



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY

FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

**PHIL 201 Lec 01 – “Mind, Matter and God”  
Winter Term 2015**

**Course Outline**

**Lectures: MWF 11:00-11:50 AD 140**

**Instructor:** Marc Ereshefsky

**Office:** SS 1248A

**Office Phone:** 220-3162

**Email:** [ereshefs@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ereshefs@ucalgary.ca)

**Office Hours:** Mon & Wed 14:00-15:00, & by appointment

**TA:** Brandon Beasley

**Office:** SS 1239

**Office Phone:** 220-6465

**Email:** [bbeasley@ucalgary.ca](mailto:bbeasley@ucalgary.ca)

**Office Hours:** Thurs 14:00-15:00

**Course Description:** This class is a general introduction to philosophy. It will focus on three areas of philosophy: epistemology, philosophy of science, and philosophy of mind. Epistemology explores how we obtain knowledge. Philosophy of science asks what makes a theory scientific. Philosophy of mind attempts to provide an account of the mind.

**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.

January 30	Homework #1	50
February 6	Homework #2	75
February 13	Test #1	250
March 13	Homework #3	75
March 20	Homework #4	75
March 27	Test #2	300
April 8	Homework #5	75
April 15	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

**D2L and Email:** Class information and handouts will be posted on D2L. 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 and offer help on homework and tests.

### **Topics and Readings**

#### *Introduction to Philosophy and Logic*

What is Philosophy?

An Introduction to Arguments

#### *Epistemology*

Rene Descartes *Meditations on First Philosophy*

John Locke *An Essay Concerning Human Understanding* (selections)

#### *Philosophy of Science*

C.S. Pierce "The Fixation of Belief"

Carl Popper "Science: Conjectures and Refutations"

#### *Philosophy of Mind*

Gilbert Ryle "Descartes's Myth"

John Searle "Minds, Brains and Programs"

### **Academic Honesty**

Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense, the penalty for which may be an F on the assignment, an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw from the University. See the relevant sections on 'Academic Misconduct' in the current University Calendar. 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 correct referencing, consult your instructor.

### **Academic Accommodation**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a permanent disability or temporary impairment who may require academic accommodation, you must first register with the Student Accessibility Resource Office located in MacEwan Student Centre 452; phone 403-220-8237; email [access@ucalgary.ca](mailto:access@ucalgary.ca). Students who have not registered with the Student Accessibility Office are not eligible for 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. Go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/> for further information.

### **D2L Help**

Desire2Learn is the University of Calgary's learning management system which has now replaced BlackBoard. Go to <http://www.elearn.ucalgary.ca/desire2learn/> for help in using Desire2Learn.

### **Student Advising and Information Resources**

- General Academic Concerns and Program Planning— Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre (ASC) is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Drop in at SS110, call 403-220-3580, or email [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). Advisors in the ASC can also provide assistance and advice in planning your program through to graduation. You can visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/> for more information on common academic concerns.
- **Advice on Philosophy Courses** - You may find answers to your more specific questions about a philosophy degree on the Department of Philosophy's website <http://phil.ucalgary.ca> or contact one of Philosophy's current Undergraduate Advisors (see below)
- **Registration Overload/Prereq Waivers** – If you are seeking to register in a Philosophy course that is full or to get permission to waive the prereqs for a course, email the instructor of the course.

### **Protection of Privacy**

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. The Department of Philosophy ensures the student's right to privacy by requiring all graded assignments be returned to the student directly from the instructor.

**Student Ombudsperson and Students' Union Representatives**

The Student Ombuds Office provides independent, impartial, and confidential support for students who require assistance or advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. For more information, see [www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds](http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds). For the Students' Union Faculty of Arts rep: [arts1@ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@ucalgary.ca).

**Safewalk**

Call 403-220-5333 (24/7/365) for a Safewalk volunteer to accompany you safely to your destination on campus including parking lots, housing, and the LRT station or use a Campus Help Phone.

**PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT**

The Department of Philosophy is located on the 12<sup>th</sup> floor of the Social Sciences Building and on the web at [www.phil.ucalgary.ca](http://www.phil.ucalgary.ca)

**PHILOSOPHY UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM ADVISORS FOR WINTER 2015:**

Chris Framarin (Undergrad Director) [chris.framarin@ucalgary.ca](mailto:chris.framarin@ucalgary.ca)

Reid Buchanan [buchanar@ucalgary.ca](mailto:buchanar@ucalgary.ca)

Mark Migotti (Honours Program Advisor) [migotti@ucalgary.ca](mailto:migotti@ucalgary.ca)

For assistance with registration issues in Philosophy courses, contact Merlette Schnell ([schnell@ucalgary.ca](mailto:schnell@ucalgary.ca))

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