



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY

FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

## PHIL 561

### Advanced Topics in Epistemology: Epistemic Injustice Winter Term 2019

#### Course Outline

**Lectures: Thursday 15:30-18:15, SS 1253**

**Instructor:** Dr. Megan Delehanty  
**Office:** SS 1240  
**Office Phone:** 403-220-2828  
**Email:** mdelehan@ucalgary.ca  
**Office Hours:** Thursday 14:30 – 15:30

#### **Course Description**

The term ‘epistemic injustice’ is best known because of Miranda Fricker's 2007 book *Epistemic Injustice*, in which she defines epistemic injustice as “‘a wrong done to someone specifically in their capacity as a knower’”. Fricker identifies two distinct types of epistemic injustice: testimonial and hermeneutical. Others have offered important criticism of Fricker’s work. In this course, we will discuss different types of epistemic injustice as well as looking at a number of case studies.

#### **Prerequisites:**

Two previous courses in Philosophy at least one of which must be at the 400 level and one of which must be one of Philosophy 201, 395, 421, 423, 461, 463, 467, 481 or 483.

**Required Texts:** All required texts for this course are available electronically and will be posted on D2L.

For the first class, please read: McKinnon, R. (2016). *Epistemic Injustice*, *Philosophy Compass* 11(8):437-446.

#### **Course Requirements**

There will be no Registrar Scheduled Final exam. Evaluation of writing is an important component of the grade in this class. No component is such that passing it is required to pass the course.

- 1) 30% Six argument summaries/analyses (you may choose which weeks you do these, 6X5%=30%)
- 2) 10% Class Presentation (dates to be scheduled)
- 3) 5% First draft of term paper (3500-4000 words)— hard copies (2) due in class April 4
- 4) 5% Peer evaluation of term paper draft – hard copy and discussion in class on April 11
- 5) 50% Final draft of term paper (3500-4000 words)-due in D2L drop box by 23:59 April 19.

For purposes of calculation the following scale will be used.

96-100=A+	80-84=B+	-69=C+	50-54=D+
90-95=A	75-79=B	60-64=C	45-49=D
85-89=A-	70-74=B-	55-59=C-	<45=F

**Late assignments:**

Late assignments will be penalized at the rate of 5% (e.g. going from 85% to 80%) per day unless discussed with me in advance or in cases of medical or family emergency.

**IMPORTANT DEPARTMENTAL, FACULTY AND UNIVERSITY INFORMATION****Academic Honesty**

Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is regarded 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. See the relevant section K.5 on 'Academic Misconduct' in the current University Calendar <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.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 correct referencing, consult your instructor.

**Academic Accommodation**

The student accommodation policy can be found at: [ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy](http://ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy).

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 <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their instructor.

**D2L Help**

Desire2Learn is UCalgary's online learning management system. Important information and communications about this course may be posted on D2L. Go to <https://ucalgary.service-now.com/it> 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](mailto: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/advising> 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. David Dick – Undergraduate Program Director ([dgdick@ucalgary.ca](mailto:dgdick@ucalgary.ca)), Megan Delehanty – Honors Advisor ([mdelehan@ucalgary.ca](mailto:mdelehan@ucalgary.ca)) or Allen Habib ([anhabib@ucalgary.ca](mailto:anhabib@ucalgary.ca)).

**Registration Overload/Prerequisite Waivers**

If you are seeking to register in a Philosophy course that is full or to get permission to waive the prerequisites for a course, email the Philosophy Department Undergraduate Program Administrator (UPA), Rebecca Lesser ([rebecca.lesser@ucalgary.ca](mailto:rebecca.lesser@ucalgary.ca)). Include the specific course information and your UCID number in your request.

## **Writing**

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](http://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](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)
- Student Union: <https://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>; 403-220-6551.
- Student Ombudsman: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>
- Campus Mental Health Strategy: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>