



PHIL 201 Lec 02

“Mind, Matter and God”

Winter Term 2020

TuTh 9:30 – 10:45 am, ICT 122/ Online only as of March 16, 2020

COURSE OUTLINE *Revised*

Instructor: Marc Ereshefsky

Email: ereshefs@ucalgary.ca

Office: SS1204

Office Hours: There will be no office hours for the remainder of the semester. If you have any questions, Marc will be glad to answer them via email.

Teaching Assistant: Joshua Stein

Email: joshua.stein@ucalgary.ca

Office: SS1203

Office Hours: There will be no office hours for the remainder of the semester. If you have any questions, Josh will be glad to answer them via email.

COURSE INFORMATION

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.

PREREQUISITE(S)

There are no prerequisites for this course.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/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 TEXTBOOKS

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

COURSE ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION

- Three 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 28	Homework #1	50
February 4	Homework #2	75
February 11	Test #1	250
March 10	Homework #3	75
March 19	Homework #4	75
March 24	Test #2	300

April 7	Homework #5	75
April 14	Test #3	<u>100</u>
		1000

****Please screenshot the D2L submitted field or sent email when submitting work electronically in case of systems issues.**

- Tests: The first test was already given in class. Test 2 and Test 3 will be given on line. Test questions will be posted on D2L the day of the test. Completed tests will need to be submitted by the end of the day via a Dropbox folder on D2L. Specific instructions will be announced.
- 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.
- Homework assignments 1 thru 3 have already been collected. Homework assignments 4 and 5 will be collected via folders on Dropbox on D2L.
- 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: There will be no more tutorials for the remainder of the semester. Josh, our class's teaching assistant, will be glad to answer any of your questions via email: joshua.stein@ucalgary.ca

Lecture Notes: Instead of lectures for this course, lecture notes will be posted in the Content section of D2L. Group discussions will be held through D2L as well.

Group Discussion Forums: These will be set up for various topics in the course as well as for studying for the tests. Marc will respond to any questions you have.

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*

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

Philosophy of Science

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 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/policies/files/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/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.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. Instructors may request that evidence in the form of documentation be provided. 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. For information on possible forms of documentation, including statutory declarations, please see ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html

Student Support and Resources

Full details and information about the following resources can be found at ucalgary.ca/Registrar/registration/course-outlines

- 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 arts.ucalgary.ca/advising for contact details and information regarding common academic concerns.

For questions specific to the philosophy program, please visit phil.ucalgary.ca. Further academic guidance is available by contacting David Dick (Undergraduate Program Director dgdick@ucalgary.ca) or Jeremy Fantl (Honours Advisor jfantl@ucalgary.ca). If you have questions regarding registration, please email Rebecca Lesser (Undergraduate Program Administrator phildept@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 (one-on-one

appointments, drop-in support and writing workshops). For more information, and other services offered by the Student Success Centre, please visit ucalgary.ca/ssc.

Online Resources and Electronic Devices

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

The instructor reserves the right to establish specific course policies regarding the use of electronic devices. If permitted, the use of devices must be exclusively for instructional purposes, and without disruption to the instructor or fellow students. 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.

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/policies/files/policies/Intellectual%20Property%20Policy.pdf

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act, as outlined at ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip. 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 (ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html).