



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
Department of Philosophy

PHIL 412 Lec 01
Contemporary Continental Philosophy
WINTER TERM 2021

COURSE OUTLINE

Instructor Name: Brendan Moran

Email: bmoran@ucalgary.ca

COURSE DELIVERY INFORMATION

Synchronous. Meetings will be on Zoom MWF 12-12:50.

“OFFICE HOUR”

This will be held M 13-13:50 on Zoom by request (or by appointment)

PREREQUISITE(S)

3 units from [Philosophy 309](#), [311](#), [333](#), [359](#), [Religious Studies 363](#); and 3 units in a course labelled Philosophy.

COURSE INFORMATION

The course will examine influential works of relatively recent 21st century Continental European philosophy. Themes to be considered will include the following: biopolitics and philosophy; interpersonal responsibility and complicity with violence; philosophy in relation to gender, race, and postcolonial history.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES

This is a text-intensive course. Please be prepared to read a significant amount, and to read very carefully. The course will entail reading, discussing, and closely analyzing 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 of contemporary relevance.

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, complete, and honest referencing practices.

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

REQUIRED READINGS

It is essential that students use the translations and the editions listed below; this includes any e-books students might decide to use. **Failure to use the assigned editions and translations with correct pagination will automatically result in an F (=0) for the paper.** For that reason, it might be advisable to get the paperback editions, but please give yourself plenty of time to order and receive the books.

1. Roberto Esposito, *Bíos. Biopolitics and Philosophy*, trans. Timothy Campbell. Minneapolis MN: University of Minnesota Press, 2008. Paperback: ISBN 978-0-8166-4990-7.

2. Marc Crépon, *Murderous Consent: On the Accommodation of Violent Death*, trans. Michel Loriaux and Jacob Levi. New York: Fordham University Press, 2019. Paperback: ISBN 978-0823283743.
3. Seloua Luste Boulbina, *Kafka's Monkey and other Phantoms of Africa*, trans. Laura E. Hengehold. Bloomington IN: Indiana University Press, 2019. Paperback: ISBN 978-0-253-04192-0.

COURSE ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION

Assessment Components and Grading Scheme

- **First essay (1100 words, give or take 100)**, worth **30%** of final grade, due in D2L on **Wednesday, Feb. 10**.
- **Second essay (1200 words, give or take 100)**, worth **35%** of final grade, due in D2L on **Friday, March 19**.
- **Third essay (1000 words, give or take 100)**, worth **25%** of final grade, due in D2L on **Friday, April 16**.
- **Class Participation:** Worth **10%** of final grade. This grade will be based on constructive and respectful contributions to class discussions. These contributions should indicate that you have been attentive during the classes and have been reading the assigned texts attentively.
- There will be **NO** Registrar-Scheduled Final Examination.

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%

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

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 in D2L. **Papers sent by email will not be accepted, unless the instructor has requested that the paper be sent this way.**

IMPORTANT DEPARTMENTAL, FACULTY AND UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Academic Accommodations

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures. The student accommodation policy can be found at ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for

Students with Disabilities: ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf. Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their instructor.

Absence or Missed Course Assessments

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructors as soon as possible. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, instructors may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test.

Student Support and Resources

Full details and information about the following resources can be found at ucalgary.ca/Registrar/registration/course-outlines

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success Centre
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

Academic Advising

If you are a student in the Faculty of Arts, you can speak to an academic advisor in the Arts Students' Centre about course planning, course selection, registration, program progression and more. Visit the Faculty of Arts website at arts.ucalgary.ca/advising for contact details and information regarding common academic concerns.

For questions specific to the philosophy program, please visit phil.ucalgary.ca. Further academic guidance is available by contacting David Dick (Undergraduate Program Director dgdick@ucalgary.ca) or Jeremy Fantl (Honours Advisor jfantl@ucalgary.ca). If you have questions regarding registration, please email Rebecca Lesser (Undergraduate Program Administrator phildept@ucalgary.ca).

Writing Assessment and Support

The assessment of all written assignments—and, to a lesser extent, written exam responses—is based in part on writing skills. This includes correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.), as well as general clarity and organization. Research papers must include a thorough and accurate citation of sources. Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services for assistance. For more information, and other services offered by the Student Success Centre, please visit ucalgary.ca/ssc.

Required Technology

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Broadband internet connection.

Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

Responsible Use of D2L

Important information and communication about this course will be posted on D2L (Desire2Learn), UCalgary's online learning management system. Visit ucalgary.service-now.com/it for how-to information and technical assistance.

All users of D2L are bound by the guidelines on the responsible use of D2L posted here: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/commitment-to-the-responsible-use-of-d2l/>. The instructor may establish additional specific course policies for D2L, Zoom, and any other technologies used to support remote learning. Instructional materials, including audio or video recordings of lectures, may not be posted outside of the course D2L site. Students violating this policy are subject to discipline under the [University of Calgary's Non-Academic Misconduct policy](#).

Media Recording

Please refer to the following statement on media recording of students: https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP_FINAL.pdf

Academic Misconduct/Honesty

Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is as an extremely serious academic offense, the penalty for which will be an F on the assignment or an F in the course, and possibly a disciplinary sanction such as probation, suspension, or expulsion. For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html.

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 referencing, please consult your instructor.

University Policies

The Instructor Intellectual Property Policy is available at ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/Intellectual%20Property%20Policy.pdf

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act, as outlined at ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip. The instructor (or TA) must return graded assignments *directly* to the student UNLESS written permission to do otherwise has been provided.

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html).