

Course Learning Outcomes – PHL

PHL 101IH: Introduction to Philosophy: Reason & Reality

- Understand disciplinary methods, including the kinds of questions in the discipline and the methods that practitioners use to explore those questions
- Understand of how ideas and methods in the discipline have developed or changed
- Develop critical thinking and written or oral communication skills
- Develop proficiency in analyzing information from different viewpoints
- Understand, explain and critique metaphysical and epistemological theories as philosophers understand, explain and critique them

PHL 103: Philosophy and Popular Culture

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes (Philosophy):

This course provides students with the opportunity to understand, explain and critique the content of traditional philosophical theories in the context of popular culture, and construct and defend arguments as professional philosophers do.

Successful students will have demonstrated the ability to do the following at the completion of the course:

- Write formal, philosophical thesis defense papers. This skill demands:
 - Accurate use of the English language
 - Accurate use of terminology specific to philosophy and on popular culture topics
 - Identification, and avoidance of, fallacies of reasoning
 - Identification & description of philosophical theories, concepts, questions & issues as they present themselves in popular culture events and phenomena
 - Construction of a clear, specific, philosophical thesis on an issue in pop culture
 - Reading & understanding primary texts as demonstrated by accurate summaries of them, and the use of quotations from these texts to further an argument
 - Clear presentation of reasons and evidence (found in texts or originally developed by the student) that furthers the thesis
 - Avoidance of discussing irrelevant subjects
 - Recognition and precise description of objections (critiques of, or potential problems with), a theory or thesis
 - Presentation of a relevant, content-bearing response to such objections
- Demonstrate (orally and in writing) knowledge of several philosophers and classical philosophical writings, and the arguments, principles, concepts, and issues contained therein, and applying such knowledge to popular cultural events. Philosophical doctrines/systems include, but are not limited to:
 - Existentialism
 - Utilitarianism
 - Deontology
 - Essentialism
 - Feminist Theories
 - Libertarianism

- Describe (orally and in writing) philosophical theories, concepts, techniques and issues pertinent to popular culture, including, but not limited to:
 - Relativism and Realism
 - Fallacies of Reasoning
 - Ethical and Psychological Egoism
 - Human nature
 - Hedonism
 - Virtue Ethics
 - Naturalism

PHL 110IH: Introduction to Philosophy: Good & Evil

- Understand disciplinary methods, including the kinds of questions in the discipline and the methods that practitioners use to explore those questions
- Understand of how ideas and methods in the discipline have developed or changed
- Develop critical thinking and written or oral communication skills
- Develop proficiency in analyzing information from different viewpoints
- Understand explain and critique theories of value as philosophers understand, explain and critique them

PHL 205CS: Other Animals

Successful students will have demonstrated the ability to do the following at the completion of the course:

- Write thesis defense papers with an empirical component. This skill demands:
 - Accurate use of the English language
 - Accurate use of terminology specific to philosophy, comparative psychology and cognitive ethology
 - Identification, and avoidance of, fallacies of reasoning and misrepresentation and misinterpretation of evidence
 - Recognition and use of good experimental design
 - Identification & description of theories of consciousness and concepts
 - Construction of a clear, specific hypothesis on animal minds
 - Collection and presentation of relevant data
 - Reading & understanding primary texts as demonstrated by accurate summaries of them, and the use of quotations from these texts to further an argument
 - Clear presentation of reasons and evidence (found in texts or originally developed by the student) that furthers the thesis
 - Avoidance of discussing irrelevant subjects
 - Recognition and precise description of objections (critiques of, or potential problems with), a theory, thesis or hypothesis
 - Presentation of a relevant, content-bearing response to such objections
- Demonstrate (orally and in writing) knowledge of several philosophical and scientific writings on consciousness, intelligence, cognition and emotion, and the arguments, principles, concepts, and issues contained therein, including but not limited to the writings of:
 - Aristotle
 - Descartes
 - Darwin

- Dennett
- Hauser
- Allen & Bekoff
- Seyfarth & Cheney
- Hermann
- Pepperberg
- DeWaal
- Describe (orally and in writing) philosophical & scientific theories, concepts, techniques and issues related to animal minds, including, but not limited to:
 - Consciousness
 - Cognition
 - Fallacies of Reasoning
 - Altmann's Observational Techniques in Cognitive Ethology
 - Criterion of Flexibility of Response
 - Language vs. Communication
 - Skinnerian, Popperian & Gregorian Mind-Types
 - Evolution & Moral Action/Cognition
 - Criteria for a Good Scientific Theory
 - Meta-Cognition
 - Self-Awareness & Visual-Kinesthetic Matching
 - Empathy, Cooperation, Morality
 - Culture
 - Music
 - Problem Solving, Intelligence, Cognition

Students work in groups to complete research projects; successful students collect and analyze data collaboratively

PHL 212RH: Morality and Society

Successful students will demonstrate the ability to do the following.

- Write formal philosophical research papers. This skill demands:
 - Accurate use of the English language
 - Accurate use of terminology specific to the philosophical study of ethics and contemporary moral problems
 - Identification and avoidance of fallacies of reasoning
 - Identification and description of philosophical theories, concepts, questions and issues relevant to contemporary moral problems.
 - Construction of a clear philosophical thesis dealing with a contemporary moral issue.
 - Reading and understanding primary texts as demonstrated by accurate summaries of them, and the use of material from these texts to further the student's own arguments.
 - Clear presentation of reasons and evidence found in texts and as originally developed by the student that furthers the thesis
 - Avoidance of discussing irrelevant subjects
 - Recognition and precise description of objections (critiques of, or potential problems with) a theory or thesis.
 - Presentation of relevant responses to such objections.

- Demonstrate (orally and in writing) the ability to do original philosophical research on a contemporary moral problem. This requires:
 - Using philosophical databases to locate materials related to particular contemporary moral problems.
 - Reading and understanding those materials.
 - Critically evaluating those materials
 - Developing a precise thesis about the chosen contemporary moral problem.
 - Developing arguments for that thesis.
 - Explaining and responding to criticisms of the thesis.
- Describe (orally and in writing) philosophical theories, concepts, techniques and issues pertinent to modern moral problems, including, but not limited to
 - Utilitarianism
 - Kantianism
 - Casuistical and intuitionist methods of moral reasoning.
 - Moral relativism
 - Moral Realism

PHL 236Q: Intro to Logic

Students completing a Core 2.0 Quantitative Reasoning (Q) course should demonstrate the ability to:

- Interpret and draw inferences from mathematical or statistical models represented as formulas, graphs, or tables. (Venn and other diagrams)
- Represent mathematical or statistical information numerically and visually. (Venn and other diagrams)
- Employ quantitative methods such as arithmetic, algebra, geometry, or formal statistical inference to solve problems. (methods of formal proof such as Propositional Calculus and/or Quantificational Calculus)

PHL 242: Science, Pseudo-Science and Subjectivity

- The learning outcomes are:
 - Learn about different theories of scientific methodology and how they are different
 - Deepen understanding about the complexity and dynamics of scientific methodology.
 - Increase understanding about drawbacks of some of the famous theories about science.
 - Expand ability of critical reasoning and thus be able to become worthy citizens of the twenty-first century.
- Successful students will have demonstrated the ability to do the following at the completion of the course:
 - Write formal philosophical research papers. This skill demands:
 - Demonstrate (orally or in writing or in both) the ability to do original philosophical research on a contemporary issues (please see the course description for them) of scientific methodology. This requires:
 - Accurate use of terminology specific to the domain of philosophical theories, concepts, questions, and issues.
 - Identification and avoidance of fallacies of argumentations.

- Construction of a clear philosophy thesis dealing with a specific issue about scientific methodology and develop an ability to defend a philosophical stance in a paper.
- Demonstrate (orally or in writing or in both) the ability to do original philosophical research on a contemporary issues (please see the course description for them) of scientific methodology. This requires:
 - Using philosophical database to locate materials for research problems.
 - Both understanding and critically evaluating those problems.
 - Developing a precise thesis statement and subsequently writing the paper on that basis.

PHL 255D: Philosophy and Culture

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes (Philosophy):

This course provides students with the opportunity to understand, explain and critique the broadest possible conceptions of human identity, diversity, and community, as well as how these conceptions should fit into our lives. Successful students will have demonstrated the ability to do the following at the completion of the course:

- Write formal, philosophical thesis defense papers. This skill demands:
 - Accurate use of the English language
 - Accurate use of terminology specific to philosophy and culture topics
 - Identification, and avoidance of, fallacies of reasoning
 - Identification & description of philosophical theories, concepts, questions & issues as they present themselves in culture
 - Construction of a clear, specific, philosophical thesis on a cultural issue
 - Reading & understanding primary texts as demonstrated by accurate summaries of them, and the use of quotations from these texts to further an argument
 - Clear presentation of reasons and evidence (found in texts or originally developed by the student) that furthers the thesis
 - Avoidance of discussing irrelevant subjects
 - Recognition and precise description of objections (critiques of, or potential problems with), a theory or thesis
 - Presentation of a relevant, content-bearing response to such objections
- Demonstrate (orally and in writing) knowledge of several philosophers regarding issues in philosophy and culture. Philosophical questions include, but are not limited to:
 - What is human identity?
 - How do race, class, gender, and sexuality affect the ways in which we think of ourselves?
 - What is diversity?
 - How can radical differences between human beings be fairly and justly reconciled?
 - What is community?
 - What is it to be a member of a community?
 - How should diversity and community affect human identity?
 - What are the proper and just relations between identity, diversity, and community?
- Describe (orally and in writing) philosophical theories, concepts, techniques and issues pertinent to culture, including, but not limited to:
 - Identity

- Race
- Class
- Gender
- Sexuality
- Equality
- Diversity
- Difference
- Community
- Democracy
- Justice

PHL 270: Philosophies of Asia

The learning outcomes are:

- Learn about different schools of Indian philosophy and how they are different.
- Deepen their understanding about the complexity and dynamics of even basic issues about life, religion, and their interactions in Indian sub-continent.
- Increase their understanding about the bearings of religious thoughts on Indian philosophy.
- Expand their ability of critical reasoning and thus be able to become reflective citizens of the twenty-first century multi-cultural society.

Successful students will have demonstrated the ability to do the following at the completion of the course:

- Write formal philosophical research papers concerning issues in Indian philosophy. This skill demands:
 - Accurate use of terminology specific to the domain of philosophical theories, concepts, questions, and issues.
 - Identification and avoidance of fallacies of argumentations.
 - Construction of a clear philosophy thesis dealing with a specific issue about epistemology and develop an ability to defend a philosophical stance in a paper.
- Demonstrate (in writing) the ability to do original philosophical research on epistemological issues in Indian philosophical context. This requires:
 - Using philosophical database to locate materials for research problems in Indian philosophy.
 - Both understanding and critically evaluating those problems.
 - Developing a precise thesis statement and subsequently writing the paper on that basis.

PHL 278: Origins of Life

Successful students will have demonstrated the ability to do the following at the completion of the course:

- Explain and describe how science contributes to analyzing the nature and origin of life, as measured by summary-argument papers, discussions, exams, and the research project
- Explain and describe scientific methods, ask the kinds of questions asked by scientists and practice common methods used to explore those questions, as measured by summary-argument papers, discussions, exams, and the group research project
- Critically think, writing and speak about issues surrounding the exploration of life's beginnings, as measured by summary-argument papers and discussions

- Independently analyze information from multiple sources, as measured by summary-argument papers and discussions
- Work effectively in small groups, as measured by the group research project and discussions

PHL 303: Approaches to Epistemology

The learning outcomes are:

- Learn about different theories of justification and how they are different.
- Deepen their understanding about the complexity and dynamics of even basic epistemological issues.
- Increase their understanding about drawbacks of some of the famous theories of justification and experimental-based naturalistic approaches to epistemological issues.
- Expand their ability of critical reasoning and thus be able to become worthy citizens of the twenty-first century epistemological community within philosophical circle.

Successful students will have demonstrated the ability to do the following at the completion of the course:

- Write formal philosophical research papers. This skill demands:
 - Accurate use of terminology specific to the domain of philosophical theories, concepts, questions, and issues.
 - Identification and avoidance of fallacies of argumentations.
 - Construction of a clear philosophy thesis dealing with a specific issue about epistemology and develop an ability to defend a philosophical stance in a paper.
- Demonstrate (orally or in writing or in both) the ability to do original philosophical research on some contemporary issues of epistemology. This requires:
 - Using philosophical database to locate materials for research problems.
 - Both understanding and critically evaluating those problems.
 - Developing a precise thesis statement and subsequently writing the paper on that basis.

PHL 304: Metaphysics

Learning Outcomes:

- Successful students will choose, develop and defend notions of absolute reality in formal written papers. Students are expected to accurately explain course readings and presentations on the final exam and in papers, and orally for in-class presentations.
- Students will be able to use philosophical concepts correctly, as measured on the final exam, papers and in-class presentations.

Students will meet the course objectives listed above in the following ways:

- Show understanding of how different theories construct and define the mind through class discussions and the final exam
- Show understanding of philosophical approaches to the mind by choosing to critique or defend one well defined position in each paper, or alternately, showing how two approaches overlap in these papers.
- Successful students will be able to state a view fully and carefully, give reasons for that view, and defend the view against common objections, as measured by the presentations and papers.
- Students will not commit formal or informal fallacies in the presentations or papers.

PHL 308: Language & the World

Learning Outcomes:

- Successful students will choose, develop and defend notions on and about language in formal written papers. Students are expected to accurately explain course readings and presentations on the final exam and in papers, and orally for in-class presentations.
- Students will be able to use philosophical concepts correctly, as measured on the final exam, papers and in-class presentations.

Students will meet the course objectives listed above in the following ways:

- Show understanding of how different theories construct and define language and meaning through class discussions and the final exam
- Show understanding of philosophical approaches to language by choosing to critique or defend one well defined position in each paper, or alternately, showing how two approaches overlap in these papers.

PHL 310: Moral Theory

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

This course provides students with the opportunity to study approaches to moral theory. Successful students will demonstrate the ability to do the following.

- Write formal philosophical research papers. This skill demands:
 - Accurate use of the English language
 - Accurate use of terminology specific to moral theory.
 - Identification and avoidance of fallacies of reasoning
 - Identification and description of philosophical theories, concepts, questions and issues relevant to moral theory.
 - Construction of a clear philosophical thesis dealing with an issue in moral theory.
 - Reading and understanding primary texts as demonstrated by accurate summaries of them, and the use of material from these texts to further the student's own work.
 - Clear presentation of reasons and evidence found in texts and as originally developed by the student.
 - Avoidance of discussing irrelevant subjects
 - Recognition and precise description of objections to (critiques of, or potential problems with) a theory or thesis.
 - Presentation of relevant responses to such objections.
- Demonstrate (orally and in writing) the ability to do original philosophical research on a philosophical topic in moral theory. This requires:
 - Using philosophical databases to locate materials related to topics in moral theory.
 - Reading and understanding those materials.
 - Critically evaluating those materials
 - Developing a precise thesis about the chosen author or issue.
 - Developing arguments for that thesis.
 - Explaining and responding to criticisms of the thesis.
- Describe (orally and in writing) philosophical theories, concepts, techniques and issues pertinent to moral theory including
 - Utilitarianism
 - Kantianism
 - Intuitionism
 - Naturalism

PHL 312: Contemporary Moral Problems

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes: This is an upper-level philosophy course that aims to improve students ability to identify and understand ethical issues and support their views with strong reasoning. Questions include who (or what) deserves moral consideration? How should we understand rights, such as the right to free speech or the right to life and what should we do when rights conflict? Is it ever legitimate for governments to restrict someone's liberty "for their own good?" How should we understand concepts such as "equality" or "justice" and what sorts of obligations do they give rise to? What constitutes "terrorism" and is torture ever justified? These questions are examined by looking at particular moral controversies including animal rights, abortion, reproductive technologies, euthanasia, capital punishment, poverty, and efforts to fight terrorism.

Students who successfully complete this course should expect to be able to:

- Identify ethical issues at stake in particular cases.
- Develop and defend ethical principles that underlie our judgments in particular situations.
- Construct and present strong and clear arguments, both in written work and oral presentations.
- Identify and articulate objections and responses to arguments.
- Write a formal philosophy paper in support of a thesis that demonstrates a command of the philosophical literature written on the topic and anticipates and responds to objections to the arguments presented.

PHL 321: Philosophy & Biomedical Ethics

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes:

This course provides students with the opportunity to study major issues in biomedical ethics. Successful students will demonstrate the ability to do the following.

- Write formal philosophical research papers. This skill demands:
 - Accurate use of the English language
 - Accurate use of terminology specific to biomedical ethics.
 - Identification and avoidance of fallacies of reasoning
 - Identification and description of philosophical theories, concepts, questions and issues relevant to biomedical ethics.
 - Construction of a clear philosophical thesis dealing with an issue in biomedical ethics.
 - Reading and understanding primary texts as demonstrated by accurate summaries of them, and the use of material from these texts to further the student's own work.
 - Clear presentation of reasons and evidence found in texts and as originally developed by the student.
 - Avoidance of discussing irrelevant subjects
 - Recognition and precise description of objections to (critiques of, or potential problems with) a theory or thesis.
 - Presentation of relevant responses to such objections.
- Demonstrate (orally and in writing) the ability to do original philosophical research on a philosophical topic in biomedical ethics. This requires:
 - Using philosophical databases to locate materials related to topics in biomedical ethics.
 - Reading and understanding those materials.
 - Critically evaluating those materials

- Developing a precise thesis about the chosen author or issue.
- Developing arguments for that thesis.
- Explaining and responding to criticisms of the thesis.
- Describe (orally and in writing) philosophical theories, concepts, techniques and issues pertinent to biomedical ethics including
 - General moral theories such as utilitarianism and Kantianism
 - A variety of issues in biomedical ethics such as the problem of abortion, euthanasia, human and animal experimentation, genetic engineering, cloning, and the distribution of scarce

PHL 322: Philosophy and Environmental Ethics

This course examines philosophical questions and concepts that underlie debates about contemporary environmental problems. These include: What is the appropriate way to view our relationship to the environment? How do we adjudicate between competing or conflicting interests at stake in environmental issues? What specific ethical obligations do we have regarding the environment? What sorts of ends or values should we aim to promote regarding the environment (e.g., wilderness preservation, biodiversity, or social justice)? How should we understand concepts that are central to various public policy debates, such as “sustainability”? What makes us justified in adopting one policy option over another, particularly in cases where there is uncertainty? These questions are considered in the context of specific local, national, and global environmental problems, including climate change, depletion of wilderness areas, regulations of environmental toxins, overpopulation, genetically modified foods, the privatization of water, and protections for endangered species.

Students who successfully complete this course should expect to be able to:

- Philosophically examine, compare, and contrast different philosophical theories about the relationship between humans and the environment, including: anthropocentrism, animocentrism, biocentrism, ecocentrism, and ecofeminism.
- Understand challenges and objections raised to each of these theories.
- Apply these central philosophical theories to specific contemporary environmental problems and policy debates (such as debates about pollution).
- Construct arguments and critically evaluate philosophical arguments both orally and in writing.
- Write a formal philosophy paper in support of a thesis that demonstrates a command of the philosophical literature written on the topic.
- Demonstrate knowledge of existing organizations and programs in the Gallatin Valley area that aim to address environmental problems.

PHL 327: Aesthetics and the Arts

Successful students will have demonstrated the ability to do the following at the completion of the course:

- Write formal, philosophical thesis defense papers. This skill demands:
 - Accurate use of the English language
 - Accurate use of terminology specific to philosophy and philosophy of art
 - Identification, and avoidance of, fallacies of reasoning
 - Identification & description of philosophical theories, concepts, questions & issues concerning art

- Construction of a clear, specific thesis on an issue in philosophy of art
- Reading & understanding primary texts as demonstrated by accurate summaries of them, and the use of quotations from these texts to further an argument
- Reading & understanding secondary texts as demonstrated by accurate summaries of them, and the use of quotations from these texts to further an argument
- Clear presentation of reasons and evidence (found in texts or originally developed by the student) that furthers the thesis
- Avoidance of discussing irrelevant subjects
- Recognition and precise description of objections, counterarguments, and/or potential problems with a theory or thesis
- Presentation of a relevant, content-bearing response to such objections
- Demonstrate (orally and in writing) knowledge of several philosophers and classical philosophical writings, and the arguments, principles, concepts, and issues contained therein, including but not limited to:
 - Plato
 - David Hume
 - Immanuel Kant
 - Leo Tolstoy
 - Aristotle
 - Clive Bell
 - R. G. Collingwood
 - Morris Weitz
 - Arthur Danto
 - George Dickie
 - Jerrold Levinson
 - Noël Carroll
- Describe (orally and in writing) philosophical theories, concepts, techniques and issues, including, but not limited to:
 - Theories of the relations between philosophy and art; historical theories of art; gender and aesthetics; Modern art and philosophy; art and emotion; philosophy and film; and philosophy and pop culture

Learning Outcomes

- Successful students will choose, develop and defend notions concerning the philosophy of art in a formal, written mini-research paper.
- Successful students are expected to accurately explain course readings on the midterm and final exams, and orally in-class.
- The successful final paper and in-class discussions will demonstrate student mastery of thesis defense, and clarity in writing and/or speaking.
- Successful students will be able to use philosophical concepts correctly, as measured on the midterm and final exams, papers and in-class discussions.
- Successful students will meet the course objectives listed above in the following ways:
 - Show that different approaches to the philosophy of art have been learned by writing essays on the midterm and final exams
 - Show understanding of philosophical approaches to art by choosing to critique or defend one well defined position in their papers, or alternately, showing how two approaches overlap in these papers.

- -Be able to state a view fully and carefully, give reasons for that view, and defend the view against common objections, as measured by exams, class discussions and papers.
- Not commit formal or informal fallacies in exams, class discussions, or papers.

PHL 328: Philosophy and Film

- Learning Outcomes
 - Successful students will choose, develop and defend notions concerning the philosophy of film in a formal, written mini-research paper.
 - Successful students are expected to accurately explain course readings on the midterm and final exams, and orally in-class.
 - The successful final paper and in-class discussions will demonstrate student mastery of thesis defense, and clarity in writing and/or speaking.
 - Successful students will be able to use philosophical concepts correctly, as measured on the midterm and final exams, papers and in-class discussions.
 - Successful students will meet the course objectives listed above in the following ways:
 - Show that different approaches to the philosophy of film have been learned by writing essays on the midterm and final exams
 - Show understanding of philosophical approaches to film by choosing to critique or defend one well defined position in their papers, or alternately, showing how two approaches overlap in these papers.
 - Be able to state a view fully and carefully, give reasons for that view, and defend the view against common objections, as measured by exams, class discussions, and papers.
 - Not commit formal or informal fallacies in exams, class discussions, or papers.

PHL 342: Approaches to Epistemology

The learning outcomes are:

- Learn about different theories of justification and how they are different.
- Deepen their understanding about the complexity and dynamics of even basic epistemological issues.
- Increase their understanding about drawbacks of some of the famous theories of justification and experimental-based naturalistic approaches to epistemological issues.
- Expand their ability of critical reasoning and thus be able to become worthy citizens of the twenty-first century epistemological community within philosophical circle.

Successful students will have demonstrated the ability to do the following at the completion of the course:

- Write formal philosophical research papers. This skill demands:
 - Accurate use of terminology specific to the domain of philosophical theories, concepts, questions, and issues.
 - Identification and avoidance of fallacies of argumentations.
 - Construction of a clear philosophy thesis dealing with a specific issue about epistemology and develop an ability to defend a philosophical stance in a paper.
- Demonstrate (orally or in writing or in both) the ability to do original philosophical research on some contemporary issues of epistemology. This requires:
 - Using philosophical database to locate materials for research problems.

- Both understanding and critically evaluating those problems.
- Developing a precise thesis statement and subsequently writing the paper on that basis.

PHL 345: Philosophy of Science

The learning outcomes are:

- Learn about different theories of scientific explanation and how they are different.
- Deepen their understanding about the complexity and dynamics of even basic issues about theories of testing and confirmation.
- Increase their understanding about drawbacks of some of the famous metaphysical theories of scientific entities like “top-quarks,” “dark-matter,” and the like.
- Expand their ability of critical reasoning and thus be able to become worthy citizens of the twenty-first century reflective scientific community.

Successful students will have demonstrated the ability to do the following at the completion of the course:

- Write formal philosophical research papers. This skill demands:
 - Accurate use of terminology specific to the domain of philosophical theories, concepts, questions, and issues.
 - Identification and avoidance of fallacies of argumentations.
 - Construction of a clear philosophy thesis dealing with a specific issue about epistemology and develop an ability to defend a philosophical stance in a paper.
- Demonstrate (in writing) the ability to do original philosophical research on contemporary issues regarding epistemology of science. This requires:
 - Using philosophical database to locate materials for research problems in philosophy of science.
 - Both understanding and critically evaluating those problems.
 - Developing a precise thesis statement and subsequently writing the paper on that basis.

PHL 350: State, Community & Individual

This course provides students with the opportunity to study major traditions in social and political philosophy. Successful students will demonstrate the ability to do the following.

- Write formal philosophical research papers. This skill demands:
 - Accurate use of the English language
 - Accurate use of terminology specific to social and political theories.
 - Identification and avoidance of fallacies of reasoning
 - Identification and description of philosophical theories, concepts, questions and issues relevant to social and political philosophy.
 - Construction of a clear philosophical thesis dealing with an issue in social and political philosophy.
 - Reading and understanding primary texts as demonstrated by accurate summaries of them, and the use of material from these texts to further the student's own work.
 - Clear presentation of reasons and evidence found in texts and as originally developed by the student.
 - Avoidance of discussing irrelevant subjects
 - Recognition and precise description of objections to (critiques of, or potential problems with) a theory or thesis.
 - Presentation of relevant responses to such objections.

- Demonstrate (orally and in writing) the ability to do original philosophical research on a philosophical topic in social and political philosophy. This requires:
 - Using philosophical databases to locate materials related to topics in social and political philosophy.
 - Reading and understanding those materials.
 - Critically evaluating those materials
 - Developing a precise thesis about the chosen author or issue.
 - Developing arguments for that thesis.
 - Explaining and responding to criticisms of the thesis.
- Describe (orally and in writing) philosophical theories, concepts, techniques and issues pertinent to social and political philosophy including
 - Anarchism
 - Social Contract Theory
 - Utilitarianism
 - Libertarianism
 - Marxism

PHL 351: Philosophy & Feminism

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes: This course explores philosophical questions central to feminist theory. It provides students with the opportunity to analyze concepts such as oppression, equality, and justice. Students will learn about and critically evaluate several feminist theories including Liberal Feminism, Radical Feminism, Marxist/Socialist Feminism, Standpoint Feminism, Postcolonial Feminism and Ecofeminism. Students who have successfully completed this course should be able to:

- Explain, compare, and contrast how different feminist theories have approached questions central to feminism.
- Understand challenges and objections raised to each of the theories.
- Demonstrate (orally and in writing) the ability to understand philosophical texts in political philosophy.
- Write clear philosophical essays in the form of short papers and essay exams.

PHL 353: Philosophy & Technology

Learning Outcomes:

Some of the learning outcomes are:

- Learn about different theories of technology and how they are different.
- Deepen their understanding about the complexity and dynamics of technological developments.
- Increase their understanding about drawbacks of some of the famous theories about technology.
- Expand their ability of critical reasoning and thus be able to become worthy citizens of the twenty-first century.

Successful students will have demonstrated the ability to do the following at the completion of the course:

- Write formal philosophical research papers. This skill demands:
- Accurate use of terminology specific to the domain of philosophical theories, concepts, questions, and issues.

- Identification and avoidance of fallacies of argumentations.
- Construction of a clear philosophy thesis dealing with a specific issue about scientific methodology and develop an ability to defend a philosophical stance in a paper.

Demonstrate (in writing) the ability to do original philosophical research on a contemporary issues on methodologies of technology. This requires:

- Using philosophical database to locate materials for research problems.
- Both understanding and critically evaluating those problems.
- Developing a precise thesis statement and subsequently writing the paper on that basis.

PHL 354: Philosophy of Race

Learning Outcomes

- Successful students will choose, develop and defend notions concerning the philosophy of race in a formal, written mini-research paper.
- Successful students are expected to accurately explain course readings on the midterm and final exams, and orally in-class.
- The successful final paper and in-class discussions will demonstrate student mastery of thesis defense, and clarity in writing and/or speaking.
- Successful students will be able to use philosophical concepts correctly, as measured on the midterm and final exams, papers, and in-class discussions.
- Successful students will meet the course objectives listed above in the following ways:
 - Show that different approaches to the philosophy of race have been learned by writing essays on the midterm and final exams
 - Show understanding of philosophical approaches to the concept of race by choosing to critique or defend one well defined position in their papers, or alternately, showing how two approaches overlap in these papers.
 - Be able to state a view fully and carefully, give reasons for that view, and defend the view against common objections, as measured by exams, class discussions and papers.
 - Not commit formal or informal fallacies in exams, class discussions, or papers.

PHL 361: History of Philosophy: Ancient & Medieval

Learning Outcomes

- Successful students will choose, develop, and defend notions concerning Ancient and/or Medieval philosophy in formal research papers. Students are expected to accurately explain course readings and discussions on the midterm, final exam, research papers, and orally in-class.
- Successful students will be able to use philosophical concepts correctly, as measured on the final exam, papers and in-class discussions.
- Successful students will meet the course objectives listed above in the following ways:
 - Show that different approaches to the philosophy of film have been learned by writing essays on the midterm and final exams
 - Show understanding of philosophical approaches to art by choosing to critique or defend one well defined position in their papers, or alternately, showing how two approaches overlap in these papers.
 - Be able to state a view fully and carefully, give reasons for that view, and defend the view against common objections, as measured by exams, class discussions and papers.
 - Not commit formal or informal fallacies in exams, class discussions, or papers.

PHL 362: History of Philosophy: Modern

Learning Outcomes:

- Some of the learning outcomes are:
 - Learn about different accounts proposed by different philosophers, and how they are different.
 - Deepen their understanding about the complexity and dynamics of some of the basic philosophical/historical issues like God.
 - Increase their understanding about drawbacks of some of the famous philosophical theories of substance, causation, induction, and freedom of will.
 - Expand their ability of critical reasoning by studying those philosophers' original writings.

Successful students will have demonstrated the ability to do the following at the completion of the course:

- Write formal philosophical research papers. This skill demands:
- Accurate use of terminology specific to the domain of philosophical theories, concepts, questions, and issues
- Identification and avoidance of fallacies of argumentations.
- Construction of a clear philosophy thesis dealing with a specific issue about historical figures in the history of western tradition and develop an ability to defend a philosophical stance in a paper.

Demonstrate (in writing) the ability to do original philosophical research on some modern philosophers' works. This requires:

- Using philosophical database to locate materials for research problems.
- Both understanding and critically evaluating those problems.
- Developing a precise thesis statement and subsequently writing the paper on that basis.

PHL 364: Contemporary Philosophy

Successful students will have demonstrated the ability to do the following at the completion of the course:

- Write formal, philosophical thesis defense papers. This skill demands:
 - Accurate use of the English language
 - Accurate use of terminology specific to philosophy and the fields of philosophy of language, philosophy of mind, epistemology and metaphysics
 - Identification, and avoidance of, fallacies of reasoning
 - Identification & description of philosophical theories, concepts, questions & issues
 - Construction of a clear, specific thesis on an issue in contemporary philosophy
 - Reading & understanding primary texts as demonstrated by accurate summaries of them, and the use of quotations from these texts to further an argument
 - Clear presentation of reasons and evidence (found in texts or originally developed by the student) that furthers the thesis
 - Avoidance of discussing irrelevant subjects
 - Recognition and precise description of objections (critiques of, or potential problems with), a theory or thesis
 - Presentation of a relevant, content-bearing response to such objections

- Demonstrate (orally and in writing) knowledge of several philosophers and classical philosophical writings, and the arguments, principles, concepts, and issues contained therein, including but not limited to:
 - Frege, Russell, Wittgenstein
 - Quine
 - Pinker
 - Descartes
 - Ryle
 - Putnam
 - Dennett
 - Turing
 - Block
 - Chalmers
 - Clark
 - Nagel
 - Jackson
 - Rosenthal
 - Searle
 - Churchlands
 - See assigned readings

PHL 365: Philosophy of Mind and Consciousness

Learning Outcomes

- Successful students will choose, develop and defend notions of the mind/consciousness in formal written papers. Students are expected to accurately explain course readings and presentations on the final exam and in papers, and orally for in-class presentations.
- The successful final paper and in-class presentations will demonstrate student mastery of thesis defense, and clarity in writing and speaking.
- Students will be able to use philosophical concepts correctly, as measured on the final exam, papers and in-class presentations.
- Students will meet the course objectives listed above in the following ways:
 - Show that different approaches to the mind have been learned by writing essays on the comprehensive final exam
 - Show an understanding of the relationship between biology and personhood in class discussions specific to this topic, and on the final exam
 - Show understanding of how different theories construct and define the mind through class discussions and the final exam
 - Show understanding of philosophical approaches to the mind by choosing to critique or defend one well defined position in each paper, or alternately, showing how two approaches overlap in these papers.
 - Successful students will be able to state a view fully and carefully, give reasons for that view, and defend the view against common objections, as measured by the presentations and papers.
 - Students will not commit formal or informal fallacies in the presentations or papers.

PHL 370: Philosophy of Religion

Learning Outcomes

- Successful students will choose, develop and defend notions concerning the problem of evil in a formal, written mini-research paper.
- Successful students are expected to accurately explain course readings on the midterm and final exams, and orally in-class.
- The successful final paper and in-class discussions will demonstrate student mastery of thesis defense, and clarity in writing and/or speaking.
- Successful students will be able to use philosophical concepts correctly, as measured on the midterm and final exams, papers, and in-class discussions.
- Successful students will meet the course objectives listed above in the following ways:
 - Show that different approaches to the philosophy of religion have been learned by writing essays on the midterm and final exams
 - Show understanding of philosophical approaches to religion by choosing to critique or defend one well defined position in their papers, or alternately, showing how two approaches overlap in these papers.
 - Be able to state a view fully and carefully, give reasons for that view, and defend the view against common objections, as measured by exams, class discussions and papers.
 - Not commit formal or informal fallacies in exams, class discussions, or papers.

PHL 383: Reason & Revolution

This course provides students with the opportunity to study major philosophers of the nineteenth century and the issues they were concerned with. More particularly, they will study the scope and limits of reason and their role in thought about revolution in the nineteenth century. Successful students will demonstrate the ability to do the following.

- Write formal philosophical research papers. This skill demands:
 - Accurate use of the English language
 - Accurate use of terminology specific to philosophy generally and nineteenth century philosophy in particular.
 - Identification and avoidance of fallacies of reasoning
 - Identification and description of philosophical theories, concepts, questions and issues relevant to nineteenth century philosophy.
 - Construction of a clear philosophical thesis dealing with an issue in nineteenth century philosophy.
 - Reading and understanding primary texts as demonstrated by accurate summaries of them, and the use of material from these texts to further the student's own work.
 - Clear presentation of reasons and evidence found in texts and as originally developed by the student.
 - Avoidance of discussing irrelevant subjects
 - Recognition and precise description of objections to (critiques of, or potential problems with) a theory or thesis.
 - Presentation of relevant responses to such objections.
- Demonstrate (orally and in writing) the ability to do original philosophical research on a philosophical topic related to reason and revolution in the nineteenth century. This requires:
 - Using philosophical databases to locate materials related to a nineteenth century author or issue.

- Reading and understanding those materials.
- Critically evaluating those materials
- Developing a precise thesis about the chosen author or issue.
- Developing arguments for that thesis.
- Explaining and responding to criticisms of the thesis.
- Describe (orally and in writing) philosophical theories, concepts, techniques and issues pertinent to nineteenth century philosophy including
 - German idealism
 - Utilitarianism
 - Marxism
 - Existentialism
 - Positivism
 - Pragmatism

PHL 385: Existentialism & After

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

This course provides students with the opportunity to study major philosophers of the continental tradition. Successful students will demonstrate the ability to do the following.

- Write formal philosophical research papers. This skill demands:
 - Accurate use of the English language
 - Accurate use of terminology specific to the continental tradition.
 - Identification and avoidance of fallacies of reasoning
 - Identification and description of philosophical theories, concepts, questions and issues relevant to continental philosophy.
 - Construction of a clear philosophical thesis dealing with an issue in continental philosophy.
 - Reading and understanding primary texts as demonstrated by accurate summaries of them, and the use of material from these texts to further the student's own work.
 - Clear presentation of reasons and evidence found in texts and as originally developed by the student.
 - Avoidance of discussing irrelevant subjects
 - Recognition and precise description of objections to (critiques of, or potential problems with) a theory or thesis.
 - Presentation of relevant responses to such objections.
- Demonstrate (orally and in writing) the ability to do original philosophical research on a philosophical topic in continental philosophy. This requires:
 - Describe (orally and Using philosophical databases to locate materials related to topics in continental philosophy.
 - Reading and understanding those materials.
 - Critically evaluating those materials
 - Developing a precise thesis about the chosen author or issue.
 - Developing arguments for that thesis.
- Explaining and responding to criticisms of the thesis. in writing) philosophical theories, concepts, techniques and issues pertinent to continental philosophy including
 - Existentialism
 - Phenomenology

PHL 494: SEMINAR

- Write formal, philosophical thesis defense papers. This skill demands:
 - Accurate use of the English language
 - Accurate use of terminology specific to philosophy and the field of axiology
 - Identification, and avoidance of, fallacies of reasoning
 - Identification & description of theories, concepts, questions & issues pertaining to transhumanism
 - Construction of a clear, specific, philosophical thesis on an issue about transhumanism
 - Reading & understanding primary texts as demonstrated by accurate summaries of them, and the use of quotations from these texts to further an argument
 - Clear presentation of reasons and evidence (found in texts or originally developed by the student) that furthers the thesis
 - Avoidance of discussing irrelevant subjects
 - Recognition and precise description of objections (critiques of, or potential problems with), a theory or thesis
 - Presentation of a relevant, content-bearing response to such objections
- Demonstrate (orally and in writing) knowledge of several philosophers, psychologists and philosophical writings, as well as the arguments, principles, concepts, and issues contained therein
- Describe (orally and in writing) philosophical theories, concepts, techniques and issues, probably including, but not limited to:
 - Ethical questions raised by enhancement, healing and palliation
 - Meta-ethical questions raised by the potential to change human nature
 - Questions of enhancement, privacy & information
 - The nature of philosophy and normative judgment as a priori and/or empirical
 - Questions of human nature & self
 - The nature of moral agency