



FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

PHILOSOPHY 361-Lec 1, "EVIDENCE"
Spring Term 2015

Course Outline

Lectures: MW 12:00 p.m.-2:45 p.m.

Location: Science B 105

Instructor: Alison McConwell

Office: SS 1231

Phone: (403) 220-8622

Email: akrenas@ucalgary.ca (include 'Phil 361' in subject line).

Office Hours: Wed 3:00-4:00 p.m., Thurs 1:30-2:30 p.m., and by appointment.

Course Description

The aim of this course is to explore the role of evidence in scientific reasoning, as well as how to identify and evaluate hypotheses and scientific models. We will address the issue of demarcation between genuine science and marginal or pseudoscience, and explore how data provide (or do not provide) evidence for a proposed hypothesis within that context. Finally, we will investigate the relationships between scientific reasoning, social values and decision-making, as well as how standards of evidence may be affected by those relationships.

Required Texts and Readings

- Giere R.N., Bickle J. and Maudlin R.F. (2006). *Understanding Scientific Reasoning*, 5th Edition. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Cengage Learning.
- Additional readings available through the University of Calgary Library website.

Additional Readings List (in order of reading schedule)

Articles and chapters can be found in electronic journals and books available through the University Library website.

- Piotrowska, Monika (2013). From humanized mice to human disease: guiding extrapolation from model to target. In *Biol. Philos.* 28: 439-455.
- Ruse, Michael (1982). Creation science is not science. In *Science, Technology and Human Values*, 7 (40): 72-78.

- Laudan, Larry (1982). Commentary: Science at the bar—causes for concern. In *Science, Technology and Human Values*, 7 (40): 16-19
- Okruhlik, Kathleen (1998). Gender and the Biological Sciences. In *Philosophy of Science: The Central Issues*. Eds. M.C. Curd and J.A. Cover. New York: W.W. Norton and Co. Inc. 192-209.
- Intemann, Kristen and Inmaculada de Melo-Martin (2010). Social values and scientific evidence: The case of the HPV vaccines. In *Biol. Philos.* 25: 203-213.
- Longino, Helen (2011). What's so great about an objective concept of evidence? In *Philosophy of Science Matters: The Philosophy of Peter Achinstein*. Oxford: UP Scholarship Online. p. 9.

Evaluation and Grading

Three in-class tests, one short paper (5pages), and four in-class group work sessions are required. There will be no Registrar-scheduled final exam.

TEST 1: 10%

TEST 2: 20%

TEST 3: 30%

GROUPWORK: 10%

SHORT PAPER: 30%

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

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

Class Schedule

Week 1 May 18 NO LECTURES—University Closed (Victoria Day)
May 20

Week 2 May 25 Groupwork
May 27 **TEST 1**

Week 3 June 1 Groupwork
June 3

Week 4 June 8 **TEST 2**
June 10 Groupwork

Week 5 June 15
June 17 **TEST 3**

Week 6 June 22 Groupwork
June 24 **PAPER** due in class

Assignment Submission Instructions

Students are expected to hand in all assignments by the due date *in class* except when the student has extraordinary and documented serious emergencies and has made arrangements to hand in the assignment at a later date.

Policy on Late Assignments or Missed Exams

No late assignments or make-up exams are permitted. No extra credit assignments will be provided. Students with medical or other extenuating reasons for not taking an exam or finishing an assignment on the designated date will not be penalized if they inform the instructor and provide her with documentation confirming the special circumstances. They can make up the exam or hand in the assignment after consultation with the instructor.

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 website.

Email and D2L

Some class information and handouts will be posted on D2L. 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. Emails to instructor should include 'Phil 361' in the subject line.

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.

D2L Help

Desire2Learn is the University of Calgary's learning management system which has now replaced BlackBoard. Go to <http://www.elearn.ucalgary.ca/desire2learn/> for help in using Desire2Learn.

Student Advising and Information Resources

- **General Academic Concerns and Program Planning**— Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre (ASC) is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Drop in at SS110, call 403-220-3580, or email artsads@ucalgary.ca. Advisors in the ASC can also provide assistance and advice in planning your program through to graduation. You can visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/> for more information on common academic concerns.
- **Advice on Philosophy Courses** - You may find answers to your more specific questions about a philosophy degree on the Department of Philosophy's website <http://phil.ucalgary.ca> or contact one of Philosophy's current Undergraduate Advisors (see below)
- **Registration Overload/Prereq Waivers** – If you are seeking to register in a Philosophy course that is full or to get permission to waive the prereqs for a course, email the instructor of the course.

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.

Student Ombudsperson and Students' Union Representatives

The Student Ombuds Office provides independent, impartial, and confidential support for students who require assistance or advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. For more information, see www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds. For the Students' Union Faculty of Arts rep: arts1@ucalgary.ca.

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.

PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

The Department of Philosophy is located on the 12th floor of the Social Sciences Building and on the web at www.phil.ucalgary.ca

PHILOSOPHY UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM ADVISORS FOR SPRING 2015:

Chris Framarin (Undergrad Director) chris.framarin@ucalgary.ca

Reid Buchanan buchanar@ucalgary.ca

Mark Migotti (Honours Program Advisor) migotti@ucalgary.ca

For assistance with registration issues in Philosophy courses, contact Merlette Schnell (schnell@ucalgary.ca)