



FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 201 Lec 01 – “Mind, Matter and God”  
Fall Term 2011

Course Outline

**Lectures:** MWF 10:00 – 10:50, ST 145

**Instructor:** Marc Ereshefsky  
**Office:** SS 1232  
**Phone:** 220-3162  
**Email:** [ereshefs@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ereshefs@ucalgary.ca)  
**Office Hours:** Monday and  
Wednesday 13:00 -14:00

**TA:** Philip Puszczalowski  
**Office:** SS 1227  
**Phone:** 220-6463  
**Email:** [pjpuszcz@ucalgary.ca](mailto:pjpuszcz@ucalgary.ca)  
**Office Hours:** Tuesday 11:00-12:00

**Course Description**

This class is a general introduction to philosophy. It will focus on four areas of philosophy: epistemology, philosophy of science, philosophy of mind, and free will & determinism. Epistemology explores what sort of knowledge we have of the world. Philosophy of science asks what makes a theory scientific. Philosophy of mind attempts to provide an account of the mind. Free will & determinism focuses on whether humans have free will.

**Required Texts**

*First Philosophy: Fundamental Problems and Readings in Philosophy, Second Edition* (2011), edited by Andrew Bailey (with Robert Martin). Broadview Press.

**Evaluation and Grading**

- Three in-class tests and five homework assignments are required. No Registrar scheduled final will be given.
- The schedule for tests and homework assignments as well as their point values is the following.

September 23	Homework #1	50
October 7	Homework #2	75
October 14	Test #1	250
October 28	Homework #3	75
November 9	Homework #4	75
November 16	Test #2	300
November 28	Homework #5	75
December 9	Test #3	<u>100</u>
		1000

- No make-up tests will be given or late homework assignments accepted without an appropriate excuse.

- Final grades will be awarded as follows.

960-1000 = A+	750-799 = B	550-599 = C-
900-959 = A	700-749 = B-	500-549 = D+
850-899 = A-	650-699 = C+	450-499 = D
800-849 = B+	600-649 = C	below 450 = F

### ***BlackBoard and Email***

Class information and handouts will be posted on BlackBoard. You'll be sent class announcements through email and the email account used will be the one you gave the University Registrar. So please check that account.

### ***Tutorials***

A philosophy Ph.D. student will lead tutorials. He will clarify course material and he will highlight which course material is most important for homework and tests. He'll also answer your questions, give practice problems, and offer help on homework and tests.

### ***Topics and Readings***

Introduction to Philosophy and Logic

What is Philosophy?

A Brief Introduction to Arguments

Epistemology

Descartes *Meditations on First Philosophy*

Locke *An Essay Concerning Human Understanding* (selections)

Philosophy of Science

Pierce "The Fixation of Belief"

Popper "Science: Conjectures and Refutations"

Philosophy of Mind

Ryle "Descartes's Myth"

Searle "Minds, Brains and Programs"

Do we have free will? (Metaphysics)

Rée *The Illusion of Free Will* (selections)

Ayer "Freedom and Necessity"

## **INTELLECTUAL HONESTY**

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. As a result, cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is regarded as **an extremely serious academic offence**, the penalty for which may be an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. The University Calendar states that plagiarism exists when:

- *the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test;*
- *parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;*
- *the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source; and/or*
- *a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.*

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted.

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement, but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

## **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

## **FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING & STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES**

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts. Drop in at SS110, phone 403-220-3580 or email at [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre at 403-220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.
- Email Contact Addresses for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:  
[arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca)   [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca)  
[arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca)   [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT**

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial FOIP Act in all aspects of its operations as a publicly funded institution. The Department of Philosophy ensures the student's right to privacy by requiring all graded assignments, papers, and exams be returned to the student directly from the instructor unless other arrangements have been made in writing and approved by the Department Administrator.

## **SAFEWALK: PROMOTING CAMPUS SAFETY AND AWARENESS**

Twenty four hours a day, seven days a week, Safewalk volunteers walk people safely to their destination on campus. This service is free and available to students, staff, and campus visitors. Safewalks are done in male/female pairs. The volunteers walk anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). To request a Safewalk volunteer to walk with you, call 403-220-5333 (24 hours a day/seven days a week/365 days a year) or use one of the Help Phones located across campus (they are not just for emergencies).