



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
Department of Philosophy

PHIL 201 Lec 01
Mind, Matter, and God
FALL 2022

MON/WED/FRI 9:00-9:50am - ENE 239

COURSE OUTLINE

Instructor Name: Dr. Shelley Smith

Email: sasmi@ucalgary.ca

(Though I am usually quick at responding to emails, please allow 24 hours for a response and do not expect responses in the evening or on weekends.)

Office hours: By appointment

Tutorial Assistant: TBD

Email: TBD

Office hours: TBD

PREREQUISITE(S)

There are no prerequisites for this course.

COURSE INFORMATION

An introduction to philosophy through discussion of topics such as skepticism, perception, personal identity, free will and determinism, God.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Broad knowledge of contemporary philosophical issues, problems, and views;
- Basic understanding of historical and contemporary philosophical positions;
- Ability to critically digest, interpret, and analyze complex texts and arguments;
- Ability to write a convincing argument that takes adequate account of alternative positions; and
- Ability to engage in constructive and respectful dialogue.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Required text (available in the bookstore): ***Introduction to Philosophy: Classical and Contemporary Readings*** (9th Edition) John Perry, Michael Bratman, John Martin Fischer (editors), Oxford University Press. (2022) ISBN: 978-0-19-754381-8

An e-book is available for rental: e-isbn: 978-0-19-757062-3

Additional readings may be posted to D2L.

COURSE ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION

Course Assessment

- **Tutorial activities worth 10%:** completion of 5 tutorial activities throughout the semester (out of 9 total activities), completed in-person during tutorial sessions
- **5 online quizzes (D2L) worth 40%:** Highest 4 (of 5) quiz grades count. Deadline for all 5 quizzes Friday, December 2nd, 11:30pm.
- (Recommended due dates):
 - Quiz #1: Friday, Sep 30th at 11:30pm
 - Quiz #2: Friday, Oct 14th at 11:30pm
 - Quiz #3: Friday, Oct 28th at 11:30pm
 - Quiz #4: Friday, Nov 4th at 11:30pm
 - Quiz #5: Friday, Nov 25th at 11:30pm
- **Take-home midterm test worth 25%:** questions available online via D2L assignment dropbox Friday, Oct 21st at 10am and due Tuesday, Oct 25th at 11:30pm
- **Take-home final test worth 25%:** questions available online via D2L assignment dropbox Thursday, Dec 8th at 8am and due Monday, Dec 12th at 11:30pm

There will not be a registrar-scheduled final exam for this course.

It is the student's responsibility to ensure timely and successful submissions.

A passing grade on any particular component of the course is NOT essential for passing this course as a whole.

Late submissions will be accepted by prior arrangement with the instructor. I know that we remain in trying times, and I will work with you as circumstances require, but you must contact me **prior to** due dates to agree an extension.

If no arrangements are agreed prior to the due date, a late penalty of 1/3 letter grade a day will apply (i.e. an 'A' assignment a day late will be given an 'A-', two days late a 'B+', etc.) to a maximum of 7 days late.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is important to success in this class. It is always a good idea to have peer group support – get to know a couple of your peers. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to review the course materials missed (textbook readings, powerpoint notes, videos) and obtain class notes from a peer. Neither the instructor nor tutorial assistant will summarize lectures for you via email or Zoom. Lectures and tutorials will not be recorded.

COURSE ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Tutorial assignments (10%)

Each week in tutorial sessions there will be short, informal written assignments intended to give practice in critical thinking and philosophical analysis. During the course of the semester, 9 assignments will be collected, and you are responsible for completing 5 assignments. Assignments are graded as pass/fail, and a rubric explaining the criteria for successful completion will be posted to D2L the first week of classes. Assignments must be completed during the in-person tutorial session, and no email submissions will be accepted for grades. Any student who submits, and passes, ALL 9 assignments, will receive a 2% course bonus. There are no 'make-ups' for missed assignments. Any students requiring adaptation of these assignments will be accommodated once documentation is received by the instructor.

Quizzes (40%)

The 5 quizzes will cover readings and lecture material covering throughout the semester. The quizzes are to be written at home at a time most convenient for you, are open-book, timed (maximum 60 minutes), and consist of 20-25 multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, or matching questions. The deadline for all quizzes is Friday, December 2nd at 11:30pm. However, recommended due dates are as follows: Quiz #1 (philosophy intro and methods, God and evil) Friday, Sep 30th, Quiz #2 (existentialism) Friday, Oct 14th, Quiz #3 (knowledge and reality) Friday, Oct 28th, Quiz #4 (mind and body, minds, brains, and machines) Friday, Nov 4th, and Quiz #5 (personal identity and responsibility) Friday, Nov 25th. Questions will be drawn from all required readings, and lecture materials (powerpoint notes and additional videos).

Adhering to due dates is highly recommended, however, the final deadline for completion of all 5 quizzes is Friday, Dec 2nd at 11:30pm. **NO quiz submissions will be accepted past the final deadline for any reason.**

Midterm and Final Tests (25%/25%)

The midterm and final tests will be take-home short essays. You will be required to answer 1 of 3 questions in essay format based on course material covered to date. The required length of each essay is 1,000 to 1,300 words (approximately 4-5 pages, double-spaced). The questions will be posted to the D2L assignment dropbox Friday, Oct 21st at 10am (midterm), and Thursday, Dec 8th at 8am (final) and your essays are due Tuesday, Oct 25th at 11:30pm (midterm) and Monday, Dec 12th at 11:30pm (final). For all questions, you will be required to engage with course content, with appropriate citations (textbook, powerpoints, external sources). **Any essay not including proper citations will automatically receive a grade of F, and possible disciplinary sanction (see ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html).** Further guidelines will be provided in class and posted to D2L.

Letter grades reflect the following standards, as outlined in the UCalgary Academic Calendar:

- A: Excellent – superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
- B: Good – clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
- C: Satisfactory – basic understanding of the subject matter.
- D: Minimal pass – marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent course in the same subject.
- F: Fail – unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

The quality of writing WILL be a component in grading.

In all written work, proper and complete citations are extremely important. See section below "Academic Misconduct/Honesty".

Grading Scale:

A+ 96-100	B+ 80-84.99	C+ 65-69.99	D+ 50-54.99
A 90-95.99	B 75-79.99	C 60-64.99	D 45-49.99
A- 85-89.99	B- 70-74.99	C- 55-59.99	F 0-44.99

IMPORTANT DEPARTMENTAL, FACULTY AND UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Academic Accommodations

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures. The student accommodation policy can be found at ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Accommodation-Policy.pdf.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf. Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their instructor.

Absence or Missed Course Assessments

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructors as soon as possible. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, instructors may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test.

Student Support and Resources

Full details and information about the following resources can be found at ucalgary.ca/current-students/student-services

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success Centre
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

Academic Advising

If you are a student in the Faculty of Arts, you can speak to an academic advisor in the Arts Students' Centre about course planning, course selection, registration, program progression and more. Visit the Faculty of Arts website at <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate/academic-advising> for contact details and information regarding common academic concerns.

For questions specific to the philosophy program, please visit arts.ucalgary.ca/philosophy. Further academic guidance is available by contacting Jeremy Fantl (Undergraduate Program Director jfantl@ucalgary.ca) or David Dick (Honours Advisor gdick@ucalgary.ca).

Writing Assessment and Support

The assessment of all written assignments—and, to a lesser extent, written exam responses—is based in part on writing skills. This includes correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.), as well as general clarity and organization. Research papers must include a thorough and accurate citation of sources. Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services for assistance. For more information, and other services offered by the Student Success Centre, please visit ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success.

Required Technology

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote, and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Broadband internet connection.

Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

Responsible Use of D2L

Important information and communication about this course will be posted on D2L (Desire2Learn), UCalgary's online learning management system. Visit <https://ucalgary.service-now.com/it> for how-to information and technical assistance.

All users of D2L are bound by the guidelines on the responsible use of D2L posted here:

<https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/commitment-to-the-responsible-use-of-d2l/>. The instructor may establish additional specific course policies for D2L, Zoom, and any other technologies used to support remote learning. Instructional materials, including audio or video recordings of lectures, may not be posted outside of the course D2L site. Students violating this policy are subject to discipline under the [University of Calgary's Non-Academic Misconduct policy](#).

Media Recording

Please refer to the following statement on media recording of students: https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP_FINAL.pdf

Academic Misconduct/Honesty

Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is as an extremely serious academic offense, the penalty for which will be an F on the assignment or an F in the course, and possibly a disciplinary sanction such as probation, suspension, or expulsion. For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html.

Intellectual honesty requires that your work include adequate referencing to sources. Plagiarism occurs when you do not acknowledge or correctly reference your sources. If you have questions about referencing, please consult your instructor.

University Policies

The Instructor Intellectual Property Policy is available at ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Intellectual-Property-Policy.pdf

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act, as outlined at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/access-information-privacy>. The instructor (or TA) must return graded assignments *directly* to the student UNLESS written permission to do otherwise has been provided.

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>).