



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY  
FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

## Philosophy 201 Lec 01 – “Mind, Matter and God”

Winter Term 2013

### Course Outline

**Lectures: TuTh 11.00-12.15 in ICT 121**

**Instructor:** Noa Latham

**Office:** SS 1250

**Phone:** 220-5528

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

**Office Hours:** TuTh 12.30-1.30 and by appt.

**TA:** Matt Van Dyk

**Office:** SS 1242

**Phone:** 220-6464

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

**Office Hour:** Tu 2:00-3:00 pm

### *Course Description*

We will begin by discussing some basic concepts and issues concerning how we acquire our beliefs and how they may be mistaken or unreasonable. Then we turn to the difference between scientific and religious thought, and the relation between religion and morality. Next we examine whether we can deceive ourselves, and whether we can be massively deceived by our senses. In the second part of the course we will examine how the mind and body are related, the emotions, and free will.

### *Course Reading Packet*

A course package of readings from classical and contemporary sources is available at the University Bookstore.

### *Course Evaluation*

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

- A take-home midterm exam available after class Jan 31 and due Feb 4 = 20%
- First paper (1200-1500 words, 4-5 pages) due Mar 1 = 25%
- Second paper (1200-1500 words, 4-5 pages) due Apr 12 = 25%
- A take-home final exam due Apr 17 = 30%

There will NOT be a Registrar-scheduled final exam.

Participation in class discussion in lectures and tutorials can increase your grade by as much as one grade step (e.g. from B- to B). Cumulative and final grades will be computed by Gradebook on the Blackboard site using the following scale:

A+	98-100	B+	86-89	C+	74-77	D+	62-65
A	94-97	B	82-85	C	70-73	D	58-61
A-	90-93	B-	78-81	C-	66-69	F	0-57

You are not required to complete all assignments to pass the course, but the grade for a missing assignment is 0.

### **Late Policy**

All assignments are due at 4pm in the drop box outside my office. Late papers will be marked down by one grade step for each day of lateness. (The time between Fri and Mon counts as one day.) If you are anticipating any difficulty in turning your assignment in on time you must discuss the problem with me or your T.A. before the due date.

### **Electronic Devices**

Those wishing to use a computer to take notes are requested to sit in the back two rows of the class. Cell phones should be switched off for the duration of the class.

### **Course Website**

I shall be using Blackboard to post short notes, grades, assignments, to confirm what we are reading for the next lecture, and to provide some questions on those readings.

### **Tentative Schedule**

Jan 8	Introduction
	<u>Epistemology</u>
Jan 10	Audi Introduction to <i>Belief, Justification, and Knowledge</i>
Jan 15	Audi "Scientific Knowledge" excerpt from <i>Epistemology</i>
Jan 17	James "Mysticism" excerpt Mackie "The Varieties of Religious experience"
Jan 22	Plato <i>Euthyphro</i>
Jan 24, 29	Law "Can we have Morality without God and Religion?"
Jan 31	Mele "Real Self-deception"
Feb 5	Sartre "Bad Faith" excerpt
Feb 7	Pascal "The Wager"
Feb 12	Descartes <i>Meditation 1</i>
Feb 14	Russell "The Existence of Matter"
Feb 19, 21	Reading Week – No Classes
Feb 26	Descartes <i>Meditation 2</i>
	<u>Metaphysics and Philosophy of Mind</u>
Feb 28	Descartes <i>Discourse</i> excerpt
Mar 5, 7	Smith and Jones "Difficulties for the Dualist"
Mar 12, 14	Searle "Minds, Brains and Programs"
Mar 16, 19	Chalmers "The Puzzle of Conscious Experience"
Mar 21	Aristotle <i>Rhetoric</i> excerpt
Mar 26	Solomon "Emotions and Choice"
Mar 28, Apr 2	Latham "The Relevance of Libertarian Freedom"
Apr 4, 9	Strawson "Freedom and Resentment"
Apr 11	Frankfurt "Alternate Possibilities and Moral Responsibility"

### **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: Sarah Damberger [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca); Hana Kadri [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca); Kelsy Norman [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca); Jack Mills [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.

### **SAFEWALK**

Call 403-220-5333 (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year) for a Safewalk volunteer to accompany you safely to your destination on campus including parking lots, housing, and LRT station. Or use a Campus Help phone.

#### **PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT**

The Department of Philosophy is located on the 12<sup>th</sup> floor of the Social Sciences Building and on the web at [www.phil.ucalgary.ca](http://www.phil.ucalgary.ca)

#### **PHILOSOPHY UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM ADVISORS FOR WINTER 2013:**

Ann Levey ([levey@ucalgary.ca](mailto:levey@ucalgary.ca))

Jeremy Fantl ([jfantl@ucalgary.ca](mailto:jfantl@ucalgary.ca))

Lorraine Markotic ([lmarkoti@ucalgary.ca](mailto:lmarkoti@ucalgary.ca))

For assistance with registration issues in Philosophy courses, contact

Merlette Schnell ([msnell@ucalgary.ca](mailto:msnell@ucalgary.ca))