



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
FACULTY OF ARTS  
Department of Philosophy

**PHIL 315 Lec 01**  
**Philosophy in Literature**  
Fall term 2020

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**Instructor Name:** Brendan Moran

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

**COURSE DELIVERY INFORMATION**

Synchronous. Meetings will be by Zoom MWF 12-12:50

**“OFFICE HOUR”**

This will be held M 13-13:50 (or by appointment) on Zoom by request

**PREREQUISITE(S)**

No prerequisites

**COURSE INFORMATION**

The course will explore topics pertaining to literary philosophy and philosophical literature. Texts will be examined concerning the relationship of truth with questioning and answering. Other topics to be considered include: philosophy and parable; philosophy, literature, and the notion of “nothing”; desire; morality and freedom; law and freedom; language and the body; nature and truth; humans and non-human animals.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES**

- We will carefully read, discuss, and analyze the assigned readings.
- Students will be expected to interpret and to comprehend **quite challenging texts**. No text will be an “easy read.”
- Students will be trained to encounter ideas, and analyze writings, that are from non-Anglo-American cultural settings and are translated from Portuguese or German into English.
- Students will be expected to write clearly, concisely, and coherently on the basis of **carefully reading the assigned texts**.
- They will further develop their competence in the presentation of written ideas; this will include **clear and complete referencing practices**.
- Student’s essays will demonstrate the ability of the student to integrate careful reading of the texts into the **themes that have been discussed in the classes**.
- Students will be encouraged to contribute clearly, effectively, and respectfully to **class discussions**. If a student is unable to attend regularly because of COVID-related disruptions, this student may instead do a replacement assignment worth 10% of the final grade; this essay of 600 words in length will compare **two of the three readings**. This extra assignment will repeat nothing from the student’s other essays for the course, and will be due by email on the final day of classes (Dec. 9).

## REQUIRED BOOKS

It is essential that students use the translations and the editions listed below; this includes any e-books students might decide to use. Failure to use the assigned editions and translations will automatically result in an F (=0) for the paper.

1. Clarice Lispector, *The Passion According to G.H.* Trans. Idra Novey. New Directions, ISBN-13: 978-0811219686 (paperback).
2. Friedrich Nietzsche, *Thus Spoke Zarathustra: A Book for None and All.* Trans. Walter Kaufmann. Penguin Books, ISBN-13: 978-0140047486 (paperback).
3. Franz Kafka, *Kafka's Selected Stories.* Trans. Stanley Corngold. W.W. Norton, ISBN-13: 978-0393924794 (paperback).

## COURSE ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION

### Assessment Components and Grading Schemes

- **First essay (1000 words, give or take 100), worth 25% of final grade, due in D2L on Monday, Oct. 5.**
- **Second essay (1200 words, give or take 100), worth 35% of final grade, due in D2L on Monday, Nov. 9.**
- **Third essay (1100 words, give or take 100), worth 30% of final grade, due in D2L on Monday, Dec. 14.**
- **Class Participation:** Worth **10%** of final grade. This grade will be based on constructive and respectful contributions to class discussions. These contributions should indicate that you have been attentive during the classes and have been reading attentively. As noted above, students who cannot attend classes regularly as a result of COVID-related factors may instead write a 600-word comparison of two of the three readings. This essay will repeat nothing from the student's other essays and will be due on the last day of classes, **Wed. Dec. 9**. The details of this assignment must be worked out with the instructor well before the end of classes.
- There will be **NO** Registrar-Scheduled Final Examination.

Letter grades will be given. Those grades will be based on the following numerical system.

A+ = 90-100%  
A = 85-89%  
A- = 80-84%  
B+ = 77-79%  
B = 74-76%  
B- = 70-73%  
C+ = 67-69%  
C = 64-66%  
C- = 60-63%  
D+ = 55-59%  
D = 50-54%  
F = 0-49%

**Writing and the grading thereof is a very significant factor in the evaluation of your work. For further explanation, see the University Calendar: <http://ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>**

**Late papers** will receive a grade reduction (A to A-, A- to B+, and so on) unless an extension has been negotiated before the deadline. A paper submitted after an extended deadline will be subject to the same

policy of grade reduction. **No papers will be accepted after the final grades have been submitted to the Department and the Registrar.** Papers may only be submitted in D2L. **Papers sent by email will not be accepted, unless the instructor has requested that the paper be sent this way.**

## **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](http://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](http://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. 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.

### **Student Support and Resources**

Full details and information about the following resources can be found at [ucalgary.ca/Registrar/registration/course-outlines](http://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](http://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](http://phil.ucalgary.ca). Further academic guidance is available by contacting David Dick (Undergraduate Program Director [dgdick@ucalgary.ca](mailto:dgdick@ucalgary.ca)) or Jeremy Fantl (Honours Advisor [jfantl@ucalgary.ca](mailto:jfantl@ucalgary.ca)). If you have questions regarding registration, please email Rebecca Lesser (Undergraduate Program Administrator [phildept@ucalgary.ca](mailto: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. For more information, and other services offered by the Student Success Centre, please visit [ucalgary.ca/ssc](http://ucalgary.ca/ssc).

## Required Technology

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Broadband internet connection.

Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

## Responsible Use of D2L

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

All users of D2L are bound by the guidelines on the responsible use of D2L posted here: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/commitment-to-the-responsible-use-of-d2l/>. The instructor may establish additional specific course policies for D2L, Zoom, and any other technologies used to support remote learning. Instructional materials, including audio or video recordings of lectures, may not be posted outside of the course D2L site. Students violating this policy are subject to discipline under the [University of Calgary's Non-Academic Misconduct policy](#).

[2:45 PM] Rebecca Lesser

Based on the asterix, it looks like we need to add the info about Media Recording.

## Media Recording

Please refer to the following statement on media recording of students: [https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP\\_FINAL.pdf](https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP_FINAL.pdf)

## 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](https://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](https://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](https://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-](https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-)

[copyright-policy.pdf](#)) and requirements of the copyright act ([laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html](http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html)).