



FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

**PHIL 565 Lec 01 - Philosophical Topics in the Sciences**  
**Topic #3: "Philosophy of Biology"**

**Winter Term 2011**

**Course Outline**

**Lectures:** TuTh 14:00-15:15 in SA 129

**Instructor:** Marc Ereshefsky

**Office:** SS1232

**Phone:** 403-220-3162

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

**Office Hours:** Thursday 9:30-10:30 & 12:30-13:30

***Required Text***

*Philosophy of Biology: An Anthology*, A. Rosenberg and R. Arp (eds.), 2010, Wiley-Blackwell.

***Topics***

Basic Principles of Darwinism

Adaptationism

Biological Function and Teleology

Evolutionary Developmental Biology

Reductionism and the Biological Sciences

Species and Classification Problems

The Units of Selection Debate

***Evaluation and Grading***

**Article Analyses**

7 article analyses are required. Each analysis must be handed in before we discuss that article in class. In an analysis, describe a particular point or argument in the article. Then critically analyze that point, or pose a question about it, or provide an independent argument in support of that point. The article analysis is not an article summary, but an analysis of a portion of the article. The maximum length for an article analysis is 3 pages.

**Workshop Report**

Attend the Philosophy of Biology Workshop on February 5<sup>th</sup>. Then write a 2-3 page report on one of the presentations given at that workshop.

**Paper Proposal**

The paper proposal will consist of two parts. The first part will explain and motivate the focus of your research by answering these questions: i) What is the general topic area? ii) What are the main views on the topic? iii) What will your focus in that area be? The second part of the proposal will contain a section-by-section outline of how you plan to construct your research paper. Dedicate a paragraph to describing each section of the proposed paper. This outline will serve as your research plan. The proposal should be no more than 5 pages long. Devote at least 2.5 pages to the first part of the proposal. Also attach a bibliography.

### Research Report

A 1 page report stating what work you have accomplished on your paper and what work remains to be done.

### Paper

The word maximum length is 4,200 words (including footnotes, excluding the bibliography and any diagram notation).

### Style and Citation Requirements

- All written work for this course should be submitted as hard copies. Work must be double-spaced, with 12 point font and 1 inch margins.
- Whenever you quote someone, provide the source and page numbers from that source. Here's an example: Dr. Black says that "all kittens are incredibly cute" (1993, p. 46).  
'(1993, p. 46)' refers to the article or book and page number where Dr. Black says that. Place detailed information about the article or book in your bibliography.
- Whenever you attribute a view or idea to a person, provide the source and page number where that claim is made. Here's an example: Dr. White likes kittens, but argues that puppies are far cuter (1994, p. 333).
- Use the following method for listing articles and books in your bibliography.  
Smith, D. (1997) "A Theory of Cats," *Philosophy of Science* 44: 60-88.  
Smith, D. (1998) *A New Theory of Cats*, Blackwell Publishers.  
Smith, D. (1992) "A Theory of Great Cats," in J. Armstrong (ed.) *An Anthology on Theories of Great Cats*, Oxford University Press, 60-88.  
Canto, P. (2006). "A Theoretical Discussion of Cats." <http://ohiou.edu/CatTheory>.  
The first entry is for an article, the second for a book, the third for a chapter in an edited book, and the fourth for a web site.

No Registrar-scheduled final will be given. No component is such that a passing grade on it is required to pass the course.

### Due Dates and Grade Values

Workshop Report	February 10	10 points
Paper Proposal	March 22	10 points
Article Analyses	All completed by March 31	5 points each (35 points total)
Research Report	April 7	5 points
Paper	April 15	40 points

### Final grades will be awarded as follows

96-100 = A+	75-79 = B	55-59 = C-
90-95 = A	70-74 = B-	50-54 = D+
85-89 = A-	65-69 = C+	45-49 = D
80-84 = B+	60-64 = C	below 45 = F

### ***BlackBoard and Email***

Class information and handouts will be posted on BlackBoard. You'll be sent class announcements through email. The email account used will be the one you gave the University Registrar, so make sure to check that account.

## **INTELLECTUAL HONESTY**

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. As a result, 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 and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. The University Calendar states that plagiarism exists when:

- *the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);*
- *parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;*
- *the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source; and/or*
- *a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.*

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement, but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

## **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

## **STUDENTS' UNION REPRESENTATIVES**

The Faculty of Arts Representatives are Laura Golebiowski ([arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca)), Bhuvana Sankaranarayanan ([arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca)), Lara Schmitz ([arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca)), and Vincent St. Pierre ([arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)).

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT**

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial FOIP Act in all aspects of its operations as a publicly funded institution. 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 unless other arrangements have been made in writing and filed with the Department Administrator.

## **SAFEWALK: PROMOTING CAMPUS SAFETY AND AWARENESS**

Twenty four hours a day, seven days a week, Safewalk volunteers walk people safely to their destination on campus. This service is free and available to students, staff, and campus visitors. Safewalks are done in male/female pairs. The volunteers walk anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). To request a Safewalk volunteer to walk with you, call 403-220-5333 (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year) or use one of the Help Phones located across campus (they are not just for emergencies).