

PHILOSOPHY COURSE OFFERINGS
– SPRING 2022 –

- *Philosophy of Cognitive Science and Consciousness*: Cognitive science uses empirical methods to study our experiences. The philosophy of cognitive science and consciousness reflects on the philosophical issues this study raises. For example: are minds like computers? How do our minds depend on our environments, languages, and cultures? How to understand consciousness?
- *Neuroethics*: Neuroethics studies ethical questions arising from studying the mind. For example: do recent discoveries in neuroscience undermine free will? Is it ever permissible for us to engage in cognitive enhancement? What is the relationship between death and brain death? Before you complete the course, you will become familiar with these (and other) questions, as well as historical and contemporary conversations about them. You will also build on important critical thinking skills including: the ability to read critically and for understanding; the ability to defend a position for which you believe; the ability to use philosophical resources to discuss pressing issues in philosophy of mind; and the ability to reflect on the 'big questions' raised by research in the cognitive sciences.

This course has a Mind and Science (M&S) designation for the purposes of major specialization.

PHIL 279: Judgment and Decision-Making (Online) | *Marcella Linn* (*Mind and Science*)

Our everyday conceptions of the way we think, make choices, and act often assume we exercise significant control and awareness. Many philosophical accounts of action and character make similar assumptions. But, current work in social psychology suggests we are prone to many cognitive biases and that our behavior is often influenced by minor situational factors rather than our conscious choices or character. These findings raise important questions pertaining to human agency as well as moral responsibility for action and character.

This course has a Mind and Science (M&S) designation for the purposes of major specialization.

PHIL 284: Health Care Ethics | *Jennifer Parks* (*Ethics and Values*)

PHIL 284 is designed to provide you with an introduction to the philosophical approach to problems in health care ethics. You will be taught to recognize and critically apply various ethical theories and principles with a view to solving moral problems in a rationally defensible manner. We will consider different ethical theories such as utilitarianism, Kantian ethics, care ethics, and the four principles of health care ethics (justice, autonomy, beneficence, and non-maleficence). A number of problematic issues will be covered, including roles and relationships in health care, abortion, caring for persons who are aging, euthanasia and physician-

PHIL 288: Culture and Civilization –

manner in which perennial philosophical problems have been approached in sophisticated and creative ways by these modern philosophers. It will prepare you to take further courses on this time period and to better understand subsequent philosophical movements and conversations.

This course is a requirement for the Philosophy major and is only taught in the Spring Term each year.

PHIL 319W: Studies in Philosophy and Literature | *Andrew Cutrofello*

(Existence, Meaning, and Culture; Writing Intensive)

In this course we will study the philosophical foundations of New Criticism and Deconstruction, the two dominant forms of literary criticism in the twentieth century. The New Critics treated literary texts as self-contained unities; the Deconstructionists treated them as heterogeneous multiplicities. Despite this key methodological difference, they both focused on texts rather than contexts – that is, on linguistic structures rather than historical situations. The philosophical foundations of New Criticism were developed by I. A. Richards and William Empson; the philosophical foundations of Deconstruction were developed by Jacques Derrida and Paul de Man. We will focus on Empson's and Derrida's distinctive ways of reading literary texts. We will also read two antinomian poets – William Blake and Susan Howe – whose work never quite fit the New Critical and Deconstructionist paradigms.

William Empson, *Seven Types of Ambiguity*

William Blake, *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell*

Jacques Derrida,

PHIL 369W: Philosophy of Medicine (Writing Intensive) | *Elizabeth Hoppe*
(Mind and Science)

This writing intensive course, divided into three parts, investigates the meaning and practice of medicine. It begins with the question: What is Medicine? and attempts to answer it through metaphysical and epistemological arguments that arose at the development of medical debate in ancient Greece. Authors for the first part include: Plato, Hippocrates, and Galen. The second component concerns human health and suffering. Here we will examine a variety of texts including medieval philosophy, Buddhism, feminism, and decolonial theory. The third and final part will examine contemporary medical practices, beginning with evidence-based medicine, followed by critiques of current mainstream medical practices.

This course has a Mind and Science (M&S) designation for the purposes of major specialization. This course fulfills a Writing Intensive (WI) requirement.

PHIL 389/490: Contemporary Issues – Judith Butler: Queerness, Performativity,
Power | *Eyo Ewara*
(Existence, Meaning, and Culture)

Few living thinkers have had nearly the level of public impact as has the philosopher, feminist, and queer theorist Judith Butler, whose now famous Gender Trouble is arguably the source of the now oft-cited claim that 'gender is performative.'

conservation and preservation movements to explore the connections between concerns for environmental health and eugenical concerns about individual, racial, and population or species health. Lastly, the course will return to issues in ecology by looking at how ecological ideas, such as resilience, integrity, and adaptation, are being used to develop new theories of health.

This course has an Ethics and Values (E&V) designation for the purposes of major specialization.

Credit for this seminar will count as credit towards the Bioethics Minor.

PHIL 399: Capstone Seminar on a Topic in Philosophy – Comparative Philosophy of Science | Elizabeth Hoppe
(Mind and Science)

Through a comparative study of philosophy of science, this course brings to culmination the study of philosophy by investigating epistemological and metaphysical questions about the meaning of science, along with its socio-political and ethical dimensions. While we often put a great deal of trust in scientific truths, today we also find mistrust in science. How reliable is science? Does it lead us closer to the truth about nature? Does feminist science exist? This capstone course will address these and other questions by comparing the arguments exkrio