



**FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY**

**PHIL 399.8 – “Topics in Philosophy: Philosophy of Sport”
Winter Term 2018**

Course Outline

Lectures: T/R 9:30-10:45

Room: EDC 057

Instructor: Jeremy Fantl
Office: SS 1238
Phone: 403-220-5022
Email: jfantl@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: T 11-12:30

Instructor: Mark Migotti
Office: SS 1234
Phone: 403-220-5534
Email: migotti@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: W 1-2

Course Description

An investigation of selected philosophical issues raised by the practice and appreciation of sport(s).

Prerequisite: None

Required Texts

Bernard Suits, *The Grasshopper*, available at Shelf Life Books
Course packet, available at Shelf Life Books

Course Learning Outcomes

- Introduce students to an array of issues in the philosophy of sport
- Train students to write an argumentative paper
- Provide knowledge about how historical and contemporary philosophers have argued for their positions on the respective issues
- Provide students an opportunity to engage in constructive debate with each other

Evaluation

- One term ***paper***, 4-6 pages long (worth 25%), due in class on the last day of class (Thursday, April 12th).
- A 20 minute, completely stress free, oral midterm exam (worth 20%), held in one of the instructor’s offices during the weeks of February 26th-March 9th, at a mutually agreed upon time.
- A ***Registrar-scheduled final exam*** (worth 30%).
- 3 short ***pop quizzes*** (worth 5% each), administered in class at various points during the semester.
- 2 short ***“foods for thought”*** (worth 5% each) – one page response pieces to the assigned readings – due at variable points during the semester.

Letter Grade Conversion Table

A+: 98.33	B+: 88.33	C+: 78.33	D+: 68.33	F: 55
A+/A: 96.67	B+/B: 86.67	C+/C: 76.67	D+/D: 66.67	
A: 95	B: 85	C: 75	D: 65	
A/A-: 93.33	B/B-: 83.33	C/C-: 73.33	D/D-: 63.33	
A-: 91.67	B-: 81.67	C-: 71.67	D-: 61.67	
A-/B+: 90	B-/C+: 80	C-/D+: 70		

Final Grades are computed by rounding to the nearest recognized letter grade.

Policy on Late Assignments

You get a no-questions-asked extension on one and only one take-home assignment, as long as you clear it with one of the instructors at least a day in advance of the due date. **All unexcused late assignments lose the equivalent of 1/3 full letter grade for each day the assignment is late, to a maximum of the equivalent of 4 full letter grades. Missing assignments receive a zero.**

Syllabus

Part I: What is Sport?

Date	Class Activity
1/9, Tues:	Introduction
1/11, Thurs:	Bernard Suits, <i>The Grasshopper</i> , Chs 1-3
1/16, Tues:	Suits, <i>The Grasshopper</i> , Chs. 1-3, cont.
1/18 Thurs:	Suits, <i>The Grasshopper</i> , Chs. 1-3, cont.
1/23, Tues:	David Papineau, <i>Knowing the Score</i> , Ch. 18
1/25, Thurs:	Guest appearance by David Dick

Part II: Why Do Sports Matter?

Ila. Sports in the World

Ila1. The Ancient World

1/30, Tues:	Guest lecture from Reyes Bertolin-Cebrian,
2/1, Thurs:	Homer, selection
2/6, Tues:	Homer, cont.

Ila2. The Modern World

2/8, Thurs: The Modern World	Pierre de Coubertin, selection
2/13, Tues: The Modern World, cont.	Paul Gomberg, "Patriotism in Sports and in War"
2/15, Thurs: The Modern World, cont.	Ansgar Thiel, Anna Villanova, et al., "Can sport be 'un-political'?"

IIb. Sports and the Fan

2/27, Tues:	Tara Smith, "Why are we cheering? Sport and the value of valuing"
3/1, Thurs:	Torbjorn Tannsjo, "Is our admiration for sports heroes fascistoid?"
3/6, Tues:	Nicholas Dixon, "The Ethics of Supporting Sports Teams"
3/8, Thurs:	BUFFER DAY

IIc. Sports and the Participant

3/13, Tues:	Guest Lecture from Jeannette Steinmann
3/15, Thurs:	Guest Lecture from Megan Delehanty?
3/20, Tues:	Heather Reid, "Why Olympia Matters for Modern Sport"
3/22, Thurs:	BUFFER DAY

Part III. Ethical questions

3/27, Tues:	Kathleen Pearson, "Deception, Sportsmanship, and Ethics"
3/29, Thurs:	Leslie Howe, "Gamesmanship"
4/3, Tues:	Diana Abad, "Sportsmanship"
4/5, Thurs:	John Gleaves, "No Harm, No Foul? Justifying Bans on Safe Performance-Enhancing Drugs"
4/10, Tues:	BUFFER DAY
4/12, Thurs:	Closing Thoughts

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 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

The student accommodation policy can be found at: 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 . 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 Undergraduate Advisors. Jeremy Fantl (jfantl@ucalgary.ca), Allen Habib (anhabib@ucalgary.ca), Megan Delehanty (mdelehan@ucalgary.ca).

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 Department Manager, Tram Nguyen (tram.nguyen1@ucalgary.ca). Include the specific course information and your UCID number in your request.

Writing

This course will include written assignments. Faculty policy directs that 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 .

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 ,
arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, 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/>