



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY
**FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY**

**PHIL 671 – Philosophy of Logic & Philosophy of Language
Lec 01, Topic 2 – “Speech Acts and Pornography”**

Fall Term 2010

Course Outline

Meetings: 12:30-3:00pm Tuesdays in Social Sciences 1253

Instructor: Dr. Nicole Wyatt
Office: Social Sciences 1214
Phone: 403-220-3166
Email: nicole.wyatt@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 2:30-3:30pm, and by appointment

Course Description

An investigation into Catherine MacKinnon's claims that pornography creates situations in which women are unable to perform certain illocutionary acts. The central question will be whether Speech Act Theory, as developed by Austin, Searle, and Strawson, provides support for MacKinnon's claims. Students are advised that the topic of the course requires discussion of explicit material.

Students enrolled in 671 will meet with the instructor separately for an hour each week at a time to be determined during the first week of classes.

Required Texts

Austin, J. L. 1975. *How to do things with words*. 2nd Edition. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. Readings provided through the Blackboard site for the course.

Evaluation

Grades in this class will be based on weekly short papers, a term paper, and a class presentation. There will be no Registrar-scheduled final exam.

Due Dates

Short papers (1 page)	Weekly beginning on Sept 21 st
Presentation Days	November 30 th , December 7 th
Final Paper	Monday December 13 th

Grading

- *Ceteris paribus*, the term paper will be worth 50%, the short papers 25%, and the presentation 25%.
- Later virtue will be allowed to redeem earlier sin.
- The final paper will be graded on both content *and* quality of presentation, which includes spelling and grammar.
- 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).

Late policy

Assignments will not normally be accepted after the deadlines unless special permission has been given by the instructor. Failure to submit an assignment on time will normally result in a mark of zero. Students who cannot submit an assignment or a test due to medical reasons or other reasonable grounds should contact the instructor as soon as possible.