



FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

**PHIL 503.01 Topic 02 – “Advanced Topics in Medieval Philosophy”**

***"Feminist Philosophy in Medieval Paris"***

**Winter Term 2013**

**Course Outline**

**Meetings:** Mondays and Wednesdays 15:30-16:45 in Social Sciences 1253

**Instructor:** Dr. Nicole Wyatt  
**Office:** Social Sciences 1256A  
**Phone:** 403-220-3166  
**Email:** [nicole.wyatt@ucalgary.ca](mailto:nicole.wyatt@ucalgary.ca)  
**Twitter:** @nwyatt

**Office Hours:** Mondays and Tuesdays 13:00-1400, or email for an appointment.

***Please note: email is the most efficient way to contact me.  
For appointments, please indicate your availability in the request.***

***Course Description***

This course will explore the role of intention and virtue in the ethical theories of two Parisian proto-feminists: Heloise d' Argenteuil, the famous philosopher, nun, and abbess, and Christine de Pizan, Europe's first professional writer. The usual cast of medieval philosophers from Augustine to Montaigne will be discussed as intellectual context for our headliners.

***Required Texts***

- Abelard and Heloise. *The Letters and other writings*. William Levitan (trans.). Hackett Publishing, Indianapolis. 2007. 978-0-87220-875-9.
- Christine de Pizan. *The Selected Writings of Christine de Pizan*. Renate Blumenfeld-Kosinski (ed. & trans.), Kevin Brownlee (trans.). Norton Critical Editions, New York. 1997. 978-0-393-97010-4.
- Kenny, Anthony. *Medieval Philosophy. A new history of western philosophy*, v2. Clarendon Press, Oxford. 2005. 978-0-19-875274-5.
- Other readings will be made available on the D2L website for the class.
- As this is a senior seminar, students will be expected to seek out and locate relevant readings on their own, and are encouraged to share what they find with the rest of the class.

## ***Evaluation***

Grades in this class will be based on three components: participation (35%), a 15 min presentation (30%), and a term paper (35%). Students must receive a passing grade on all three components to pass the class. There is no Registrar-scheduled final exam for this course.

- The term paper is due on December 10, 2014. Students wishing feedback on drafts must submit those drafts by December 1, 2014.
- In-class presentations will occur throughout the term. Sign up will occur in the second week of classes.
- Students will be given interim participation grades (via D2L) on October 15th and November 12th.
- In computing your final grade, your marks on individual assignments will be converted to grade points as defined in the calendar (A = 4, B = 3, C = 2, D = 1, F = 0).

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>

## ***Participation***

Participation will be assessed based on the following components: (a) written questions submitted at the beginning of class, (b) contributions to class research projects, (c) constructive contributions to in-class discussion, and (d) constructive feedback given to other students on their presentations. Strong contributions in one area can balance out weak contributions in another.

- *Weekly questions:* Students should submit 1-2 written questions at least four hours ahead of each meeting time. These will be used (anonymously) as a springboard for class discussion, and count towards the participation grade. Submissions can be made via the class website on D2L.
- *Class research projects:* Throughout the term we will embark on various collective research projects, pursued both within and outside seminar meeting times. Students in class and written contributions to these collective research projects will count towards the participation grade. The results of these research projects will be posted on the D2L site for the class.

## ***Policy on Late Assignments***

The final paper will not normally be accepted after the deadline unless special permission has been given by the instructor. Failure to submit the paper on time without advance permission will normally result in a mark of zero. Students who cannot submit the paper due to medical reasons or other reasonable grounds should contact the instructor as soon as possible.

Dates for class presentations will be set during the second week of classes. If subsequent events make the initial date unsuitable please let me know as soon as possible so that we can re-schedule. Please keep in mind that it is not possible for everyone to give their presentation in the last week of classes.

### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds). For the Students' Union Faculty of Arts rep: [arts1@ucalgary.ca](mailto: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 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 FALL 2014:**

Chris Framarin (Undergrad Director) [chris.framarin@ucalgary.ca](mailto:chris.framarin@ucalgary.ca)

Reid Buchanan [buchanar@ucalgary.ca](mailto:buchanar@ucalgary.ca)

Mark Migotti (Honours Program Advisor) [migotti@ucalgary.ca](mailto:migotti@ucalgary.ca)

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