



**FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY**

PHIL 603 Lec 01
Graduate Proseminar
Fall Term 2013

Course Outline

Meetings: Tu Th 09:30 - 10:45 in SS1253

Instructor: Marc Ereshefsky

Office: SS1248A

Phone: 403-220-3162 **Email:** ereshefs@ucalgary.ca

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 12:00-13:00, and by appointment.

Course Objective

The aim of this seminar is to sharpen one's research, writing, and professional skills. We will focus on how to construct a C.V., give a research presentation, identify a promising research topic, and how to write a research proposal, abstract, and paper.

Course Work

Curriculum Vitae Construct and sharpen one's C.V.

Topic Question Using one or two pages describe the topic you plan to research and write a paper on. Not only describe the topic but also explain why you think it would be a promising topic to work on. On another page or two provide a bibliography of at least three sources. For each source add a few sentences explaining why it is a good source for the topic.

Research Proposal The proposal consists of two parts. The first part explains and motivates 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 be your focus in that area? The second part of the proposal contains a section-by-section outline of how you plan to construct your research paper. Dedicate a paragraph 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 3 pages to the first part of the proposal. Also attach a bibliography.

Research Paper: The word maximum is 6,000 words (including footnotes, excluding the bibliography and any diagram notation).

Research Presentation Present your research results to the class. The presentation should be between 15 and 20 minutes, with an additional 10 to 15 minutes for discussion. You will not have enough time to present your entire paper but only parts of it. In your presentation, clearly introduce the problem you are working on, explain why it needs work, and what sort of contribution you are making to the topic. Do not read your presentation, but give it as a talk, as though you were teaching a class. You are not required to use PowerPoint, but the use of handouts or PowerPoint is strongly suggested.

Abstract Write an abstract of approximately 300 words concerning your research project. That abstract will be distributed to class a day before your presentation. The abstract should give your audience a good idea of the subject matter of your presentation, without their being experts on that topic.

Presentation Report Write a two page report of four research presentations. Dedicate a half of a page to each of those presentations, listing what you think are the pros and cons of that presentation. This can be done in point form.

Due Dates and Grading

No late assignments will be accepted without an appropriate excuse.
No registrar scheduled final will be given.

Due Dates and Point Values

Topic Question	Oct. 15	10 pts
Curriculum Vitae	Oct. 24	5 pts
Research Proposal	Oct. 31	15 pts
Abstract	Nov. 21	10 pts
Research Presentation	Nov. 26 – Dec. 5	15 pts
Research Paper	Dec. 9	40 pts
Presentation Report	Dec. 9	5 pts

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

Readings

Articles are available in e-journals and books accessible through the University Library website.

- Putnam, Hilary 1975. "Is Semantics Possible," in *Mind Language and Reality; Philosophical Papers*, Volume 2, Cambridge University Press, pp. 102-118.
- Dupré, John 1981. "Natural Kinds and Biological Taxa," *The Philosophical Review*, 90, pp. 66-90.
- Hacking, Ian 1991. "A Tradition of Natural Kinds," *Philosophical Studies*, 61, pp. 109-126.
- Boyd, Richard 1991. "Realism, Anti-Foundationalism and the Enthusiasm for Natural Kinds," *Philosophical Studies* 61, pp. 127-48.

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 writes 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.

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.

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

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a permanent disability or temporary impairment who may require academic accommodation, you must first register with the Student Accessibility Resource Office located in MacEwan Student Centre 452; phone 403-220-8237; email access@ucalgary.ca. Students who have not registered with the Student Accessibility Office are not eligible for 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. Go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/> for further information.

Blackboard Help

Go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/computersupport/onlineservices/blackboard> for Student Help and FAQs about Blackboard. Troubleshooting tips and a tutorial are available at <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/blackboard/students>.

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.

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.