness</td>
<td>Justice</td>
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<td>PHIL2648</td>
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<td>19th C. Philosophy: Kant to Nietzsche</td>
<td>Philosophy of Nature and the Environment</td>
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<td>The Philosophy of Happiness Advanced</td>
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<td>Reality Time &amp; Possibility: Metaphysics Advanced</td>
<td>Aesthetics and Art Advanced</td>
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<th>SUMMER SCHOOL</th>
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<td>PHIL2617</td>
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<td>Introductory Logic</td>
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<td>PHIL2647</td>
<td>PHIL2642</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Philosophy of Happiness</td>
<td>Critical Thinking</td>
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**HONOURS**

Students intending to undertake Honours in Philosophy will need to commence their Honours study in Semester 1.
**Junior units of study**

**PHIL1011 Reality, Ethics and Beauty**

**Credit points:** 6  
**Teacher/Coordinator:** Anik Waldow  
**Session:** Semester 1  
**Classes:** 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week  
**Prohibitions:** PHIL1003, PHIL1004, PHIL1006, PHIL1008  
**Assessment:** tutorial participation (10%), 1x2000wd essay (30%), on-line quizzes (10%), 1x2hr exam (50%)

This unit is an introduction to central issues in metaphysics, ethics and aesthetics. It opens with general questions about reality, God, personal identity and free will. The middle section of the unit will consider questions about values, goodness and responsibility. The final part is concerned with the question “what is art”, the nature of aesthetic judgment and the role of art in our lives.

**PHIL1012 Introductory Logic**

**Credit points:** 6  
**Teacher/Coordinator:** Dr Nicholas Smith  
**Session:** Semester 2, Winter  
**Classes:** 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week  
**Assessment:** tutorial participation (10%), 2x assignments (40%) and 1x2hr exam (50%)

An introduction to modern logic: the investigation of the laws of truth. One essential aspect of good reasoning or argumentation is that it is valid: it cannot lead from true premises to a false conclusion. In this unit we learn how to identify and construct valid arguments, using techniques such as truth tables, models and truth trees. Apart from being a great aid to clear thinking about any subject, knowledge of logic is essential for understanding many areas not only of contemporary philosophy, but also linguistics, mathematics and computing.

**PHIL1013 Society, Knowledge and Self**

**Credit points:** 6  
**Teacher/Coordinator:** Dalia Nasser  
**Session:** Semester 2  
**Classes:** 2x1-hr lectures/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week  
**Prohibitions:** PHIL1010  
**Assessment:** tutorial participation (10%), 1x2000wd essay (30%) and 1x2hr exam (60%)

This unit is an introduction to central issues in political philosophy, theories of knowledge and philosophical conceptions of the self. The first part will consider the state, freedom and political obligation. The second part will examine some of the major theories of knowledge in the modern philosophical tradition. The final section will look at conceptions of the self as a knowing and acting subject.
Senior units of study

PHIL2606 Knowledge, Reason and Action

Credit points: 6 Teacher/Coordinator: Brian Hedden Session: Semester 1 Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week Prerequisites: 12 Junior credit points in Philosophy Assessment: 1x2500wd essay (50%) and 1x2hr exam (50%)

This unit covers three topics in epistemology: what knowledge is, how it can be obtained, and what to do with it. The first component involves a study of the nature of knowledge, and the various attempts to define it. The second is concerned with principles of reason and investigation, and how to assess whether they are good sources of knowledge. The final component is to do with the theory of decision: what methods should be used to apply knowledge in the choice of action.

PHIL2610 Exploring Nonclassical Logic

Credit points: 6 Teacher/Coordinator: Nicholas Smith Sessions: Semester 2 Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week Prerequisites: PHIL1012 Introductory Logic OR permission from coordinator Prohibitions: PHIL3214 Assessment: assignments (50%) and 1x2hr exam (50%)

Classical logic is what you study in introductory units such as PHIL1012. This unit covers major extensions of and alternatives to classical logic, such as temporal, modal, intuitionist, relevance, and many-valued logics. As well as looking at the internal workings of these logics, we examine some of their applications, and the philosophical issues surrounding them.

PHIL2611 Problems of Empiricism

Credit points: 6 Sessions: Semester 1 Classes: 1x 2 hour lecture and 1x 1 hour tutorial per week Prerequisites: 12 Junior credit points in Philosophy. Prohibitions: PHIL2211, PHIL3211 Assessment: 2x Essays (total 4500 words)

This unit will examine three problems that are part of the legacy of Empiricism: (i) the issues of induction, causation and causal explanation in science; (ii) the arguments from Berkeley and Hume concerning the external world; and (iii) the case of post-Humean ethical theory. Throughout we will be looking to the modern manifestations of these problems and the ways they might be rectified. We also look to emphasise the importance of these issues for the development of psychology of perception.

PHIL2612 History of Ethics

Credit points: 6 Teacher/Coordinator: Sam Shpall Session: Semester 2 Classes: 2x1-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week Prerequisites: 12 Junior credit points in Philosophy Prohibitions: PHIL2512, PHIL3512 Assessment: 2x500wd text analysis exercises (20%), 1x1500wd essay (40%), 1x2hr exam (40%)

The nature of duty and the good: how we ought to live and what is valuable in life. A selective survey of Western normative ethical theory, covering philosophers such as Aristotle, Hume, Kant and Mill.

PHIL2613 Plato and Aristotle

Credit points: 6 Teacher/Coordinator: Rick Benitez Sessions: Semester 2 Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week Prerequisites: (12 Junior credit points in Philosophy) or (6 junior credit points of Philosophy and ANHS1600) Prohibitions: PHIL3013, PHIL2013 Assessment: 1x2500wd essay (60%) and 1x2hr exam (40%)

An examination of the major philosophical themes to be found in the works of Plato and Aristotle, with close attention to a few central works. The course emphasises understanding the ways these philosophers think rather than learning a body of doctrine.
PHIL2616 Philosophy of Human Rights

Credit points: 6 Teacher/Coordinator: Dr Alexandre Lefebvre Session: Semester 2 Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week Prerequisites: 12 junior credit points in Philosophy or Government and International Relations Assessment: 1x1500wd take home exercise (30%), 1x2500wd essay (60%), tutorial participation (10%)

This unit addresses central themes from the history and philosophy of human rights. Topics may include the relationship between human rights and religion, natural law, moral and aesthetic justifications of human rights, claims and challenges to universality of the part of human rights, and tensions between human rights and state sovereignty. Thinkers may include Paine, Burke, Kant, Wollstonecraft, Tocqueville, Arendt, Schmitt, and Rawls.

PHIL2617 Practical Ethics

Credit points: 6 Teacher/Coordinator: Caroline West Session: Semester 1, Summer Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week Prerequisites: 12 junior credit points Prohibitions: PHIL2517, PHIL3617 Assessment: 1x2500wd essay (40%), tutorial participation (10%), tutorial presentation (10%) and 1x2000wd take-home exam (40%)

This unit draws on contemporary moral philosophy to shed light on some of the most pressing practical, ethical questions of our time, including euthanasia, abortion, surrogacy, censorship, animal rights, genetic testing and cloning and environmental ethics. By the end of the unit, students should have a good understanding of these practical ethical issues; and, more crucially, be equipped with the conceptual resources to think through new ethical questions and dilemmas as they arise in their personal and professional lives.

PHIL2618 Aesthetics and Art

Credit points: 6 Teacher/Coordinator: Dr David Macarthur Session: Semester 2 Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week and 1x1-hr tutorial/week Prerequisites: (12 junior credit points in Philosophy) or (12 junior credit points in Art History) Prohibitions: PHIL2518, PHIL3681 Assessment: 1x2500wd essay (50%) and 1x2000wd take-home exam (50%)

Why is art important to us? What is an aesthetic response to something? What is the relation between art and aesthetics? Is there such a thing as objective interpretation of an artwork? Or is it all a matter of taste? Should we believe in “the death of the author”? What is the relation between art and representation, expression and emotion? We shall discuss these and other questions (e.g. modernity, metaphor) from the perspective of an historical approach to the philosophical study of aesthetics and art.
PHIL2619 Philosophy of Mathematics

Credit points: 6  Teacher/Coordinator: Professor Mark Colyvan  Session: Semester 1  Classes: 1x2 hr lecture/week, 1 x 1 hr tutorial/week, Prohibitions: PHIL2219, PHIL3219, Assessment: 2x2250 word essays

This unit focuses on contemporary problems in philosophy of mathematics. Perhaps the most fundamental of these problems is that of determining the subject matter of mathematics. Is mathematical knowledge just logical knowledge, abstract knowledge of the empirical world, or something else? And how do we come by mathematical knowledge? Other topics include, the significance of mathematical results about the limits of mathematics (such as Gödel’s incompleteness theorems), the nature of infinity, and the relationship between pure mathematics and empirical science.

PHIL2620 Probability and Decision Theory

Credit points: 6  Teacher/Coordinator: Brian Hedden  Sessions: Semester 1  Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week  Prerequisites: 12 Junior credit points in Philosophy  Prohibitions: PHIL2220  Assessment: 1xin-class test (10%), 1x2000wd essay (40%), 1x2hr exam (50%)

Throughout our lives, in making decisions large and small, we gamble in the face of uncertainty. Because we are always unsure what the future holds, we base our choices on estimates of probability. But what is probability, how do we know about it, and how should we use that knowledge in making rational choices? This unit provides an introduction to the foundations and philosophical puzzles of probability and rational decision theory.

PHIL2622 Reality, Time and Possibility: Metaphysics

Credit points: 6  Teacher/Coordinator: David Braddon-Mitchell  Session: Semester 1  Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week  Prerequisites: 12 Junior credit points in Philosophy  Prohibitions: PHIL3662  Assessment: 1x1400wd essay (33%), 1x2000wd essay (45%) and 11 short multiple choice quizzes (22%)

This is a unit in metaphysics: the discipline that tells us about the nature of the world. The unit carries on from the Reality component of first year. We engage with questions like: What is time? What is space? What makes something a person? How much change can I undergo and still be me? Are objects four-dimensional space-time worms? Do the past or future exist, and could we travel to them? Are there numbers?

PHIL2623 Moral Psychology

Credit points: 6  Session: Semester 1  Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week  Prerequisites: 12 Junior credit points in Philosophy  Prohibitions: PHIL2513, PHIL3513  Assessment: 1x2500wd essay (50%) and 1x2000wd take-home exam (50%)

We go beyond the question of which actions are morally right to consider the following: How should we evaluate motives and emotions? Is anyone actually virtuous, or are we all weak-willed, self-deceived confabulators? Are any actions or persons evil? When should we feel guilty or ashamed? Should forgiveness be unconditional? Is morality the product of Darwinian natural selection, or of culture and learning? Is there any objective truth in morality, or are moral claims merely subjective or culturally relative?
PHIL2626 Philosophy and Psychoanalysis
Credit points: 6
Sessions: Semester 1
Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week
Prerequisites: 12 Junior credit points in Philosophy
Prohibitions: PHIL2207, PHIL3207, PHIL2226, PHIL3226
Assessment: 1x2500wd essay (50%) and 1x2000wd take-home exam (50%)

An analysis and critique of the main ideas in Freudian psychoanalysis, their philosophical background, and their influence in subsequent philosophy of mind.

PHIL2627 Philosophy and Psychiatry
Credit points: 6
Teacher/Coordinator: Dr Dominic Murphy
Sessions: Semester 2
Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week
Prerequisites: (12 Junior credit points of Philosophy) or (12 Junior credit points from GCST, SCLG, ANTH, ENGL1008, ENGL1026)
Prohibitions: PHIL2227
Assessment: 2x2250wd essays (100%)

Can the concept ‘mental illness’ be a valid one? What might delusions tell us about the structure of the mind? What assumptions underlie attempts to classify mental disorder? Can we be justified in compelling people to submit to psychiatric treatment? This unit will examine philosophical questions raised by mental disorder and our attempts to understand/treat it, and will connect psychiatry to debates in philosophy such as the mind/body problem, the concept of a person, and the possibility of knowledge.

PHIL2633 Theorising Modernity
Credit points: 6
Teacher/Coordinator: Dr John Grumley
Sessions: Semester 1
Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week
Prerequisites: 12 junior credit points in Philosophy
Prohibitions: PHIL1007, PHIL2533
Assessment: 1x2000wd essay (50%) and 1x2500wd take-home exam (50%)

A survey of a range of classical 19th century theories from the standpoint of what they offer to the understanding of the newly emerging modern bourgeois social world. The work of Hegel, Marx, de Tocqueville, and Nietzsche will serve as paradigmatic attempts to discover the essence of this new society. Recurring themes and features will be examined through the prism of these thinkers: these include the problem of meaning after the collapse of tradition, the rise of secularism, capitalism, industrialisation, democracy, bureaucratisation and individualism -- their features, antinomies and problems. The unit is also intended as an introduction to the thinkers concerned while focusing in each case on their theorisation of modernity.

PHIL2634 Democratic Theory
Credit points: 6
Sessions: Semester 2
Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week
Prerequisites: (12 Junior credit points in Philosophy) or (6 junior credit points of Philosophy and ANHS1600)
Prohibitions: PHIL2514
Assessment: presentation (10%), 1x2000wd essay (45%) and 1x2000wd take-home exam (45%)

A unit in normative political philosophy. The unit will examine ideas of democracy, as well as historical foundations of these ideas, and it will do so in order to address key issues in contemporary democratic theory, such as the tension between republican and liberal ideas, the relationship between justice and democracy, the challenges of social and cultural pluralism, the limits of democratic inclusion, and, importantly, the nature of political legitimacy and the challenge of a suitably inclusive justification of political principles.
PHIL2635 Contemporary Political Philosophy

Credit points: 6 Session: Semester 1 Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week
Prerequisites: (12 Junior credit points of Philosophy) or (12 Junior credit points from GCST, SCLG, ANTH, ENGL1008, ENGL1026) Prohibitions: PHIL3535, PHIL2535 Assessment: 1x2000wd essay (50%), 1x500wd tutorial paper (10%) and 1x2000wd take-home exam (40%)

This unit offers a critical introduction to the major schools of thought in contemporary political philosophy organised around the theme of inclusion and exclusion. The inclusive ambitions of liberal political theory will be confronted with objections from thinkers motivated by concern with various aspects of social and political exclusion based on categories such as gender, cultural difference, and statelessness.

PHIL2640 Environmental Philosophy

Credit points: 6 Teacher/Coordinator: Professor Mark Colyvan Session: Semester 1 Classes: 1x2 hr lecture/week, 1 x 1 hr tutorial/week, Prohibitions: PHIL2240, Assessment: 2x2250 word essays

This unit presents a variety of philosophical issues associated with the study and management of the natural environment. We will look at questions such as: what does it mean to live in harmony with the environment? what is sustainability? why should we preserve biodiversity? what is the best way to achieve conservation goals? what are ecological models and how do they work? and what is the proper relationship between environmental science and the values found in environmental policy and management?

PHIL2642 Critical Thinking

Credit points: 6 Teacher/Coordinator: Dr Luke Russell Sessions: Semester 2, Winter Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week Prerequisites: 12 junior credit points Assessment: 1x1500wd essay (30%), 1x in-class test (20%) and 1x2hr exam (50%)

An introduction to critical thinking and analysis of argument. By examining arguments drawn from diverse sources, including journalism, advertising, science, medicine, history, economics and politics, we will learn how to distinguish good from bad arguments, and how to construct rationally persuasive arguments of our own. Along the way we will grapple with scepticism, conspiracy theories and pseudoscience. The reasoning skills imparted by this unit make it invaluable not only for philosophy students but for every student at the University.

PHIL2643 Philosophy of Mind

Credit points: 6 Teacher/Coordinator: Prof David Braddon-Mitchell Session: Semester 2 Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week Prerequisites: 12 Junior credit points in Philosophy Prohibitions: PHIL2213, PHIL3213, PHIL2205, PHIL3643 Assessment: 1x2500wd essay (60%) and 1x2000wd take-home exam (40%)

An introduction to modern theories of the nature of mind, and some important contemporary issues in the philosophy of mind. Topics will include the problem of mental representation (how can minds think about the world?), the relationship of minds to brains, and the problem of consciousness.

PHIL2645 Philosophy of Law

Credit points: 6 Session: Semester 1 Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week Prerequisites: 12 Junior credit points in Philosophy Prohibitions: PHIL2510, PHIL3510 Assessment: 1x2500wd essay (50%) and 1x2hr exam (50%)

This unit looks at fundamental issues in the philosophy of law, including the role of law, civil liberties, legal obligation, punishment, responsibility and morality. It considers questions about whether or not a legal system is necessary, arguments for anarchy, and reasons for safeguarding freedoms from the force of law. It considers arguments for obedience to law, and seeks a moral justification of punishment. The discussion of practical issues in law leads to consideration of relation between law and morality.
PHIL2647 The Philosophy of Happiness
Credit points: 6  Teacher/Coordinator: Dr Caroline West
Sessions: Semester 1, Summer  Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week
Prerequisites: 12 Junior credit points
Prohibitions: PHIL3647
Assessment: 1x2500wd essay (45%), 1x2000wd take-home exam (45%) and tutorial participation (10%)

We all want to be happy and to live a worthwhile life. But what is happiness? Why should we want it? And how do we get it? These are among the most fundamental questions of philosophy. We will evaluate the answers of major thinkers from ancient and modern and eastern and western traditions; and consider the implications of current psychological research into the causes of happiness for the question of how to live well, as individuals and as a society.

PHIL2648 19th C. Philosophy: Kant to Nietzsche
Credit points: 6  Session: Semester 1  Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week
Prerequisites: 12 Junior credit points in Philosophy
Prohibitions: PHIL2641, PHIL3011
Assessment: 1x1000wd tutorial exercise (25%), 1x500wd essay outline (15%), 1x2500-3000wd final essay (60%)

This survey surveys the history of 19th Century philosophy, from Kant and idealism to Nietzsche and existentialism. The first half examines Kant’s “Copernican revolution” in philosophy, and the critical responses to Kant’s project in the work of Fichte, Schelling and Hegel. The second half investigates the critique of idealism in the works of Kierkegaard, Dostoevsky and Nietzsche. Throughout, questions of science, morals and politics, art, education, and religion will be considered.

PHIL2655 Philosophical Ethics
Credit points: 6  Teacher/Coordinator: Caroline West
Sessions: Semester 2  Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week
Prerequisites: 12 Junior credit points of philosophy
Prohibitions: PHIL3655
Assessment: 4x600wd editing assessments (10%), 2x 600wd argument analysis assessments (15%), 3x 600wd multiple-choice tests (15%), 1x 1200wd research essay (30%) and 1x 1.5hr exam (30%)

This unit addresses philosophical issues concerning how we should live our lives. It surveys theories of which goals are good and which actions are right. Students will gain an overview of philosophical approaches to questions like: Must we act for the greater good, or is it ok to show a special concern for our friends? Can we be justified in harming some people to help others? Can small benefits to many people justify imposing a great loss on a few?

PHIL2658 Philosophy in Film
Credit points: 6  Teacher/Coordinator: Dr David Macarthur
Sessions: Semester 2  Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week, 1x film screening/week
Prerequisites: (12 junior credit points of Philosophy) or (18 junior credit points including ENGL1011)
Assessment: 1x500wd tutorial presentation (10%), 1x1500wd take-home assignment (30%), 1x2500wd essay (50%) and tutorial participation (10%)

This unit will use the screening and criticism of carefully chosen classical and contemporary films to raise important philosophical questions and to contribute to our response to them. Each film screening will be paired with a key philosophical question that is explored in the film and further investigated in class: problems of freedom, human action, democracy, crime, love, otherness, marriage, conversation, selfhood, and being human. The class will also explore some central questions in the philosophy of film.
PHIL2663 Justice
Credit points: 6
Session: Semester 2
Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week
Prerequisites: 12 junior credit points of Philosophy
Prohibitions: PHIL3663
Assessment: 600wd editing assessments (5%), 600wd argument analysis assessment (15%), 600wd multiple-choice tests (20%), 1x1200wd research essay (30%) and 1x1.5hr exam (30%)

This unit examines ethical questions concerning social justice. It surveys influential theories of which institutions and social relationships are necessary for a just society. The unit provides students with an overview of views of freedom and equality. Finally, it critically reviews attempts to reconcile these apparently conflicting goals, e.g. as they pertain to questions like: Is taxation theft? Is private education inegalitarian? Are there moral limits to markets? Should we be free to engage in speech that undermines others’ statuses?

PHIL2664 Philosophy of Nature and the Environment
Credit points: 6
Teacher/Coordinator: Dalia Nassar
Session: Semester 2
Classes: 2x1-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week
Prerequisites: 12 junior credit points of Philosophy
Assessment: 1x2500wd Essay (40%), 1x1hr Exam (30%), 1x1000wd Tutorial Presentation (20%) and Tutorial Participation (10%)

The idea of nature has undergone several significant shifts over the course of Western philosophy and science. What are the competing accounts of nature, and of the relationship between the human being and the natural world? Which accounts underlie the current environmental crisis, and which have the potential to forge more sustainable relations to the natural world? This course approaches the environmental crisis from both a historical and contemporary perspective.

PHIL2667 From Illusion to Reality
Credit points: 6
Session: Semester 1
Classes: 1x2hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week
Prerequisites: (12 Junior credit points of Philosophy) or (6 Junior credit points of Philosophy and 6 Junior credit points from Gender and Cultural Studies, Sociology or Psychology)
Prohibitions: PHIL2605
Assessment: 1x1500wd Essay (50%), 1x3000wd take-home exercise (50%)

What is the boundary between reality and illusion? Can we be certain that we do not just project our own feelings and thoughts onto reality? Can we know that we are not dreaming? This unit will address these questions by analysing sceptical arguments and theories of knowledge from antiquity to modernity. The unit is designed to introduce students to epistemological topics in the historical context, thereby offering the basis for further studies in contemporary epistemology, metaphysics and philosophy of mind.

PHIL2670 Philosophy of Science
Credit points: 6
Teacher/Coordinator: Brian Hedden
Session: Semester 2
Classes: 1x2hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week
Prerequisites: (12 junior credit points in Philosophy) or (12 junior credit points in History and Philosophy of Science (HPSC))
Assessment: 2x1250wd Essay (50%), 1x2000wd Take-home exercise (40%), Tutorial participation (10%)

We will explore philosophical questions about the nature of science, such as: When does evidence count for or against a scientific theory? What does it take for a theory to be explanatory? Should we believe that our best scientific theories are true (or approximately true), or only that they are predictively successful? What does it take for a truth to count as a law of nature?
PHIL3617 Practical Ethics Advanced

Credit points: 6
Session: Semester 1
Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week
Prerequisites: PHIL2655 or PHIL2663
Prohibitions: PHIL2617
Assessment: 1x1250wd research essay (30%), 1x500wd essay feedback to peers (5%), 1x1250wd revision of research essay in response to feedback (30%) and 1x1.5hr exam (35%)

This is the advanced version of PHIL2617, with common lectures, but separate tutorials and assessment. Students will apply advanced methods of contemporary moral philosophy to the understanding of practical ethics. They will evaluate approaches to pressing questions concerning euthanasia, abortion, surrogacy, censorship, animal rights, genetic testing and cloning and the environment. Students will learn how to apply their understanding of practical ethical issues to extant ethical dilemmas, and, more crucially, new ones that arise in their personal and professional lives.

PHIL3638 Hegel

Credit points: 6
Teacher/Coordinator: Dr John Grumley
Session: Semester 1
Classes: 1x2 hour lecture and 1x1 hour tutorial per week
Prerequisites: 16 Senior credit points in Philosophy
Prohibitions: PHIL3038, PHIL3509
Assessment: tutorial presentation (10%), 1x essay (50%) and 1x take-home exam (40%)

This unit will focus on Hegel's mature social and political ideas as present in Elements of a Philosophy of Rights. Hegel offers one of the great alternative conceptualisations of modern politics and state to the dominant classical liberal tradition. This course will contextualise his ideas in terms of both their own development and of Hegel's philosophy as a whole. However, the emphasis will be on a careful reconstruction of Hegel's mature political philosophy and his critique of his most important competitors both then and now.

PHIL3643 Philosophy of Mind Advanced

Credit points: 6
Teacher/Coordinator: Prof David Braddon-Mitchell
Session: Semester 2
Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week
Prerequisites: 12 senior credit points in Philosophy
Prohibitions: PHIL2643
Assessment: 1x1500wd essay (30%), 1x2500wd essay (50%) and 10xweekly tests (20%)

This is an advanced Philosophy of Mind course which has common lectures with PHIL2643 but different assessments and tutorials. It will cover the latest research on metaphysics of mind, and the theory of the content of mental states - how it is that mental stages get to be 'about' the world. It deals with similar issues as PHIL2643 but at a more advanced level, with reading from contemporary journal articles and research-based essays as the principal assessment.

PHIL3647 Philosophy of Happiness Advanced

Credit points: 6
Teacher/Coordinator: Dr Caroline West
Session: Semester 1
Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week
Prerequisites: 12 senior credit points in Philosophy
Prohibitions: PHIL2647
Assessment: 1x2500wd essay (50%) and 1x2000wd take-home exam (50%)

This is the advanced version of PHIL2647, with common lectures but separate tutorials and assessments. Students will apply advanced philosophical methods to the understanding of happiness. Students will analyse influential theories of what happiness is, why we should want it and how we get it. They will evaluate the implications of psychological research into happiness's causes. Students will learn to apply their understanding of happiness to the question of how to live well, as individuals and as a society.
PHIL3655 Philosophical Ethics Advanced

Credit points: 6  Teacher/Coordinator: Caroline West  Sessions: Semester 2  Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week  Prerequisites: PHIL2617 or PHIL2663  Prohibitions: PHIL2655  Assessment: 1x1250wd research essay (30%), 1x500wd essay feedback to peer (5%), 1x1250wd revision of research essay in response to feedback (30%) and 1x1.5hr exam (35%)  

This is the advanced version of PHIL2655, with common lectures but separate tutorials and assessment. Students will apply advanced philosophical methods to issues concerning how we should live our lives. Students will analyse theories of which goals are good and which actions are right. Students will evaluate moral controversies, and learn how to apply their ethical understanding to questions like: Must we act for the greater good? May we harm some people to help others?

PHIL3662 Reality Time & Possibility: Metaphysics Advanced

Credit points: 6  Teacher/Coordinator: David Braddon-Mitchell  Session: Semester 1  Classes: 2x1-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week  Prerequisites: 12 senior credit points in Philosophy  Prohibitions: PHIL2622  Assessment: 1x1475wd essay (33%), 1x2000wd essay (45%) and 12 quizzes (22%)  

This unit is an advanced version of PHIL2622. It explores the relationship between space, time and modality. It asks the questions: What is time? What is space? How do objects exist through time? Could our world have been other than it is? What sorts of things are persons? Is it possible to travel backwards in time? Is our world ultimately composed of fundamental simple objects? The course provides a general background in analytic metaphysics.

PHIL3663 Justice Advanced

Credit points: 6  Session: Semester 2  Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week  Prerequisites: PHIL2617 or PHIL2655  Prohibitions: PHIL2663  Assessment: 1x1250wd research essay (30%), 1x500wd essay feedback to peer (5%), 1x1250wd revision of research essay in response to feedback (30%), 1x1.5hr exam (35%)  

This is the advanced version of PHIL2663, with common lectures but separate tutorials and assessments. Students will apply advanced ethical methods to the understanding of social justice. Students will analyse influential theories of a just society’s institutions and social relationships. They will evaluate views of freedom and equality. Students will learn to apply their understanding of justice to reconciling these goals, e.g. when answering: Is taxation theft? Is private education inegalitarian? Are there moral limits to markets?

PHIL3681 Aesthetics and Art Advanced

Credit points: 6  Teacher/Coordinator: Dr David Macarthur  Sessions: Semester 2  Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week and 1x1-hr tutorial/week  Prerequisites: 12 senior credit points in Philosophy  Prohibitions: PHIL2618  Assessment: 1x500wd tutorial presentation (20%), 1x4000wd essay (70%) and tutorial participation (10%)  

This is the advanced version of PHIL2681, with common lectures, but separate tutorials and assessment. In this unit we will explore the idea that a work of art is best thought of on the model of intentional action. By considering examples of painting, sculpture, literature, conceptual art, film and photography we will consider questions of artifactuality, artistic intentionality, interpretation, and objecthood. A guiding theme will be the challenge to a demanding conception of art posed by various forms of skepticism about art including relativism, physicalism, and a modern scientific-minded cynicism about non-scientific understanding.
Academic staff and their research interests

Prof Peter Anstey • 9351 2477 • peter.anstey@sydney.edu.au • Early modern philosophy; philosophy of science; ancient philosophy; metaphysics.

Prof Eugenio (Rick) Benitez • 9351 6658 • rick.benitez@sydney.edu.au • Ancient Greek philosophy; aesthetics and philosophy of literature; philosophy of law.

Professor David Braddon-Mitchell • 9351 2372 • dbm.braddon-mitchell@sydney.edu.au • Philosophy of mind; metaphysics; meta-ethics, philosophy of science, philosophy of biology; epistemology.

Professor Mark Colyvan • 9036 6175 • mark.colyvan@sydney.edu.au • Philosophy of science, metaphysics, philosophy of logic, philosophy of mathematics, philosophy of biology (especially philosophy of ecology), decision theory.

Professor Moira Gatens • 9351 2468 • moira.gatens@sydney.edu.au • Social and political philosophy; 17th century rationalism (especially Spinoza); feminist philosophy.

Professor Paul Griffiths • 9036 6265 • paul.griffiths@sydney.edu.au • Professorial Research Fellow • Philosophy and history of biology, philosophy of psychology, philosophy of science.

Assocociate Professor John Grumley • 9351 2465 • john.grumley@sydney.edu.au • Social and political philosophy; German idealism; critical theory from Marx to Habermas; theories of modernity.

Dr Brian Hedden • brian.hedden@sydney.edu.au • Epistemology, decision theory, philosophy of language • (commencing January 2015)

Prof Duncan Ivison • 9351 2206 • duncan.ivison@sydney.edu.au • Contemporary political philosophy and the history of political and moral philosophy, especially in the early modern period; theories of justice, freedom, the self and the state, as well as the rights of indigenous peoples and the philosophy of law.

Dr Alexandre Lefebvre • 9351 4945 • alexandre.lefebvre@sydney.edu.au • Political philosophy, human rights, jurisprudence, modern and contemporary French thought.

Dr David Macarthur • 9351 3193 • david.macarthur@sydney.edu.au • Epistemology; philosophy of psychology; history of modern philosophy; Wittgenstein; aesthetics.
Dr Kristie Miller • 9356 9663 • kristie.miller@sydney.edu.au • Metaphysics, philosophy of mind, philosophy of time.

Dr Dalia Nassar • 9351 4588 • dalia.nassar@sydney.edu.au • German romanticism and idealism; History of philosophy; philosophy of history and hermeneutics; philosophy of nature.

Dr Maureen O’Malley • 9351 2370 • maureen.omalley@sydney.edu.au • Philosophical analyses of changing modes of biological practice, focusing on fields such as systems and synthetic biology, as well as metagenomics.

Professor Paul Redding • 9351 3983 • paul.redding@sydney.edu.au • German idealism; hermeneutics; philosophy of psychology; pragmatism and the history of analytic philosophy.

Dr Luke Russell • 9351 3821 • luke.russell@sydney.edu.au • Normativity; realism and naturalism in epistemology and ethics; virtue theory, moral psychology, philosophy of mind; philosophy of biology.

Dr Sam Shpall • 9351 2721 • sam.shpall@sydney.edu.au • Ethics, aesthetics, action theory, philosophy of law, social and political philosophy, epistemology.

Associate Professor Nicholas J.J. Smith • 9036 6242 • nicholas.smith@sydney.edu.au • Logic (especially logics of vagueness and theories of truth); metaphysics; philosophy of language; philosophy of time (especially time travel); early analytic philosophy (especially Frege).

Dr Anik Waldow • 9114 1245 • anik.waldow@sydney.edu.au • Early modern philosophy, epistemology, metaphysics.

Dr Caroline West • 9036 9349 • caroline.west@sydney.edu.au • Contemporary moral philosophy (meta-ethics and normative ethics); applied ethics; political philosophy; metaphysics (especially personal identity); feminist philosophy.

Academic coordinators

Enquiries relating to Undergraduate study, Honours or Postgraduate study should be directed to the appropriate Academic Coordinator. For further information please visit sydney.edu.au/arts/philosophy
Useful Info

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W sydney.edu.au/arts/sophi

Key Dates

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Prizes, Scholarships and Financial Assistance
Information on Departmental prizes and scholarships can be found on the Department’s website. Other scholarships and financial assistance available through the University can be found at:
sydney.edu.au/arts/future_students/scholarships.shtml
sydney.edu.au/scholarships

Policies
For information on policies that apply to current students, please visit:
sydney.edu.au/arts/current_students/policies.shtml

Summer and Winter Schools
Through Summer and Winter School programs, students can accelerate their degree, catch up a failed subject, balance their timetable or study subjects outside their current program. Recent high school graduates can enrol in first year subjects.
sydney.edu.au/summer