



FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 411.6 Lec 01
Topics in the History of Philosophy: Truth in Recent Continental Philosophy

Winter Term 2017
Course Outline

Lectures: MWF 11:00-11:50 SA 121

Instructor: Brendan Moran
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Office Hours: M 12:10-13:10

Course Description

The course will examine influential works of recent Continental European philosophy with regard to the topic of truth. Themes to be considered will include courage of truth, ethics of truth, notions of living truthfully by overturning values, care of self and others, Cynicism, rectitude, inclination, feminism, sex, love, philosophy and science, speculative materialism, philosophy and non-philosophy, thought, universality and contingency.

Prerequisites:

Two previous courses in philosophy, one of which must be 301, 303, 305, 307, 309 or 311; or consent of the department.

Course Learning Outcomes

We will carefully read, discuss, and analyze the assigned readings. Students will be expected to interpret and to comprehend quite difficult philosophical texts. Students will be trained to encounter ideas, and analyze writings, that are from non-Anglo-American cultural settings and are translated from European non-English languages. Students will also be trained to recognize ways in which recent continental European philosophy articulates concerns that are relevant for contemporary debates.

Students will be expected to write clearly, concisely, and coherently. They will further develop their competence in the public presentation of written ideas; this will include clear and complete referencing practices.

Students will be expected to contribute clearly and effectively to class discussions.

Required Texts:

1. Michel Foucault, *The Courage of Truth: The Government of Self and Others II* (Lectures at the Collège de France, 1983-1984). Trans. Graham Burchell. Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire UK: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011.
2. Adriana Cavarero, *Inclinations. A Critique of Rectitude*. Trans. Amanda Minervini and Adam Sitze. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2016.
3. Quentin Meillassoux, *After Finitude. An Essay on the Necessity of Contingency*. Trans. Ray Brassier. London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2010.
4. François Laruelle, *Philosophy and Non-Philosophy*. Trans. Taylor Adkins. Minneapolis: Univocal Publishing, 2013.

Course Assessment

- **First essay (1500 words, give or take 100), worth 40%** of final grade, due at the beginning of class on **Fri. Mar. 3.**
- **Second essay (1500 words, give or take 100), worth 45%** of final grade, due in the class drop-box (in Philosophy department, 12th floor Soc. Sci. tower), before **16:15 on Mon. April 17.**
- **Class Participation:** Worth **15%** of final grade. (This grade will be based on constructive contributions to class discussions.)

There will be **NO** Registrar-Scheduled Final Examination.

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

Letter grades will be given. Those grades will be based on the following numerical system: A+ = 90-100%; A = 85-89 %; A- = 80-84%; B+ = 77-79; B = 74-76; B- = 70-73; C+ = 67-69; C = 64-66; C- = 60-63; D+ = 55-59; D = 50-54; F = 0-49. If the final grade is fractional, it will be rounded off to the higher full number only if it is .5 or higher (e.g. 69.5 would become 70, 69.49 would not).

Late papers will receive a grade reduction (A to A-, A- to B+, and so on) unless an extension has been negotiated before the deadline. A paper submitted after an extended deadline will be subject to the same policy of grade reduction. **No papers will be accepted after the final grades have been submitted to the Department and the Registrar.** Papers may **only** be submitted directly to the instructor or left in the labelled drop-box for the course (in the main hall of the PHIL department, 12th floor Soc. Sci. Bldg.). **Papers sent by email will not be accepted.**

Computers will be allowed in the classroom, as long as each computer is being used for class purposes.

IMPORTANT DEPARTMENTAL, FACULTY AND UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

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

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services. SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For more information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/>. Students who require accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their instructor. The full policy on student accommodations is available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf

D2L Help

Desire2Learn is UCalgary's online learning management system. Important information and communications about this course may be posted on D2L. Go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/it/services/d2l> for help.

General Academic Concerns and Program Planning

Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students Centre is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Drop in at SS102, call 403-220-3580, or email ascarts@ucalgary.ca. Advisors in the ASC can also provide assistance and advice in planning your program through to graduation. Visit the Faculty of Arts website at <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> 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 Undergraduate Advisors. Jeremy Fantl (jfantl@ucalgary.ca), Reid Buchanan (buchanar@ucalgary.ca), Megan Delehanty (mdelehan@ucalgary.ca).

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 Department Manager, Merlette Schnell (schnell@ucalgary.ca). Include the specific course information and your UCID number in your request.

Writing

This course will include written assignments. Faculty policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented. Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services and other Student Success Centre Services, located on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library. Writing Support Services assist with a variety of assignments, from essays to lab reports. Students can book 30-minute one-on-one appointments online, sign up for 15- minute drop-in appointments, and register for a variety of writing workshops. For more information on this and other Student Success Centre services, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ssc .

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 or teaching assistant.

Internet and Electronic Communication Devices

The instructor reserves the right to establish course policies regarding the use of devices such as laptops, tablets, and smartbooks. If allowed, these devices must be used exclusively for instructional purposes and must not cause disruption to the instructor or to fellow students. Cell phones and paging devices should be set to silent mode during lectures. Audio or video recording of lectures is not permitted without the written permission of the instructor. Students violating this policy are subject to discipline under the University of Calgary's Non-Academic Misconduct policy

Emergency Evacuation:

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints> . Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

Other Helpful Contacts

- Safewalk and Campus Security: 403-220-5333.
- Faculty of Arts Student Representatives: 403-220-6552, arts1@su.ucalgary.ca , arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca .
- Student Ombudsman: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>