



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

**PHIL 259 Lec 01**  
**“Sex, Love, and Death” Spring 2019**

**Course Outline**  
**Lectures: Tuesday/Thursday 13:00 - 15:45**

**Instructor: Archie Fields III**

**Office: SS 1235**

**Office Phone: 1 (403) 220-6464**

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

**Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 16:00 -17:00 and by appt.**

***Note: The scheduled tutorials for this class will not take place, as this class does not have a teaching assistant.***

**Course Description**

The course examines philosophical issues surrounding love, sex, and death, and how these concepts influence our lives. In the first part of the course, we will examine the nature of marriage and its historical development, and some literature around metaphysical and ethical issues of erotic love and sex. Additional topics include gender, sexual identity, pornography, sex work, kink, and rape.

In the second part of the course, we will turn to the issue of death. We will begin by examining the basic definitions of death and personhood, followed by discussion surrounding the question of whether death is bad for the one who dies. Finally, we will end by looking at some ethical issues surrounding death, including killing, euthanasia, suicide and abortion.

**Prerequisites**

None

**Course Learning Outcomes**

Students who take this course should:

- Gain familiarity with specific philosophical issues and active areas of inquiry concerning sex, love, and death;
- Improve their ability to critically digest, interpret, and analyze complex sources;
- Improve their ability to write a convincing argument that takes adequate account of alternative positions;
- Improve their ability to engage in constructive, respectful, oral and written argumentation.

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

No textbook is required; all readings will be available through the course website on D2L.

**Course Assessment**

Course final grades will be assessed through the following assignments and exams:

Assignment Weight	Assignment	Due Date
10%	Exam 1	May 23
35%	Paper 1	May 27
10%	Exam 2	June 13
35%	Paper 2	June 17
10%	Participation	

**Exams:** Exams will be Blue Book exams with four to five questions requiring a long paragraph or two to answer. These questions will be assessed primarily for comprehension of material, but may also have parts which are graded for insightful analysis or critique. A set of questions will be distributed in advance, but not all of those questions will appear on the exam. Students will be provided 1 hour and 15 minutes to complete these exams.

**Papers:** Papers will be 5 to 7 pages in length and provide a clear thesis, concise exposition of the issues or positions considered, and a focused argument on a topic of the student's choosing. Some topics will be suggested, but students are free to develop their own. The first paper must focus on an issue covered in the first section of the course on sex and love, while the second paper must focus on an issue related to death.

**Participation:** Participation includes many things, including contributing useful questions or comments to class-wide discussion, being an active participant in the small-group discussions that will happen every class, and/or discussing course material with me via email or in my office hours.

<b>Grading Scale</b>	A: 93-100	A-: 90-92
B+: 87-89	B: 83-86	B-: 80-82
C+: 77-79	C: 73-76	C-: 70-72
D+: 67-69	D: 60-66	F: <60

**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 and Prerequisite Waivers**

If you have questions regarding registration, or are seeking 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/>