



**PHIL 201 Lec 2**  
**“Mind, Matter, and God”**  
**Winter Term 2019**

**Course Outline**

**Lectures: TuTh 9:30-10:45, ICT 122**

**Instructor:** Marc Ereshefsky

**Office:** SS 1204

**Office Phone:** (403) 220-3162

**Email:** ereshefs@ucalgary.ca

**Office Hours:** Tuesday 2:00-3:30 & by appointment

**TA:** Lara Roth

**Office:** SS 1215

**Office Phone:** (403) 220-6524

**Email:** lara.roth1@ucalgary.ca

**Office Hours:** Monday 11:00-12:00

**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.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Course Learning Outcomes**

- Broad knowledge of diverse philosophical issues, problems, traditions, and views.
- Ability to critically digest, interpret, and analyze complex sources.
- Ability to engage in constructive, respectful, oral and written argumentation.

**Required Text:**

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

**Course Assessment**

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

January 22	Homework #1	50
February 5	Homework #2	75
February 12	Test #1	250
March 5	Homework #3	75
March 19	Homework #4	75
March 26	Test #2	300
April 4	Homework #5	75
April 11	Test #3	<u>100</u>
		1000

- Tests will be given in class. Homework will be collected in class.
- No single test or homework is required to pass the course.

- 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+    800-839 = B    680-699 = C-  
 900-959 = A    780-799 = B-    640-679 = D+  
 880-899 = A-    740-779 = C+    600-639 = D  
 840-879 = B+    700-739 = C    below 600 = 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 M.A. student will lead tutorials. She will clarify course material and she will highlight which course material is most important for homework and tests. She'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* (selections)

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

#### *Philosophy of Science*

C.S. Pierce, "The Fixation of Belief"

Carl Popper, "Science: Conjectures and Refutations"

Kathleen Okruhlik, "Gender and Biological Sciences" in Canadian Journal of Philosophy

Supplementary volume 20, *Biology and Society: Reflections on Methodology*, Mohan Matthen and Robert Ware editors (1994), pp. 21-42. This chapter is available in an ebook through the University of Calgary Library website.

#### *Philosophy of Mind*

Gilbert Ryle, "Descartes's Myth"

John Searle, "Minds, Brains and Programs"

## IMPORTANT DEPARTMENTAL, FACULTY AND UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

### 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/>