



FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 367 Lec 01 – Science and Philosophy

Fall Term 2015 Course Outline

Lectures: MW 16:00-15:15 in MS211

Instructor: Dr. Megan Delehanty

Office: SS1240

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Email: mdelehan@ucalgary.ca

Office hours: Mondays 12:30-13:30 or by appointment

Course Description:

This course is a general introduction to the philosophy of science. We will investigate the nature and status of scientific knowledge, focusing on three core issues:

I) *Demarcation*. What makes something science? What makes something pseudoscience? For instance, why do most people think that astronomy is based on scientific theory while astrology is not?

II) *Rationality, Objectivity, and Values*. Does science reflect universal rationality or particular sociocultural concerns? How does scientific progress occur? What sort of a role should values play in science?

III) *Experiments, models, and simulations*. Philosophers have tended to think that experiments – by which they mean material experiments involving physical objects of various sorts – are the best way to get knowledge about the world. Many of these experiments involve models of some sort (e.g. model organisms, scale models, etc.) Increasingly, however, many areas of science rely on computer modelling techniques. We will look at debates over how to understand the role of these various techniques in scientific knowledge production.

Required Text:

None. Course readings will be posted on D2L.

Evaluation:

No assignment is such that a passing grade on it is required to pass the course.

10% Two article analysis (5% each)

25% Mid-term exam

25% Paper #1

40% Paper #2 (due by **16:00 on Dec 7** via the D2L dropbox)

Grading Scale:

96-100 = A+	80-84 = B+	65-69 = C+	50-54 = D
90-95 = A	75-79 = B	60-64 = C	0-49 = F
85-89 = A-	70-74 = B-	55-59 = C-	

(Note that final averages will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole number.)

Policy on late assignments:

No late assignments or make-up exams are permitted unless a medical note is provided and/or permission is granted by the instructor *prior* to the set date. No extra credit assignments will be provided.

It is the student's responsibility to keep up with the lectures, assignments, and due dates for assignments. Students are responsible for material covered in class as well as the assigned readings. Class readings as well as the schedule according to which we will be discussing them will be posted on D2L.

Important Dates (NB: schedule of readings is available on D2L)

Week 1	W Sept. 9	Introduction
Week 2	M Sept. 14 W Sept. 16	
Week 3	M Sept. 21 W Sept. 23	<i>Article analysis #1 due (in class)</i>
Week 4	M Sept. 28 W Sept. 30	
Week 5	M Oct. 5 W Oct. 7	<i>Article analysis #2 due (in class)</i>
Week 6	M Oct. 12 W Oct. 14	NO CLASS (Thanksgiving)
Week 7	M Oct. 19 W Oct. 21	<i>Midterm Exam</i>
Week 8	M Oct 26 W Oct 28	NO CLASS (instructor away)
Week 9	M Nov. 2 W Nov. 4	<i>Paper #1 due (in class)</i>
Week 10	M Nov. 9 W Nov. 11	NO CLASS (Reading Days)
Week 11	M Nov. 16 W Nov. 18	
Week 12	M Nov. 23 W Nov. 25	
Week 13	M Nov. 30 W Dec. 2	Final day of class
Week 14	M Dec. 7	<i>Final paper due (by 16:00, in D2L dropbox)</i>

Academic Honesty

Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is regarded as an extremely serious academic offence, the penalty for which may be an F on the assignment, an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw from the University. See the relevant sections on 'Academic Misconduct' in the current University Calendar. 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

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services. SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For more information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/>. Students who require accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their instructor. The full policy on student accommodations is available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf

D2L Help

Desire2Learn is the University of Calgary's online learning management system. Go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/it/services/d2l> for help.

Student Advising and Information Resources

- **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. 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/undergraduate> 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 current Undergraduate Advisors (see below)
- **Registration Overload/Prereq Waivers** – If you are seeking to register in a Philosophy course that is full or to get permission to waive the prereqs for a course, email the instructor of the course.

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.

Safewalk

Call 403-220-5333 (24/7/365) for a Safewalk volunteer to accompany you safely to your destination on campus including parking lots, housing, and the LRT station or use a Campus Help Phone.

PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

The Department of Philosophy is located on the 12th floor of the Social Sciences Building and on the web at www.phil.ucalgary.ca

PHILOSOPHY UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM ADVISORS FOR FALL 2015:

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For assistance with registration issues in Philosophy courses, contact

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