



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
Department of Philosophy

PHIL 597

Honours Seminar

Fall Term 2020

F 10-12:45

COURSE OUTLINE

Instructor: Jeremy Fantl

Email: jfantl@ucalgary.ca

Office: SS 1238

Zoom Office Hours (link to be provided): W, 11-12

Office Phone: 403-220-5022

COURSE DELIVERY INFORMATION

Course to be delivered synchronously. Zoom link to be provided.

PREREQUISITE(S)

Consent of the department.

COURSE INFORMATION

The course, in conjunction with your Honours Supervisor, will guide you through the development of an idea for your Honours Thesis, the preparation of a project description and bibliography, and the presentation of your project to the rest of the class.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course, students will have learned

- about resources available for researching and writing extended academic and, especially, philosophical works
- how to negotiate the pitfalls of researching and writing extended philosophical works
- how to constructively receive feedback from peers during the writing progress
- how to brainstorm with peers about how to interpret texts relevant to their work
- how to brainstorm with peers about how to proceed with their arguments and ideas

REQUIRED/RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOKS, READINGS AND MATERIALS

Various philosophical articles and sample theses, as indicated on the syllabus, below, available via public links or links through the University of Calgary library. Links are listed on D2L.

COURSE WORK AND ASSESSMENT

- Project presentation, to be conducted in one of 2 class meetings from November 29th through December 6th, worth 25%.
- Reading presentation, to be conducted in one of 2 class meetings from October 11th through October 18th, worth 0%.
- Initial project description and bibliography, due and to be presented in class on September 27th, worth 15%.
- Final project description and bibliography, due December 13th, worth 35%.
- Progress on thesis project, as determined by consultation with thesis supervisor, worth 25%.
- There is no final exam in the course.

Policy on Late Assignments

All unexcused late assignments will lose one full letter grade for each day the assignment is late, to a maximum of 4 full letter grades. Unexcused absence for your presentation will lose full credit for the presentation. Missing assignments receive a 0.

Letter Grades translate to numerical values according to the following scheme. Final Grades are computed by rounding to the nearest recognized letter grade.

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		

SYLLABUS

Date	Topic and Class Activity
9/11, Fri:	Intro and Course Schedule/Requirements Library Orientation at 11:00
9/18, Fri:	Sample Thesis: TBA Mapping your year
9/25, Fri:	Sample Thesis: TBA Framing the Problem
10/2, Fri:	INITIAL DESCRIPTIONS AND BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE Initial Thesis Presentations
10/9, Fri:	Reading Presentations
10/16, Fri:	Reading Presentations
10/23, Fri:	Reading Presentations
10/30, Fri:	The Main Argument Putting it All Together
11/6, Fri:	The Thesis Defense After Graduation
11/13, Fri:	TERM BREAK
11/20, Fri:	Final Presentations
11/27, Fri:	Final Presentations
12/4, Fri:	Final Presentations
12/13, Fri:	Final Project Description and Bibliography Due

IMPORTANT DEPARTMENTAL, FACULTY AND UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

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/policies/files/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/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.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/Registrar/registration/course-outlines

- 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 arts.ucalgary.ca/advising for contact details and information regarding common academic concerns.

For questions specific to the philosophy program, please visit phil.ucalgary.ca. Further academic guidance is available by contacting David Dick (Undergraduate Program Director dgdick@ucalgary.ca) or Jeremy Fantl (Honours Advisor jfantl@ucalgary.ca). If you have questions regarding registration, please email Rebecca Lesser (Undergraduate Program Administrator phildept@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/ssc.

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 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

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.

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/policies/files/policies/Intellectual%20Property%20Policy.pdf

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act, as outlined at ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip. 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 (ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html).