



**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY**  
FACULTY OF ARTS  
Department of Philosophy

**PHIL 201 Lec 1**  
**Mind, Matter, and God**  
**Winter Term 2019**

**Course Outline**

**Lectures: Monday and Wednesdays, 2:00 – 3:15 pm, AD 142**

**Instructor: C. Kenneth Waters**

Office: SS 1212 (12<sup>th</sup> floor of Social Science Tower)

Email: [ckwaters@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ckwaters@ucalgary.ca), please use email and put “Phil 201” in subject heading for all course correspondence

Office Hours: Wednesdays, noon to 1:00 pm (no appointment necessary) and other times by appointment

**Teaching Assistant: Ananya Chatteraj**

Office: SS 1231 (12<sup>th</sup> floor of Social Science Tower)

Email: [ananya.chatteraj@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ananya.chatteraj@ucalgary.ca), please use email and put “Phil 201” in subject heading for all course correspondence

Office Hours: Mondays 3:30 – 4:30

**Teaching Assistant: TJ Perkins**

Office: SS 1242 (12<sup>th</sup> floor of Social Science Tower)

Email: [tjperkin@ucalgary.ca](mailto:tjperkin@ucalgary.ca), please use email and put “Phil 201” in subject heading for all course correspondence

Office Hours: Tuesdays, 11 am to noon (no appointment necessary) and other times by appointment

**Course Description**

Philosophers analyze reasoning that lies behind the surface of our thinking; they formulate questions raised by this reasoning, critically examine alternative answers to these questions, and explore the implications these answers have for how we should understand the world and conduct our lives. In this course we will explore questions such as “what is objective knowledge?”, “do we have free will?”, and “why would a perfect God create a world with evil?”.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Course Learning Outcomes**

This course is aimed towards helping students acquire an appreciation for philosophical issues and critical thought. Doing philosophy also helps one develop practical skills. This course is designed to help you learn how to read and analyze complex writing, to identify and evaluate reasoning underlying oral and written arguments, and to learn how to develop well-reasoned positions. It is also designed to help you learn to communicate more effectively, and to write and speak more convincingly. Studying philosophy will encourage you to be open-minded towards new and challenging ideas. But perhaps best of all, philosophy can open you up to experience the world differently, to recognize that things are often not as they appear, to identify reasoning, good or bad, hidden behind what we encounter in our lives.

As an entry level course, Philosophy 201 is organized to help you gain the perspective and skills for getting the most out of your time at the University of Calgary. Exercises for tutorial sessions are

designed to help you improve basic skills such as taking class notes, interpreting paper assignments, and anticipating how your written work will be evaluated. This course also includes requirements (e.g. taking reading notes) aimed at helping you learn how to be a more effective student.

### **Required/Recommended Texts (including electronic resources)**

All required readings will be provided for free in electronic form via D2L.

### **Course Assessment**

The requirements of this course are: carefully read all assigned reading selections before each class; bring physical (printed or handwritten) notes on the reading selection assigned for each class; two regular essay tests; one shorter essay test; two reports on public research lectures; two very brief reports on guest lectures; a ten minute Meet & Greet meeting with the professor of this course (Meet & Greet sign-up times will be made available). No Registrar scheduled final will be given.

The following point allocation will be used to determine course grades:

Reading notes	32
Due at the beginning of each class; checked during some classes and not others (randomly, unannounced); checked at least ten times during the semester; graded on a 0 – 4 point scale; no late assignments are accepted in this course including reading notes, but only your top eight reading note scores will count towards your grade (so at least your lowest two scores will be dropped).	
Test 1	20
Test 2	25
Short test	10
Public research lecture report 1	3
Printed with backpage and submitted in course dropbox in Philosophy department offices on 12 <sup>th</sup> floor of Social Science Tower.	
Public research lecture report 2	3
Printed with backpage and submitted in course dropbox in Philosophy department offices on 12 <sup>th</sup> floor of Social Science Tower.	
Report on 1 <sup>st</sup> guest lecture (to be completed in class after lecture)	1
Hand written and submitted to TA at end of guest lecture class.	
Report on 2 <sup>nd</sup> guest lecture (to be completed in class after lecture)	1
Hand written and submitted to TA at end of guest lecture class.	
Meet & Greet with course professor	5

No single assignment is required to pass this course

No late reading notes, public lecture reports, guest lecture reports, or Meet & Greet will be accepted for credit. Late or missing submissions will receive 0 points. Students are required to complete tests in class during scheduled test times. Students who cannot make it to a test for a legitimate reason must contact the professor by email as soon as possible and *before* the test if possible ([ckwaters@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ckwaters@ucalgary.ca), please put "Phil 201" in any email message concerning this course). If the legitimate reason is appropriately documented, a make-up test will be given in the Philosophy Department during final examination week.

Notes and electronic devices including listening devices cannot be used during tests.

Screens will not be allowed during discussion portions of classes and during guest lectures (this includes phones, tablets, and computers). Students will be allowed to use computers and tablets during lecture

portions of classes, but only to take notes. Other electronic devices, for example phones and listening devices will not be permitted during any portion of class.

If you believe your situation should be accommodated in light of any of the requirements specified above (including requirements concerning screens) *please* see the statement below on policies and procedures to arrange Academic Accommodations. It is extremely helpful that students seeking accommodations begin the process as soon as possible.

The following scale will be used to determine final course grades:

96-100 = A+	75-79 = B	55-59 = C-
90-95 = A	70-74 = B-	50-54 = D+
85-89 = A-	65-69 = C+	45-49 = D
80-84 = B+	60-64 = C	below 45 = F

### **Important dates:**

- February 6: Test 1 (in class)
- February 6: Must have turned in first public research lecture report to receive credit
- March 20: Test 2 (in class)
- March 20: Must have turned in second public research lecture report to receive credit
- March 28: Must have completed Meet and Greet with course professor to receive credit
- April 10: Short test (in class)

### **D2L and Email**

Class readings, information and handouts will be posted on D2L. You'll be sent class announcements through email and the email account used will be your university email (@ucalgary.ca). So please check that account.

All email communication with instructors and staff concerning this course must be conducted via your @ucalgary.ca account.

### **Academic Honesty**

Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is regarded 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. See the relevant section K.5 on 'Academic Misconduct' in the current University Calendar <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.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 correct referencing, consult your instructor.

### **Academic Accommodation**

The student accommodation policy can be found at: [ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy](http://ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy).

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 <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their instructor.

## **D2L Help**

Desire2Learn is UCalgary's online learning management system. Important information and communications about this course may be posted on D2L. Go to <https://ucalgary.service-now.com/it> for help.

## **General Academic Concerns and Program Planning**

Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students Centre is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Drop in at SS102, call 403-220-3580, or email [ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca). Advisors in the ASC can also provide assistance and advice in planning your program through to graduation. Visit the Faculty of Arts website at <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising> for detailed 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 Undergraduate Advisors. David Dick – Undergraduate Program Director ([dgdick@ucalgary.ca](mailto:dgdick@ucalgary.ca)), Megan Delehanty – Honors Advisor ([mdelehan@ucalgary.ca](mailto:mdelehan@ucalgary.ca)) or Allen Habib ([anhabib@ucalgary.ca](mailto:anhabib@ucalgary.ca)).

## **Registration Overload/Prerequisite Waivers**

If you are seeking to register in a Philosophy course that is full or to get permission to waive the prerequisites for a course, email the Philosophy Department Undergraduate Program Administrator (UPA), Rebecca Lesser ([rebecca.lesser@ucalgary.ca](mailto:rebecca.lesser@ucalgary.ca)). Include the specific course information and your UCID number in your request.

## **Writing**

All written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented. Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services and other Student Success Centre Services, located on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library. Writing Support Services assist with a variety of assignments, from essays to lab reports. Students can book 30-minute one-on-one appointments online, sign up for 15-minute drop-in appointments, and register for a variety of writing workshops. For more information on this and other Student Success Centre services, please visit [www.ucalgary.ca/ssc](http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc).

## **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 or teaching assistant.

## **Internet and Electronic Communication Devices**

The instructor reserves the right to establish course policies regarding the use of devices such as laptops, tablets, and smartbooks. If allowed, these devices must be used exclusively for instructional purposes and must not cause disruption to the instructor or to fellow students. Cell phones and paging devices should be set to silent mode during lectures. Audio or video recording of lectures is not permitted without the written permission of the instructor. Students violating this policy are subject to discipline under the University of Calgary's Non-Academic Misconduct policy

## **Emergency Evacuation:**

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints> . Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

#### **Other Helpful Contacts**

- Safewalk and Campus Security: 403-220-5333.
- Faculty of Arts Student Representatives: 403-220-6552, [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)
- Student Union: <https://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>; 403-220-6551.
- Student Ombudsman: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>
- Campus Mental Health Strategy: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>