

Spring 2013 - CAS Department of Philosophy Graduate Courses

<http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu/courses>

PHI 528 BRN	Philosophy of Language		Braun, D
Monday	1:00pm - 3:00pm	Park 141	20552

We will critically examine contemporary invariantist, contextualist, relativist, and perhaps expressivist semantic theories of linguistic expressions such as ‘know’, ‘might’, ‘tasty’, and perhaps ‘ought’. This will be an advanced course in philosophy of language. I will assume that all students in the seminar have taken a course equivalent to UB’s Philosophy 328 (Philosophy of Language) and Philosophy 315 (Symbolic Logic). It will also be useful to have taken the equivalent of UB’s Philosophy 519 (Topics in Logic) or Philosophy 619 (Modal Logic). This course will be open to matriculated graduate students in philosophy. All others must have my permission to enroll.

PHI 561 YUJ	PLATO		Yu, J
Tuesday	3:30pm - 6:00pm	Park 141	23230

We start with the *Apology*, which I think draws the baseline for Plato’s dialogues, but most sessions will be devoted to the *Gorgias* and the *Republic*. Related sections in other dialogues will also be discussed. The focus of the seminar is on the contrast between the philosophical life and the moral life, and its underlying metaphysical, epistemological and psychological issues.

Text: *Plato: Complete Works*, edited by John Cooper, Hackett, 1997.

PHI 579 MIL	Consciousness and Intentionality		Millar, B
Friday	1:30pm - 3:30pm	Park 141	23269

There are two basic features that plausibly define what it is to have a mind—features known by philosophers as *intentionality* and *phenomenal consciousness*. This course will explore the dominant views in contemporary philosophy regarding how these two fundamental features of the mind are related. We will examine issues such as whether intentionality is the “mark of the mental,” whether all mental states must be (at least potentially) conscious, and whether there is a distinctive phenomenology associated with the specifically representational aspects of mental states (i.e., cognitive phenomenology). We will also examine a range of influential views regarding the relationship between the intentional content and phenomenal character of particular mental states: representationalism, separatism, higher-order theories of consciousness, and the phenomenal intentionality thesis.

PHI 604 BAU Monday	Teaching Philosophy 5:15pm – 6:15pm	Park 141	Baumer, WH 15416
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PHI 605 BAU Arranged	Supervised Teaching Arranged	Park 141	Baumer, WH 15409
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PHI 619 KEA Monday & Wednesday (combined with PHI 417)	Modal Logic 3:30pm - 4:50pm	Park 141	Kearns, J 23244
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This course will survey standard systems of modal logic, with an emphasis on propositional modal logic. Kripke-style possible-worlds semantics will be explored and, we will investigate alternative style of semantics. We will consider and discuss philosophical issues concerning modality. The exact mix of topics covered will be partly determined by the composition of the class. Students will be given frequent homework assignments which call for constructing proofs in and about various modal systems. There will be a midterm and a final exam, but no paper.

PHI 637 BEE Wednesday	Moral Psychology 1:00pm - 3:30pm	Park 141	Beebe, J 23231
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Forthcoming

PHI 637 DON Tuesday	The Structure of Material Objects 1:00pm - 3:00pm	Park 141	Donnelly, M 23232
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A mereology is a theory of parthood. In the most common mereologies, parthood behaves very much like the set inclusion relation. This requires at least that parthood is introduced as a time-independent partial ordering which obeys an appropriate supplementation principle. It is often also assumed that, just as any collection of sets has a unique union, so also any collection of individuals has a unique mereological sum.

There are good reasons for questioning whether such a mereology is appropriate for domains of material objects. If we accept that material objects lose and gain parts, then it seems we must also hold that parthood relations among material objects are time-dependent. More radical adjustments to the parthood relation have been suggested by certain puzzles concerning material objects. One such puzzle runs as follows: For several years, I have had a lump of clay lying in my office. One day I mold a lump of clay into a statue of a kitten. It would seem that the lump of clay and the statue are distinct, but coextensive, objects: unlike the statue the lump has been in my office for years; unlike the lump, the statue has always (and perhaps must necessarily) look like a kitten. One appealing response to this type of puzzle is adapt standard mereology to better fit the apparent structure of material objects---e.g., in denying the (tensed version of the)

antisymmetry principle for parthood, we might hold that the lump and the statue, though temporarily part of one another, are not identical.

But other responses instead propose structural accounts of material objects which remain consistent with standard mereological principles. For example, four-dimensionalists hold that material objects are spatiotemporally extended and may be distinguished by differences in temporal parts. Thus, the four-dimensionalist denies that the statue and lump of clay are coextensive-the lump extends temporally beyond the statue and has the statue as a mere proper part.

The purpose of this course to investigate theories of material objects which have important implications for a mereology whose domains include material objects. We will cover at least four-dimensionalist theories of material objects and theories claiming that there are no statues, lumps of clay, or other sorts of complex objects, as well as (less drastic) theories that treat common objects such as statues as three-dimensional entities that gain and lose parts. Readings for this course will include selections from Peter Simons' *Parts: A Study in Ontology*, selections from Peter van Inwagen's *Material Beings*, selections from Kathrin Koslicki's *The Structure of Objects*, and articles by Roderick Chisholm, Mark Heller, Theodore Sider, E. J. Lowe, David Wiggins, and many others.

Students should all have some understanding of standard first-order predicate logic.

PHI 640 SAS ONLINE	Graduate Research Ethics VIRTUAL	Online	Smith, S 1117
PHI 640 SAS Wednesday	Graduate Research Ethics 5:00pm - 7:40pm	Knox 04	Smith, S 11167

This course will provide a comprehensive introduction to the field of ethics of scientific research and will satisfy al Federal requirements for education and exposure of graduate and post-doctoral students.

Commencing with an overview of the underlying philosophical approaches to ethics the issue of whether science is/should be value-neutral and whether there are areas of science that should not be explored will be discussed as well as the moral responsibilities of scientists who undertake research that may be used for destructive purposes.

The course will also deal with the nature of fraud, plagiarism and other unacceptable behavior in research, the ethics of scientific publication, the role of whistleblowers in science and intellectual property and scientific integrity. Human subject research will be discussed from the medical, social, and behavioral aspects, including cultural issues, and the roles of Institutional Review Boards (IRBs). The role of animals in medical research will be analyzed with particular emphasis on animal well being and the benefits and drawbacks to animal research.

Individual Tutorial Course Sections with Philosophy Department Faculty:

PHI 599	Graduate Tutorial	Permission of Instructor Required
PHI 702	MA Thesis Guidance	Days/times Arranged with Professor
PHI 704	Dissertation Guidance	Days/times Arranged with Professor

See HUB Registrar website for individual class numbers:

http://myub.buffalo.edu/course/public/scripts/crs_sched.cgi?switch=showcourses&semester=spring&division=GRAD&dept=PHI