



FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 571 – Advanced Topics in the Philosophy of Logic  
Lec 01, Topic 2 – “Speech Acts and Pornography”

Fall Term 2010

Course Outline

Meetings: 12:30-3:00pm Tuesdays in Social Sciences 1253

**Instructor:** Dr. Nicole Wyatt  
**Office:** Social Sciences 1214  
**Phone:** 403-220-3166  
**Email:** [nicole.wyatt@ucalgary.ca](mailto:nicole.wyatt@ucalgary.ca)  
**Office Hours:** Monday and Wednesday 2:30-3:30pm, and by appointment

**Course Description**

An investigation into Catherine MacKinnon's claims that pornography creates situations in which women are unable to perform certain illocutionary acts. The central question will be whether Speech Act Theory, as developed by Austin, Searle, and Strawson, provides support for MacKinnon's claims. The course will be run as a seminar, with all students expected to come to each session prepared to discuss the readings for that day. Students are advised that the topic of the course requires discussion of explicit material.

**Required Texts**

Austin, J. L. 1975. *How to do things with words*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. Readings provided through the Blackboard site for the course.

**Evaluation**

Grades in this class will be based on a term paper, peer review of another student's term paper, and participation. There will NOT be a Registrar-scheduled final exam.

**Due Dates**

Paper Draft	Tuesday November 9 <sup>th</sup>
Peer review	Tuesday November 30 <sup>th</sup>
Final Paper	Monday December 13 <sup>th</sup>

**Grading**

- *Ceteris paribus*, the term paper will be worth 50%, the peer review comments 25%, and participation in the seminar 25%.
- Later virtue will be allowed to redeem earlier sin.
- Students must submit a draft of their paper at the deadline in order to receive a passing grade on the final paper.
- The final paper will be graded on both content *and* quality of presentation, which includes spelling and grammar.

- Interim participation grades will be issued on October 5<sup>th</sup> and November 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- In computing your final grade, your marks on individual assignments will be converted to grade points as defined in the calendar (A = 4, B = 3, C = 2, D = 1, F = 0).

### **Late policy**

Assignments will not normally be accepted after the deadlines unless special permission has been given by the instructor. Failure to submit an assignment or test on time will normally result in a mark of zero. Students who cannot submit an assignment or a test due to medical reasons or other reasonable grounds should contact the instructor as soon as possible.

## **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).