



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
Department of Philosophy

PHIL 597
“Honours Seminar”
Fall Term 2019
F 10-12:45 SS1253

COURSE OUTLINE

Instructor: Jeremy Fantl
Email: jfantl@ucalgary.ca
Office: SS 1238
Office Hours: M, 1-2
Office Phone: 403-220-5022

COURSE INFORMATION:

The course, in conjunction with your Honours Supervisor, will guide you through the development of an idea for your Honours Thesis, the preparation of a project description and bibliography, and the presentation of your project to the rest of the class.

PREREQUISITES:

Consent of the department.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES

This course will provide the opportunity

- to learn about resources available for researching and writing extended academic and, especially, philosophical works
- to figure out how to negotiate the pitfalls of researching and writing extended philosophical works
- to receive feedback from peers during the writing progress
- to brainstorm with peers about how to interpret texts relevant to one's work
- to brainstorm with peers about how to proceed with one's arguments and ideas

REQUIRED/RECOMMENDED TEXTS:

- Various philosophical articles and sample theses, as indicated on the syllabus, below, available via public links or links through the University of Calgary library. Links are listed on D2L.

COURSE WORK AND ASSESSMENT

- Project presentation, to be conducted in one of 2 class meetings from November 29th through December 6th, worth 25% of the grade.
- Reading presentation, to be conducted in one of 2 class meetings from October 11th through October 18th, worth 0% of the grade.
- Initial project description and bibliography, due and to be presented in class on September 27th, worth 15% of the grade.
- Final project description and bibliography, due December 13th, worth 35% of the grade.
- Progress on thesis project, as determined by consultation with thesis supervisor, worth 25% of the grade.

Letter Grades translate to numerical values according to the following scheme. Final Grades are computed by rounding to the nearest recognized letter grade.

A+: 98.33	B+: 88.33	C+: 78.33	D+: 68.33	F: 55
A+/A: 96.67	B+/B: 86.67	C+/C: 76.67	D+/D: 66.67	
A: 95	B: 85	C: 75	D: 65	
A/A-: 93.33	B/B-: 83.33	C/C-: 73.33	D/D-: 63.33	
A-: 91.67	B-: 81.67	C-: 71.67	D-: 61.67	
A-/B+: 90	B-/C+: 80	C-/D+: 70		

Policy on Late Assignments

All unexcused late assignments will lose one full letter grade for each day the assignment is late, to a maximum of 4 full letter grades. Unexcused absence for your presentation will lose full credit for the presentation. Missing assignments receive a 0.

SYLLABUS

Date	Topic and Class Activity
9/6, Fri:	Intro
9/13, Fri:	Sample Thesis: Todd Dilling, "When Should Skeptics – and Everyone Else – say 'Know'?" Thesis Element #1 – Framing the Problem
9/20, Fri:	Philosophy Research Resources: Library Orientation – meet in TFDL 440B Sample Thesis: Erika Roy, "On the concept of wilderness: a wilderness search and rescue"
9/27, Fri:	INITIAL DESCRIPTIONS AND BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE Initial Thesis Presentations Thesis Element #2 – Overall Structure
10/4, Fri:	Thesis Element #3 – The Main Argument Thesis Element #4 – Critical Summaries
10/11, Fri:	Reading Presentations
10/18, Fri:	Reading Presentations
10/25, Fri:	Thesis Element #5 – The Case for the Other Side Thesis Element #6 – Conclusions
11/1, Fri:	Reading Group Option – your work or important source
11/8, Fri:	Reading Group Option – your work or important source
11/15, Fri:	TERM BREAK
11/22, Fri:	Thesis Element #7 – Interesting Side Notes The Thesis Defense
11/29, Fri:	Final Presentations
12/6, Fri:	Final Presentations
12/13, Fri:	Final Project Description and Bibliography Due

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/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: 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. Instructors may request that evidence in the form of documentation be provided. 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. For information on possible forms of documentation, including statutory declarations, please see ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html

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 (one-on-one appointments, drop-in support and writing workshops). For more information, and other services offered by the Student Success Centre, please visit ucalgary.ca/ssc.

Online Resources and Electronic Devices

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

The instructor reserves the right to establish specific course policies regarding the use of electronic devices. If permitted, the use of devices must be exclusively for instructional purposes, and without disruption to the instructor or fellow students. 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.

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.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html).