



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

**PHIL 414 Lec 01**  
**Topics in Continental Philosophy: Epistemology**  
Winter 2022

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**Instructor Name:** Lorraine Markotic

**Email:** lmarkoti@ucalgary.ca

**Office Hour:** Thursday 12:30-1:30 on Zoom accessed through D2L

**COURSE DELIVERY INFORMATION**

Synchronous: **Tuesday and Thursday 11:00-12:15** on Zoom accessed through D2L

Depending on COVID-19 circumstances, 4 or 5 classes may be delivered asynchronously in late March and early April.

**PREREQUISITE(S)**

Prerequisite(s): 3 units from Philosophy 309, 311, 333, 359 or Religious Studies 363 and an additional 3 units in a course labelled Philosophy.

**COURSE INFORMATION**

Continental Epistemology will consider the relationship between knowledge and truth, knowledge and reason, knowledge and myth, knowledge and ideology, knowledge and social science paradigms, knowledge and narrative, and knowledge and the unconscious. We shall examine the thought of philosophers such as Nietzsche, Horkheimer & Adorno, Lyotard, and Dufourmantelle.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES**

- Students will read difficult, complex books that initially will be difficult to understand.
  - Further, students will learn to determine whether the book or chapter is positioning itself against another view, either explicitly or implicitly, and be able to state what this view is.
    - Finally, students will acquire the ability to reread and analyze these books on their own and be able to articulate the major and minor arguments made to support the overall argument.
- Students will be able to ask probing and pertinent questions about any material that they do not understand, or ideas that confuse them, or viewpoints with which they disagree.
- Students will learn to write essays that contain clear, convincing, grammatically correct arguments.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS, READINGS AND MATERIALS**

Nietzsche, *Philosophy and Truth: Selections from Nietzsche's Notebooks of the Early 1870s*. Ed. and trans. by Daniel Breazeale. Amherst, New York: Humanity Press, 1990.

Horkheimer and Adorno, *Dialectic of Enlightenment: Philosophical Fragments*. Ed by Gunzelin Schmid Noerr. **Trans. Edmund Jephcott**. Stanford. Stanford UP, 2002. **Students must use this translation.**

Nietzsche, *The Gay Science*. **Trans. Walter Kauffman**. Vintage. **Students must use this translation.**

Lyotard, *The Postmodern Condition: A Report on Knowledge*. Trans. Geoff Bennington and Brian Massumi. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press. 1984.

Dufourmantelle, *In Defense of Secrets*. New York: Fordham UP, 2021.

**COURSE ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION**

**Assessment Components and Grading Schemes**

- Participation – 10%. Participation is demonstrated by completing the assigned readings before the seminar, contributing to class discussion, and engaging with other students’ presentations.
  - ⇒ Students who are unable to attend classes regularly due to COVID related concerns will be permitted to replace their participation grade with a grade based on a short 600-word assignment.
- Short class presentation: 10%
- First essay (approx. 1500-1800 words): 35% – due **Friday, February 11<sup>th</sup>** by 4:00 p.m. in the D2L Dropbox.
- Second essay (approx. 1500-1800 words): 45% – due **Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>** by 4:00 p.m. in the D2L Dropbox.

Grades will be calculated as follows:

F = 0-50	C- = 62	B- = 72	A- = 82
D = 54	C = 65	B = 75	A = 85
D+ = 58	C+ = 68	B+ = 78	A+ = 90

Final Grades will be assigned according to the ranges

F = 0-50	C- = 60-62.9	B- = 70-72.9	A- = 80-82.9
D = 50-56.9	C = 63-66.9	B = 73-76.9	A = 83-86.9
D+ = 57-59.9	C+ = 67-69.9	B+ = 77-79.9	A+ = 87-100

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

There will be NO Registrar Scheduled Final Examination.

All essays must be submitted through D2L before the due date. Late and emailed papers will not be accepted.

### **IMPORTANT DEPARTMENTAL, FACULTY AND UNIVERSITY INFORMATION**

The following information is MANDATORY. You may choose to include additional policies, to be reviewed by the Department Head during the approval process.

#### **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/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Accommodation-Policy.pdf](http://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/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/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf](http://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.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/current-students/student-services](http://ucalgary.ca/current-students/student-services)

- 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 <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate/academic-advising> for contact details and information regarding common academic concerns.

For questions specific to the philosophy program, please visit [arts.ucalgary.ca/philosophy](http://arts.ucalgary.ca/philosophy). Further academic guidance is available by contacting Jeremy Fantl (Undergraduate Program Director [jfantl@ucalgary.ca](mailto:jfantl@ucalgary.ca)) or David Dick (Honours Advisor [dgdick@ucalgary.ca](mailto:dgdick@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/student-services/student-success](https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success).

### **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 <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](#).

### **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/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Intellectual-Property-Policy.pdf](https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Intellectual-Property-Policy.pdf)

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act, as outlined at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/access->

[information-privacy](#). 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 (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>).