

MINI-CATALOG

THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY, RELIGION & CLASSICAL STUDIES  
COURSE OFFERINGS  
FALL 2013

**PHILOSOPHY COURSES**

**PHL 100/Introduction to Philosophy**

Sec.01 (80812) Taylor 12:30-1:50PM MR  
.02 (80813) Taylor 2:00-3:20PM MR  
.03 (82522) Staff 8:30-9:50AM TF  
.04 (82523) Staff 12:30-1:50PM TF

A course that examines the fundamentals of philosophical argument, analysis and reasoning, as applied to a series of issues in logic, epistemology, metaphysics and ethics. Topics covered may include: logical validity, theories of knowledge and belief, the nature of mind, the nature of reality, arguments for the existence of God, and theories of right and wrong. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

**PHL 120/Introduction to Logic**

Sec.01 (80808) Roberts 10:00-11:20AM TF  
.02 (80809) Kang 12:30-1:50PM TF  
.03 (80810) Kang 2:00-3:20PM TF  
.04 (80814) Denissov 5:30-6:50PM MW  
.05 (80815) Denissov 7:00-8:20PM MW  
.06 (80818) Woods 2:00-3:20PM MR

A course on the basic principles and techniques of correct reasoning in ordinary life and the sciences. Study of the formal systems of sentence logic and predicate logic. Translation of natural language statements and arguments and analysis and evaluation of deductive arguments through the construction of proofs. Focus particularly on the power and precision of the natural language with the aim of helping students increase their ability to think and write with creativity, precision and rigor. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing; Writing Intensive)

(This course is recommended for pre-law students and satisfies a requirement for the Law and Society Interdisciplinary Concentration.)

**PHL 135/Contemporary Moral Issues**

Sec.01 (80805) Taylor 10:00-11:20AM MR  
.02 (80806) Howarth 2:00-3:20PM MR  
.03 (82299) Howarth 3:30-4:50PM MR

This course provides an introduction to ethics, one of the main branches of philosophy. It aims to familiarize students with basic concepts and theories in ethics, and with how they may be applied to a range of contemporary moral issues. Topics addressed may include racism, sexism, abortion, euthanasia, cloning, capital punishment, our obligations to the disadvantaged, the treatment of non-human animals, just war, and the like. Students will be encouraged to learn from great thinkers of the past and of the present, to examine their own moral values and beliefs, and to take reasoned and informed stands on the issues treated. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

**PHL 201/History of Ancient Philosophy**

Sec.01 (82120) Sisko 12:30-1:50PM MR

*Prerequisite:* One course in philosophy or permission of instructor

This is a survey course on Plato and Aristotle. In order to place these two philosophers within their historical context, we shall begin by exploring the thought of the Pre-Socratic Philosophers (Parmenides, Zeno, Anaxagoras and Democritus) and the Sophists (Gorgias and Protagoras). The focus of the course shall be on epistemology, metaphysics and psychology. For Plato, we shall read two or three of the early dialogues (including the Euthyphro), both the Meno and the Phaedo, and parts of the Republic. We shall also look at Plato's own criticism of the theory of the Forms in the Parmenides. For Aristotle, we shall read some of the *organon*, including parts of the Categories and the Posterior Analytics. These works provide the basis for Aristotle's own rejection of the theory of Forms and they also introduce us to his conception of 'scientific knowledge'. We shall read substantial selections from three of Aristotle's more prominent works: the Nicomachean Ethics, the Physics, and On the Soul. (LL: World Views & Way of Knowing, Writing Intensive)

**PHL 220/Metalogic**

Sec.01 (82323) Woods 4:00-5:20PM MR

*Prerequisite:* PHL 120 or permission of instructor

A course exploring selected topics in logical theory and the philosophy of logic, including soundness and completeness theorems for sentential and predicate logic and related formal and informal proof techniques. Depending on student interest and time, we may also cover aspects of set theory, modal logic, alternatives to classical logic (intuitionistic, relevantistic, and higher-order logics), and issues about the nature of logic. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

**PHL 246/Aesthetics**

Sec.01 (82121) Kamber 5:30-8:20PM W

*Prerequisite:* One course in philosophy or permission of instructor

This semester PHL 246 Aesthetics will emphasize the implications of research in psychology and anthropology for key issues in the philosophy of art and beauty. Our study of perennial questions like "What is art?" and "Is beauty in the eye of the beholder?" will make use of data gathered from published surveys and from surveys of our own design. See, for example, my 2009 survey, "What Is Art?"

[http://tcnj.qualtrics.com//SE?SID=SV\\_1XDFWfu8svZWgu0&SVID=Prod](http://tcnj.qualtrics.com//SE?SID=SV_1XDFWfu8svZWgu0&SVID=Prod)

Readings will include selections from philosophical classics by Plato, Aristotle, and Hume as well as Noël Carroll's engaging overview of analytic art theories; *Philosophy of Art: A Contemporary Introduction*. We will also read two intriguing works grounded in evolutionary psychology: Nancy Etcoff's *Survival of the Prettiest*, and Denis Dutton's *The Art Instinct*. There will also be a unit in the course on film as an art form.

The usual prerequisite of one course in philosophy will be waived for students with a strong interest in the fine or performing arts or with strong interest in the psychology of art and beauty. Please direct any questions you may have about this course to Richard Kamber at [rkamber@tcnj.edu](mailto:rkamber@tcnj.edu). (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

**PHL 275/Philosophy of Law**

Sec.01 (82300) Winston 10:00-11:20AM MR

*Prerequisite:* One course in philosophy or sophomore standing or permission of instructor

In this course we will examine the nature of the law and legal reasoning and the relationship between law and morality. Among the questions that we will consider are: Do we have a duty to obey the law? What is meant by the 'rule of law'? According to what standards or procedures should judges interpret the law? We will be especially interested in the relationship between US constitutional interpretation and international human rights law; in particular, we will be examining the implications of the American constitutional tradition for human rights issues such as freedom of expression, freedom of religion, the right of privacy, racial and gender equality, the right not to be tortured, and the death penalty. Assigned readings will include essays by philosophers, jurists, and legal theorists, and landmark cases decided by the US Supreme Court. Students will be assessed by means of class presentations, class participation, a series of short position papers on directed topics, and a final exam. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

**PHL 391/Independent Study***Prerequisite:* Two 200-level courses in philosophy and permission of instructor

Independent study of a particular philosophical topic, in close consultation with a member of the department.

**PHL 420/Metaphysics**

Sec.01 (82123) Preti 2:00-3:20PM MR

*Prerequisite:* PHL 120 and two 200-level or higher philosophy courses or permission of instructor

Metaphysics is the most general category in philosophy, roughly understood as the study of what there is. In this course we will approach the study of metaphysics by way of both classical and contemporary readings that focus on key problems and issues in metaphysics, including the nature of universals; personal identity; causation; necessity and the a priori, and the nature of thought. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

**PHL 493/Senior Project Research***Prerequisite:* Senior standing as a philosophy major and permission of instructor

Independent research under the guidance of a full-time faculty member on a mutually agreed-on topic. Students will be expected to define a topic suitable for a capstone project, conduct a series of appropriate literature reviews, and develop a writing plan.

**PHL 494/Senior Project**

*Prerequisite:* PHL 493 and permission of instructor

A writing project prepared under the advisement of a member of the philosophy faculty. Students must complete a carefully researched and written, in-depth work in philosophy on a topic of significance in philosophy, selected by the student in consultation with faculty and written under the close supervision of a faculty member who serves as advisor.

**PHL 495/Senior Thesis Research**

*Prerequisite:* Senior standing as a philosophy major and permission of instructor

Independent research under the guidance of a full-time faculty member on a mutually agreed-on topic. Students will be expected to define a topic suitable for a capstone thesis, conduct a series of appropriate literature reviews, and develop a writing plan.

**PHL 496/Senior Thesis**

*Prerequisite:* PHL 495 and permission of instructor

A substantial writing project prepared under the advisement of a member of the philosophy faculty. Students must complete a carefully researched and written, in-depth work in philosophy on a topic of significance in philosophy, selected by the student in consultation with faculty and written under the close supervision of a faculty member who serves as adviser.

**RELIGION COURSES****REL 100/Basic Issues in Religion**

Sec.01 (80953) Rech 8:30-9:50AM TF

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to: 1) different ways of analyzing religion as part of human culture, 2) different forms of religious expressions (such as rites), and 3) different religious beliefs. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

**REL 110/World Religions**

Sec.01 (80954) Sinha 2:00-3:20PM MR  
.02 (80955) Richardson 4:00-5:20PM MR  
.03 (80959) Deghani 8:30-9:50AM TF  
.04 (80963) Deghani 10:00-11:20AM TF

This course focuses on the exploration of the world's major religious traditions. Students will examine and compare the essential teachings, and the historical and cultural context, of most or all of the following: Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and one or more additional non-western traditions. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing; Global)

**REL 111/Buddhism & Buddhist Thought**

Sec.01 (80956) Thomas 8:30-9:50AM MR  
.02 (80957) Thomas 10:00-11:20AM MR

This course will study the historical and philosophical development of Buddhism from its origin in India to its modern day practice in Japan and Tibet. It will explore the essential teachings and practice of Buddhism both in its early and modern form found in India, Sri Lanka, China, Japan and Tibet. It will examine both primary texts from various Buddhist traditions and secondary materials in order to gain a better appreciation for this religious tradition which has survived in Asia for centuries and is gaining popularity in the West in recent times. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing; Global)

**REL 112/Hinduism & Hindu Thought**

Sec.01 (80958) Sinha 12:30-1:50PM MR

The goal of this course is to introduce students to the main ideas of Hinduism through an exploration of those issues which reveal basic beliefs, attitudes and the important values in the Hindu religious community. The course will combine a broadly historical approach highlighting major movements and persons with a focused exploration of some philosophical issues which shape and inform the Hindu worldview. Topics to be covered include the Vedas and the Upanishads, Yoga and the Bhagavad Gita, and the contemporary Hindu revivalist movements. The course will attempt to combine scholarship with a concern for an appreciative understanding of the subject. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing; Global)

**REL 113/Islam & Islamic Thought**

Sec.01 (80961) Staff 10:00-11:20AM TF

This course will examine the rise and development of philosophical thought in Islam. It will begin with looking at the background in which early theological explorations in Islam began. It will explore these early theological/philosophical explorations, which were in large measure based on political events and ideas that in turn led to the further development of theology and philosophy. It will examine the transfer of ancient Greek wisdom into Arabic language and Islamic thought and the role it played in the development of Islamic civilization. The focus will be upon some of the most influential medieval Muslim philosophers such as al-Kindi, Avicenna, al-Ghazali and Averroes. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing; Global)

**REL 120/Early Judaism**

Sec.01 (80962) Greenbaum 12:30-1:50PM MR

This course will cover the development of Jewish history and religious life from the Biblical through the medieval periods. Particular attention will be paid to literary sources, the historical development of ideas, and Jewish ritual cycles. We will, for example, examine the development of the celebration and meaning of Jewish festivals, life cycle events and practices. Also probed will be the growth of Jewish law and understanding of Scriptures. There is no requirement for any previous understanding of Judaism—all students are encouraged to enroll. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

**REL 170/Special Topic: Jewish Mysticism**

Sec.01 (82486) Greenbaum 2:00-3:20PM MR

This course will cover a broad scope of Mystical concepts. From the after life, angels and demons to the the inner make up of the human psyche, students will become familiar with many of the major topics as well as leading scholars in this field. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

**REL 320/Holocaust: Historical & Religious Persp.**

Sec.01 (82319) Rech 10:00-11:20AM TF

This course will provide a background to the actual events and an introduction to the historiographic, philosophical and religious dimensions of the Holocaust. The main focus of the course will be interpreting the causes, events, and lessons in light of the historical, philosophical, and religious perspectives. This course will lead students to a fuller understanding of the Holocaust and its effect on contemporary religious and philosophical life. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

**REL 333/Scripture in Context**  
(same as HIS 333)

Sec.01 (80964) Hlubik 8:30-9:50AM MR

Scripture in Context investigates the books of the Hebrew Bible (Christian Old Testament) using contemporary historical critical, cultural, archeological, literary and other academic tools of analysis in order to provide students with a deeper appreciation of the meaning of these texts. We will examine the possible meanings which these texts had in their original written or oral forms, and how they were reinterpreted and re-edited to reflect new meanings they took on as time went on, and finally how their meanings changed when they were formed into the canons of Holy Scriptures for Jews and Christians. The course will challenge traditionally held views in the Judeo-Christian tradition that these writings are always inerrant, applicable to daily living, easy to understand, and the direct words of God. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing; Social Change in Historical Perspectives)

**CLASSICAL STUDIES COURSES****CLS 201/History of Ancient Philosophy**  
(same as PHL 201)

Sec.01 (82301) Sisko 12:30-1:50PM MR

*Prerequisite:* One course in philosophy or permission of instructor

Course tracing the development of philosophy in the West from its beginnings in 6<sup>th</sup> century B.C. Greece through the thought of Plato and Aristotle, especially focusing on question concerning reality, knowledge, human nature, and the good life. Attention is also given to the influence of the Greek philosophers on the Western tradition to the present day. (LL: World Views & Way of Knowing)

**CLS 250/Introduction to Greek Mythology**Sec.01 (80650) Gruen 2:00-3:20PM MR  
.02 (80651) Gruen 4:00-5:20PM MR

This course is an introduction to ancient Greek mythology through primary texts such as Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, Aeschylus' *Agamemnon*, Sophocles' *Ajax*, et al. We shall focus on the Trojan War cycle of myths and its greatest

heroes in order to understand how the ancient Greeks explored important aspects of their society through literature that ostensibly presents mythological events and characters. Attention is also given to visual representations of myth in sculpture and on vases and to differentiating the ancient Greek concept of “myth” from our own. (LL: Literary, Visual & Performing Arts)

**CLS 301/Classical Greek Civilization**  
(same as HIS 301)

Sec.01 (82380) Karras 8:30-9:50AM MR

Investigation into the development of Classical Greek civilization, beginning with Homer and going through the Peloponnesian Wars. (LL: Social Change in Historical Perspectives)

**CLS 302/Hellenistic World**  
(same as HIS 302)

Sec.01 (82382) Karras 12:30-1:50PM MR

Investigation into the disintegration of the Classical Greek world and the emergence of successor civilizations in the Hellenistic Era. (LL: Social Change in Historical Perspectives)

**GRE 101/Classical Greek I**

Sec.01 (82302) Haynes 10:00-11:20AM TF

The first part of a two-semester introduction to the elements of Classical Greek. Its goal is to allow students to read Greek texts as quickly as possible. The focus of the course is the vocabulary, grammar, and syntax of the language, but linguistic and cultural history will also be treated. (LL: Language-Modern & Classical)

**LAT 101/Latin I**

Sec.01 (80755) Pilney 2:00-3:20PM MR

This course is the first part of a two-semester introduction to the elements of classical Latin, and aims at allowing students to read classical Latin texts as quickly as possible. The focus of the course is the vocabulary, grammar, and syntax of classical Latin, but linguistic and cultural history will also be treated. (LL: Language-Modern & Classical)

**LAT 102/Latin II**

Sec.01 (80756) Haynes 12:30-1:50PM TF

*Prerequisite:* LAT 101 or equivalent

A continuation of Latin I, completing the study of the elements of the language. Students will also read abbreviated selections from the works of great authors of the Roman period.  
(LL: Language- Modern & Classical)

**LAT 201/Intermediate Latin**

Sec.01 (80757) Pilney 12:30-1:50PM MR

*Prerequisite:* LAT 102 or equivalent

Concentration on translation, appreciation, and interpretation of great authors of the Roman world. (LL: Language-Modern & Classical)

### **HONORS COURSES**

**HON 203/Issues in Philosophy**

Sec.01 Preti (82360) 10:00-11:20AM MR

.02 Preti (82361) 12:30-1:50PM MR

Problem-based course that will introduce the student to the fundamentals of argument, analysis and reasoning, applied to a series of issues including logical validity, theories of knowledge, the nature of mind, the nature of reality and ethics. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

**HON 270/Honors Topics: Aesthetics**

Sec.01 Kamber (82565) 5:30-8:20PM W

(See course description for PHL 246)

Requirements for Major in Philosophy
Ten PHL courses, including:
<b>Logic (1 course unit)</b> PHL 120/Introduction to Logic <i>or</i> PHL 220/Metalogic
<b>History of Philosophy (2 course units)</b> PHL 201/History of Ancient Philosophy <i>and</i> PHL 205/History of Modern Philosophy
<b>Ethics (1 course unit)</b> PHL 350/Ethical Theory <i>or</i> PHL 375/Law and Ethics
<b>Epistemology or Metaphysics (1 course unit)</b> PHL 410/Theory of Knowledge <i>or</i> PHL 420/Metaphysics
<b>Philosophy Electives (4 course units)</b> Four additional philosophy courses including at least two at the 300 or 400 level.
<b>Senior Capstone (1-2 course units)</b> PHL 493/Senior Project Research <i>and</i> PHL 494/Senior Project (0.5 course unit each) <i>or</i> PHL 495/Senior Thesis Research <i>and</i> PHL 496/Senior Thesis (1 course unit each)

Required Courses for Major with Specialization in Ethics	Required Courses for Major with Specialization in Law and Philosophy
Ten PHL courses, including:	Ten PHL courses, including:
PHL 255 (Biomedical Ethics), 350 (Ethical Theory) and 430 (Advanced Ethics); Senior capstone in ethics (10 courses total)	PHL 275 (Philosophy of Law) and 375 (Law and Ethics); Senior capstone in law and philosophy (10 courses total)
For more information, see Morton Winston .	For more information, see Melinda Roberts.

Requirements for Minor in Philosophy	Requirements for Minor in Religion	Requirements for Interdisciplinary Concentration in Religious Studies	Requirements for Interdisciplinary Minor in Classical Studies	Requirements for Interdisciplinary Concentration in Classical Studies
Five PHL courses, including:	Five courses, including:	Six courses, including:	Five courses, including:	Six courses, including:
PHL 120/Introduction to Logic; PHL 201/History of Ancient Phil. <i>or</i> PHL 205/History of Modern Phil.; Two additional PHL courses at any level; One additional PHL course at 300 or 400 level	Two REL courses Three courses from selected list	One course in each of world religions, religious culture and critical issues; two courses from social science and history, all from selected lists; one additional course approved by program coordinator	GRE 201 or LAT 201 One course in ancient history of philosophy from selected list; One course in ancient art or literature from selected list; Two additional courses approved by program coordinator	Five courses satisfying the requirements for the Classical Studies Minor; one additional course approved by program coordinator.
	For more information, see Pierre Le Morvan.	For more information, see Pierre Le Morvan.	For more information, see Holly Haynes.	For more information, see Holly Haynes.

For more information, please see <http://www.tcnj.edu/~philos/index.html>