



FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 361 Lec 1 – “Evidence”

Fall Term 2014

Course Outline

Lectures: TR 14:00-15:15 in Science B 105

Instructor: Ryan Hebert

Office: Social Science 1215

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Email: rhebert@ucalgary.ca

Office Hours: Wednesdays 10:00-11:00 AM or by appointment

Course Description

We will discuss recent work in traditional “single agent” epistemology as well as the growing field of social epistemology. For the first half of the course, we’ll consider skeptical worries about knowledge as well as various responses to skepticism that emphasize the role that practical factors play in claims about whether a subject has knowledge. For the second half of the course, we’ll move beyond the “single agent” model and focus on issues concerning testimony, expertise, and the epistemological significance of peer disagreement.

Required Texts

- Goldman, A.I. and Whitcomb, D. Eds. (2011). *Social Epistemology: Essential Readings*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Available in the bookstore.

Evaluation

- **Participation (20%):** Active engagement in class discussion, participation in various group activities, and performance on pop quizzes. Though attendance is not required, it is impossible to receive participation marks without attending class.
- **5 Reading Analyses (40%):** Short (maximum 1 page) paper that presents the main argument of that day’s reading in standard form. You may earn up to 1% of extra credit toward your final grade if you construct a single plausible objection (per reading analysis). Your lowest reading analysis mark is dropped. *Due By: Oct 2, Oct 16, Oct 30, Nov 13, Nov 27.*
- **Final Paper (40%):** 1,000-2,000 word (250 words/page) expository essay. *Due By: Dec 4.*
- There is NO Registrar-scheduled final examination for this course.

Grading Method

Writing and the grading thereof is a factor in the evaluation of your work for this course. Grades are not curved or rounded. Final grades are computed according to the following schema:

96.7 ≤ = A+	86.7-89.9 = B+	76.7-79.9 = C+	66.7-69.9 = D+
93.4-96.6 = A	83.4-86.6 = B	73.4-76.6 = C	60.0-66.6 = D
90.0-93.3 = A-	80.0-83.3 = B-	70.0-73.3 = C-	< 60.0 = F

Policy on Handing In Assignments

Assignments can be handed-in either in class or through the drop box labelled for this course and located in the Philosophy Department (SS 12th floor). Electronically delivered (*e.g.*, emailed) assignments are not accepted.

Policy on Late Assignments

Assignments are officially due the moment class is scheduled to begin. All other assignments are late. Late assignments are penalized 50% of the mark. Late assignments must be handed-in by the first subsequent class. (In other words, the deadlines for late reading assignments are as follows: Oct 7, Oct 21, Nov 4, Nov 18, and Dec 2, respectively. The deadline for late final papers is Dec 9.) All late assignments not turned-in by the late deadline are not accepted—and are therefore missing.

Policy on Missing Assignments

Missing any assignment results in an automatic F for the course final grade.

Policy on Extra Credit

You may earn a bonus 1% toward your final grade for each assignment you submit earlier than its due date. Additional special extra credit opportunities may be randomly offered in-class throughout the semester.

Policy on Contested Marking

If you are dissatisfied with a mark that you have received on an assignment, you have at most two weeks from the day the assignment is handed back in-class to contest it. To contest a mark, you must submit a concise, sound argument in writing explaining what your mark should be and why. After the two week window has passed, your mark cannot be contested for that assignment. Failure to comply with the prescribed protocol results in the forfeiture of the right to contest your mark.

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 Faculty of Arts' Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts. Drop in at SS110, call 403-220-3580, or email artsads@ucalgary.ca. Advisors in the PIC Office 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/undersgraduate> for detailed 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 FALL 2014:

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)