



FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

**PHIL 405.04 Lec 01 – “A 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> Century Philosopher: Descartes”  
Fall Term 2015**

Course Outline

**Instructor:** Yosh Kobasigawa  
**Office:** SS 1214  
**Phone:** 403 – 220 - 4430  
**Email:** [ykobasig@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ykobasig@ucalgary.ca)

**Lectures:** Wed. 1800 – 2045, EDC 284  
**Office Hours:** Tues 0930 – 1030 and by appointment

**Required Text:**

*Descartes: Selected Philosophical Writings*, John Cottingham (Editor), Cambridge University Press.  
Other Readings will be indicated on D2L

**Course Description**

Topics that will be covered in the course include Descartes’ method of doubt, his conception of knowledge, his views on mind and body, his proofs for the existence of God and his proof for the existence of material things. The final grade will be determined by two in class tests and a term paper. The tests involve writing essays on assigned topics. A drop box will be set up in the Philosophy Department (12<sup>th</sup> floor, Social Science Building) for you to submit your term paper. **The term paper will not be accepted via email under any circumstances.** Missed tests and late papers will be assigned a grade of zero unless a university approved justification is promptly provided. There is no registrar-scheduled final exam for this course.

<b>Test 1</b>	<b>October 7</b>	<b>30 %</b>
<b>Test 2</b>	<b>November 4</b>	<b>30 %</b>
<b>Term Paper</b>	<b>Due December 9</b>	<b>40%</b>

**Letter Grade Conversion Table**

A+	96 –100 %	C+	67-69.9 %
A	91-95.9 %	C	64-66.9 %
A-	86-90.9 %	C-	60-63.9 %
B+	80-85.9 %	D+	55-59.9 %
B	75-79.9 %	D	50-54.9 %
B-	70-74.9 %	F	0- 49.9 %

### 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](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](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/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 12<sup>th</sup> floor of the Social Sciences Building and on the web at [www.phil.ucalgary.ca](http://www.phil.ucalgary.ca)

#### PHILOSOPHY UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM ADVISORS FOR FALL 2015:

Jeremy Fantl (Undergrad Director) [jfantl@ucalgary.ca](mailto:jfantl@ucalgary.ca)

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For assistance with registration issues in Philosophy courses, contact Merlette Schnell ([schnell@ucalgary.ca](mailto:schnell@ucalgary.ca))