

**Philosophy courses available to MPhil Stud students**

2013/14

COURSE CODE	TITLE	GROUP	TERM	TEACHER	SHARED TEACHING	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	Time	FORM OF ASSESSMENT
PHILG008	Practical Criticism 1	N/A	Autumn	MK	No	This module is designed to train postgraduate students in the close readings of philosophical texts. It is intended to be taught before Practical Criticism 2. One text will be chosen for the whole term and will be read in close detail. Students will write commentaries on the text every week. Texts can be either contemporary or historical and can vary year by year. Texts for Practical Criticism 1 will be 'theoretical' in nature (i.e. on metaphysics, or epistemology, philosophy of mind or language, philosophy of logic, science or mathematics etc.)	2 hr Seminar Tues 14:00 16:00	Written projects and contribution to discussion
PHILG009	Senior seminar Recent Philosophical Writings	N/A	All terms	FL/RM	No	This module is designed to familiarize the student with recent research in philosophy in a diverse range of areas. Recent journal articles are discussed in a seminar led by student presentations. Each student on the course will be required to make a presentation at some point in the year.	2 hr Seminar Weds 17:00 19:00	Presentation and contribution to discussion
PHILG010	Research seminar: 19 <sup>th</sup> century philosophy	C	Spring	TS	MA	This module is a research seminar in 19 <sup>th</sup> century philosophy. The module teacher will present some of their recent research on this subject. Subject matter can vary year by year, but might include: the philosophy of Nietzsche, Hegel, Schopenhauer and related figures in the history of philosophy.	2 hr Seminar Thurs 16:00 18:00	Essay
PHILG012	Graduate Studies in metaphysics	A	Autumn	MK	MA	This course is intended to take graduate students through various key contributions to some of the central questions in metaphysics. The syllabus will vary from year to year but representative topics include time, space, free will, identity, personal identity, causation, and the mind-body problem. For each topic we will look at a classic piece of reading on the topic, and then look at a recent contribution to the debate.	2 hr Seminar Fri 16:00 18:00	Essay

						All members of the class are required to prepare the reading each week. One student each week will be responsible for giving a short presentation on the work, and the class as a whole will then discuss the issues raised.		
PHILG015	Practical criticism 2	N/A	Spring	TBA	No	This module is designed to train postgraduate students in the close readings of philosophical texts. It is intended to be taught before Practical Criticism 2. One text will be chosen for the whole term and will be read in close detail. Students will write commentaries on the text every week. Texts can be either contemporary or historical and can vary year by year. Texts for Practical Criticism 2 will be "normative" in nature (i.e. on ethics, or political philosophy, value theory generally etc.)	2hr Seminar Tues 14:00 16:00	Written projects and contribution to discussion
PHILG017	Thesis Preparation	N/A	Autumn	FL	No	This course will instruct MPhil Stud students in the preparation for their thesis, which they will start writing in their second year. The course will address questions to do with the content of particular students' theses, as well as general advice about the structure and planning of thesis preparation.	2 hr Seminar Tues 11:00 13:00	Written projects and contribution to discussion
PHILG017	Thesis Preparation	N/A	Spring	MM	No	This course will instruct MPhil Stud students in the preparation for their thesis, which they will start writing in their second year. The course will address questions to do with the content of particular students' theses, as well as general advice about the structure and planning of thesis preparation.	2 hr Seminar Tues 14:00 16:00	Written projects and contribution to discussion
PHILG018	Graduate Studies in Political Philosophy	B	Spring	VMD	MA	The course aims to provide Philosophy graduate students with an understanding of some central themes, theories and arguments in political philosophy. The seminar this year is focused particularly on Joseph Raz's The Morality of Freedom. The seminar will pursue some key themes: authority, neutrality, rights, equality, pluralism, and well-being.	2 hr Seminar Mon 14:00 16:00	Essay

PHILG021	Research seminar: philosophy of mind	A	Spring	LOB	MA	This module is a research seminar in the philosophy of mind. The module teacher will present some of their recent research as well as topics work by others. Subject matter will vary from year to year.	2 hr Seminar Mon 11:00 13:00	Essay
PHILG022	Graduate Studies in ancient philosophy	C	FL	Autumn	MA & BA	The course will focus on Plato's later dialogue, the Sophist, and Fiona Leigh's draft manuscript of a new reading of this dialogue, from start to finish. Issues and topics to be addressed include what is involved in giving a philosophical definition of a kind, the ontological status of mimetic representations, modes of being, the comparative status of Forms and participants, and the nature of falsehood. Some of the central claims to be defended will be that the method of collection and division and the more analytic method of dialectic are compatible, Forms are treated as causes, not universals, in the dialogue, and not-being is analysed as equivalent to difference.	2 hr Seminar Weds 11:00 13:00	Essay
PHILG023	Research seminar: 20 <sup>th</sup> century philosophy	C	Autumn	MK	MA	This course is intended to take graduate students through key texts of twentieth century philosophy. The texts will vary from year to year. The approach is historical, though by means of it we will try to understand twentieth century philosophy. All members of the class are required to prepare the reading for each week.	2 hr Seminar Thurs 14:00 16:00	Essay
PHILG024	Research seminar: philosophy, justice and health	B	Autumn	JW	Yes	Over the course of the term we will read some recent philosophical writings - either a book or a selection of papers - on topics related to health and justice. All students registered for the module will be expected to make a class presentation. The reading for 2012 is likely to be John Broome's <i>Weighing Lives</i> .	2 hr Seminar Mon 14:00 16:00	Essay
PHILG025	Graduate Studies in Mind and Language	A	Summer	CP	No	This course will offer a critical survey, and also aim to advance our understanding, of a range of issues about the nature of meaning and conceptual content. What is the relation between norms, understanding and truth? Is the normative nature of content derivative from reference and truth-conditions, or does it have a certain autonomy? Is any kind of conventionalism or anti-realism about the normative possible? How is the normative related to a correct account of rule-following? Is conceptual content grounded in its relations to a more primitive notion of nonconceptual content, and if so, how? How should we conceive of the	3 hr Tues 14:00 17:00	Essay

						relative priority, if any, between the metaphysics of a domain and a theory of the intentional contents concerning that domain? What are the relations between the individuation of content and the requirements for knowing a content? Those taking the course for credit will be expected to write a paper on some topic in these broad areas.		
PHILG026	Recent work in Political Philosophy	B	Summer	HVW	No	This seminar will be organized around a close examination of recent texts in Moral and Political Philosophy. This year the primary focus will be on contemporary philosophical thought in the contractalist tradition.	2 hr Seminar Mon 16:00 18:00	Essay
PHILG029	Graduate Studies in Wittgenstein's Later Philosophy	C	Autumn	PS	MA & BA	The course aims to provide MPhil Stud Philosophy students with a thorough and detailed understanding and evaluation of the ideas of the later Wittgenstein, and of the important secondary literature discussing it. The Wittgenstein texts to be studied include the Blue and Brown Books, Philosophical Investigations, and On Certainty. The basic aim is to study the text closely and with great care. Central topics will be the nature of meaning, rule following, private experiences, seeing as, action, knowledge, and the nature of philosophy – but the syllabus will vary from year to year.	2 hr Seminar Thurs 11:00 13:00	Essay
PHILG034	Research seminar Advanced topics in metaphysics and epistemology	A	Summer	RM	No	This course enables MPhil Stud level postgraduate students to engage with some of the latest research in metaphysics and epistemology ongoing at UCL. Course content will vary from year to year, but representative advanced topics in metaphysics and epistemology include: scepticism, existence, the metaphysics of persons, knowledge and reference, relativism, objectivity, and the nature of properties.	2 hr Seminar Weds 14:00 16:00 & Thurs 14:00 16:00	Essay
PHILG035	Graduate Studies in Aristotle	C	Spring	FL	MA & BA	This combined upper level undergraduate and graduate-level course aims to familiarize students with a range of Aristotle's philosophical arguments and analyses of the world as he encountered it. Topics include Aristotle's logic (Prior Analytics), hylomorphic metaphysics (Metaphysics), causation (Physics), virtue ethics (Nicomachean Ethics), philosophy of mind (de Anima), and epistemology (Posterior Analytics).	Weds 11:00 13:00	Essay

PHILG037	Global Justice & Health	B	Spring	JGW	MA & BA	This module explores ethical questions in global health by connecting the literature in global health with recent writings in moral and political philosophy. The first half raises some more general issues about global inequalities in health and their causes, and then explores some central issues in moral and political philosophy, including the normative significance of nations, and human rights approaches to health. The second half looks at some more specific issues where philosophers have contributed to debates in global health, including the ethics of research in developing countries and access to pharmaceuticals.	2 hr Seminar Mon 16:00 18:00	Essay
PHILG038	Normative Ethics	B	Autumn	DM	MA & BA	A focussed exploration of topics in normative ethics, which might include consequentialism, deontology, contractualism, virtue ethics, and/or the morality of harming and saving from harm. NB: This course is cross-listed with a third year undergraduate course and is primarily intended for undergraduates.	2 hr Seminar Fri 09:00 11:00	Essay
PHILG039	Philosophy of Mathematics: The 20 <sup>th</sup> century views	A	Autumn	MG	MA & BA	This course will cover the main 20th century schools of Philosophy of Mathematics, namely Logicism, Intuitionism, Formalism / Finitism, Holism. The motivations, advantages and disadvantages of each approach will be explained; the same will be done for the main sub-varieties. The approaches will also be related to relevant developments in mathematical logic.	2 hr Seminar Mon 16:00 18:00	Exam
PHILG041	Early Wittgenstein	C	Spring	JZ	MA & BA	This module aims to introduce the student to Ludwig Wittgenstein's early philosophy, focusing in particular on the interpretation of his Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus. It will also present relevant aspects of the philosophies of Gottlob Frege and Bertrand Russell.	2 hr Seminar Thurs 11:00 13:00	Essay
PHILG042	Adorno: Art & Politics	C	Autumn	TS	MA & BA	The course will provide a detailed overview of the philosopher T W Adorno's views on art, politics and the relationship between the two. We will study certain key primary texts as well as some of the important secondary literature.	2 hr Seminar Tues 16:00 18:00	Essay

PHILG045	Experience	A	Spring	MK	MA & BA	The topic of this module is the metaphysics of experience. It will explore the nature of experience by comparing different sensory modalities, specifically, vision, audition, and touch. Our starting point will be Broad's comparative phenomenology of these senses in "Elementary Reflections on Sense perception", and we will discuss contemporary papers on these senses in following up Broad's claims. All members of the class are required to prepare the reading each week. Students will be responsible for one short presentation which will be the basis for discussion.	2 hr Seminar Fri 16:00 18:00	Essay
PHILG047	Mind	A	Autumn	LOB	MA & BA	This module is designed to introduce advanced undergraduate students to detailed study of a central topic, or topics, in the Philosophy of Mind. The topic(s) covered will vary from year to year. Topics covered this year will include self-knowledge and irrational behavior.	2 hr Seminar Mon 11:00 13:00	Essay
PHILG049	Topics in German Idealism	C	Spring	SG	MA & BA	The course focuses on central issues in the writings of the German Idealists – Fichte, Schelling, and Hegel – with special attention to the ways in which they develop and transform Kant's philosophy. Topics covered include the theory of the self, transcendental and absolute idealism, philosophy of nature, philosophy of art, intersubjectivity, and Hegel's dialectic.	2 hr Seminar Fri 14:00 16:00	Essay
PHILG055	Philosophy of Mind & Cognitive Science	A	Autumn	DR	MA & BA	This is a course in cognitive science, understood as the interdisciplinary scientific study of the mind. We will focus on topics of philosophical interest such as the concept acquisition, linguistic competence, perception, heuristics and biases, and theory of mind. Readings will consist of experimental and theoretical work by psychologists, linguists, and philosophers from the mid-twentieth century up to the present day. We will explore some of the major theoretical concepts in cognitive science such as computation, modularity, innateness, and levels of explanation.	2hr Seminar Thurs 14:00 16:00	Essay
PHILG059	Special Topics in 19 Century	C	Spring	SG	MA & BA	The course will examine three figures from nineteenth-century philosophy – Schelling, Schopenhauer, and Kierkegaard – with special attention to their rejection of Hegel's rationalism. Topics covered include human freedom, the problem of evil, the limits of reason, the value of art, pessimism, and religious faith.	2 hr Seminar Tues 16:00 18:00	Essay
PHILG061	Regulation of Intimacy: The	B	Spring	VMD	MA &	Enrolment for this course is by permission of the course tutor only.	2 hr Seminar Thurs 14:00 16:00	Essay

	Politics of Sex				BA	<p>This optional course will be taught in seminar format, with one weekly two-hour meeting. It is designed to introduce students to some central questions in political and moral philosophy. The topic of the course is the politics of sex. It focuses on general ethical concerns raised by state regulation of intimate relations e.g. in marriage or prostitution. Should some things not be for sale? Is consent the key to legitimate interaction? What is involved in one person 'objectifying' another? Are there circumstances in which paternalism is permissible or even required?</p> <p>Readings include Anderson, Herman, Langton, Nussbaum, Pallikkathayil, Parfit, O'Neill, Satz, Saul, Scanlon, Scruton, Shiffrin, Thomson, Wedgwood.</p> <p>The course is intended for students with a range of specializations, but some background knowledge in philosophy is necessary.</p>		
PHILG067	Philosophy, Politics and Economics of Health	B	Autumn	JGW	MA & BA	<p>This module examines some central ethical, economic and political problems facing health policy in the UK and abroad, especially in relation to social justice. Topics covered include: how to allocate healthcare resources (e.g. should the NHS cover all new drug treatments, regardless of how expensive they are? Who should decide?); the appropriate role of the state in protecting and promoting health (e.g. should smoking be banned?); when inequalities in health and life expectancy are unfair; and special challenges posed by infectious diseases.</p>	2 hr seminar Mon 09:00 11:00	Essay
PHILG068	Cost Benefit Analysis and Health	B	Spring	SO	MA & BA	<p>This course analyses the principles of microeconomics and their application to health care – in particular, examining the issues of efficiency, equity and cost-effectiveness.</p> <p>The module will explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The justification for using economics in health care.</li> <li>How to measure and value health outcomes for economic evaluations of health care technologies.</li> <li>Techniques for the economic evaluation of health care technologies.</li> <li>Alternative ways in which economic evaluations may be used to inform resource allocation decisions.</li> </ul>	2 hr seminar Thurs 13:00 15:00	Essay
PHILG069	Mind and Metaphysics	A	Autumn	PS	MA	<p>The course will cover a range of topics under the heading metaphysics and mind – including, the mind/body problem, other minds, the nature of the self, the nature of action and</p>	2 hr Seminar Weds 15:00 17:00	Essay

						practical knowledge, and the nature of experience.		
PHILG070	Metaphysics of Science	A	Spring	LG	MA & BA	In this course, we will cover three central topics in the metaphysics of science: causation, chance and the laws of nature. Questions to be addressed include: What are laws of nature? Are there laws other than those described by physics (for instance, are there laws of biology, meteorology, or economics)? Are there ceteris paribus laws (that is, laws which hold 'other things being equal')? What is the nature of chance (objective probability)? Must chances derive from the laws? If so, do only fundamental physical laws (for example, those of quantum mechanics) generate chances, or do the laws or generalizations of biology, etc. yield chances? Is chance compatible with determinism? What is causation? How does causation relate to chance? Does physics describe causal relations? No background in science or probability theory is needed for this course.	2 hr Seminar Fri 11:00 13:00	Essay
PHILG071	The Epistemology of Disagreement	A	Autumn	HVW	MA & BA	What should you do when you learn that equally informed and equally competent reasoners disagree with you? Should you give up your beliefs, or should you stick to your views? In this course, we'll look at the recent debate in epistemology about disagreement. We will investigate the effects of disagreement on the justification of our beliefs, and explore the implications for the justification of our religious, moral, and philosophical views.	2 hr Seminar Thurs 17:00 19:00	Essay
PHILG072	Formal Methods in Philosophy	A	Spring	DR	MA	This course will introduce students to the technical tools from logic, mathematics and economics most frequently used in metaphysics, epistemology, and ethics. These include set theory, modal logic, probability theory, decision theory, and game theory. The course will introduce a selection of these topics giving students a grounding in the formal techniques common to all of them.	2 hr Seminar Tues 11:00 13:00	Coursework / Problem Sets
PLING228 N.B. Co-taught with Linguistic Dept	Semantics Research Seminar	A	Spring	DR	MA	Guided, critical reading of selected literature in semantics, aimed at honing theoretical and research skills and fostering original research.	2 hr Seminar Fri 11:00 13:00	Coursework / Portfolio

**KEY TO STAFF INITIALS**

**SG Sebastian Gardner**

**MG Marcus Giaquinto**

**MK Mark Kalderon**

**FL Fiona Leigh**

**RM Rory Madden**

**DM Dean Machin**

**VMD Véronique Munoz-Dardé**

**LOB Lucy O'Brien**

**SO Shepley Orr**

**CP Chris Peacocke**

**IP Ian Phillips**

**SR Sarah Richmond**

**DR Daniel Rothschild**

**PS Paul Snowdon**

**TS Tom Stern**

**JGW James Wilson**

**JW Jo Wolff**

**JZ José Zalabardo**