

Advising Letter

Department of Philosophy, Religion and Classical Studies

Fall 2017 Registration for Spring 2018 Term

Dear all,

I hope all is well with all of you! As you know, registration for the spring term starts Tuesday, November 7, 2017 and ends Friday, November 17, 2017. The purpose of this letter is just to underline a couple of important things as you are finalizing your course selection.

1. This is the ideal time to make an appointment to see your faculty advisor in philosophy. Email works well for purposes of making that appointment. Or you can phone or just drop by during office hours. Our full contact information is listed here:
<http://philos.pages.tcnj.edu/faculty/>

If you are unsure who your advisor is, you can check your PAWS account. Or you can contact Cecilia Colbeth – 609.771.2539 or colbeth@tcnj.edu. Ms. Colbeth can also let you know your advisor's office hours.

2. Make sure you are acquainted with PAWS. The “what if” reports (under “advising tools”) can be particularly useful. If you need any help with the system, please contact your advisor directly. Ms. Colbeth may also be able to assist you with many issues.
3. The Mini-Catalog lets you know just what courses our department will offer this coming spring and gives you some detailed information about those courses. It can be found at the end of this letter and at <http://philos.pages.tcnj.edu/>. Please do not hesitate to contact the instructor if you have any questions or need additional information about the course!
4. The last page of Mini-Catalog consists of a table summing up the requirements for the philosophy major as well as for the specializations in Ethics and in Law and Philosophy and for our programs in religion and classical studies. This would be a good time to review those requirements against what you have already accomplished to see what you need to do next.

To help as well, please see p. 3 below for an “idealized” sequence of courses for the philosophy major.

5. If you have already taken Introduction to Logic (PHL 120) but no other course in philosophy, do keep in mind that you might want to take another 100-level course before you tackle our upper-level courses. Seats in both Contemporary Moral Issues (PHL 130) and in Introduction to Philosophy (PHL 100) should remain available for first and second year students throughout registration period. Similarly, if you've already taken those courses, it might be time to do Introduction to Logic. Again, seats should remain available for first and second year students. Please do let Melinda Roberts or Ms. Colbeth know if you face any obstacle there. These courses are described in the Mini-Catalog.

6. For those majors and minors who have already done some work in philosophy, our schedule for the spring is amazing. It includes **History of Modern Philosophy (PHL 205)**, **Indian Philosophy (PHL 210)**, **Existentialism (PHL 245)** and **Environmental Ethics (PHL 265)**. Modern Philosophy is required for the major, and all those courses count as philosophy electives. We are also offering **Philosophy of Science (PHL 311)** and **Metaphysics (PHL 420)**. Metaphysics satisfies the Epistemology or Metaphysics requirement for the major, and Philosophy of Science counts as a philosophy elective at the 300- or 400-level. Again, please do not hesitate to contact the instructors directly for further information!
7. Especially for **juniors** You should take special care that you are on target for completing your senior capstone requirements. The one-unit Senior Project is usually completed during the spring term of the senior year but depending on the student's individual situation can be completed during the fall term instead. The two-unit Senior Thesis is typically completed over both terms of the senior year (the Senior Thesis Research in the fall and the Senior Thesis in the spring). Whether you are on the usual schedule or not, around the time of registration the term before you are ready to begin the capstone – that is, now, if you plan to start the capstone this coming term -- you should do the following: (A) identify the faculty member you would like to complete your senior capstone with; (B) contact that person to set up a meeting; (C) try to agree on an area of common research interest and on whether your aim should be a senior project or a senior thesis; and (D) enroll in the appropriate component of the capstone with that faculty member. That person will henceforth serve as your project or thesis advisor. And, between now and the time when you actually begin the capstone work, keep in close contact with that advisor so that any necessary preliminary groundwork can be accomplished.
8. Especially for **seniors** We are so excited and happy for you yet so hate to see you go! If you haven't yet arranged for a job or a seat in law school or graduate school or other program, please keep clearly in mind once you leave us that we will always be here to support you – to continue to serve as your advisors and to write letters of recommendation on your behalf and for anything else you may need. Your rights to our services and our enthusiasm for providing them do not end at graduation; they are yours for life. *Please* just let us know what happens next; *please* stay in touch.

With all best regards,

Melinda A. Roberts
Chair of Department of Philosophy, Religion and
Classical Studies
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Our departmental web site, with information about the major and our other programs, courses and faculty bios can be found here: <http://philos.pages.tcnj.edu/>

Idealized Course Sequence

Freshman Year

FSP	First Seminar	1 course unit
WRI	102/Academic Writing	1 course unit
	Foreign Language	2 course units
	Quantitative Reasoning	1 course unit
	Two electives in Philosophy (100-level; 200-level with permission)	2 course units
	One elective	1 course unit

Sophomore Year

	Foreign Language	1 course unit
	Laboratory Science	2 course units
	Literature	1 course unit
PHL	120 Introduction to Logic <i>or</i> 220/Metalogic	1 course unit
PHL	201/History of Ancient Philosophy	1 course unit
PHL	205/History of Modern Philosophy	1 course unit
	One Elective	1 course unit

Junior Year

	Social Science/History	3 course units
PHL	350/Ethical Theory <i>or</i> 375/Law and Ethics	1 course unit
PHL	410/Theory of Knowledge <i>or</i> 420/Metaphysics	1 course unit
	One elective in philosophy (300-400 level)	1 course unit
	Two electives	2 course units

Senior Year

	Art	1 course unit
PHL	494/Senior Project <i>or</i> 495/Senior Thesis Research <i>and</i> 496/Senior Thesis	1 <i>or</i> 2 course units
	One elective in philosophy (300-400 level)	1 course unit
	Five electives	5 course units

10/03/2017

MINI-CATALOG

THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY, RELIGION & CLASSICAL STUDIES
COURSE OFFERINGS
SPRING 2018

PHILOSOPHY COURSES

PHL 100/Introduction to Philosophy	Sec.01 (40507) McAndrew	9:30-10:50 AM MR
	.02 (40511) McAndrew	2:00 – 3:20 PM TF
	.03 (40513) Conley	11:00-12:20 PM TF
	.04 (40524) Edwards	2:00 – 3:20 PM TF

A course that examines the fundamentals of philosophical argument, analysis and reasoning, as applied to a series of issues in logic, epistemology, metaphysics and ethics. Topics covered may include: logical validity, theories of knowledge and belief, the nature of mind, the nature of reality, arguments for the existence of God, and theories of right and wrong. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

PHL 120/Introduction to Logic	Sec.01 (40508) Kang	12:30 – 1:50 PM MR
	.02 (40509) Kang	2:00 – 3:20 PM MR
	.03 (40510) Roberts	3:30 – 6:20 PM T
	.04 (42340) Conley	9:30 – 10:50 AM TF

A course on the basic principles and techniques of correct reasoning in ordinary life, philosophy, the liberal arts, and the law. Study of the formal systems of sentence logic and predicate logic. Translation of natural language statements and arguments and analysis and evaluation of deductive arguments through the construction of proofs. Focus particularly on the power and precision of the natural language with the aim of helping students increase their ability to think and write with creativity, precision and rigor.

(This course is recommended for pre-law students and satisfies a requirement for the Law and Society Interdisciplinary Concentration and for the Law, Politics, and Philosophy Interdisciplinary minor.)

(LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing; Writing Intensive)

PHL 135/Contemporary Moral Issues	Sec.01 (40512) Howarth	2:00 – 3:20 PM MR
	.02 (40514) Howarth	3:30 – 4:50 PM MR
	.03 (40515) Taylor	9:30-10:50 AM MR
	.04 (40518) Taylor	11:00-12:20 PM MR

This course provides an introduction to ethics, one of the main branches of philosophy. It aims to familiarize students with basic concepts and theories in ethics, and with how they may be applied to a range of contemporary moral issues. Topics addressed may include racism, sexism, abortion, euthanasia, cloning, capital punishment, our obligations to the disadvantaged, the treatment of non-human animals, just war, and the like. Students will be encouraged to learn from great thinkers of the past and of the present, to examine their own moral values and beliefs, and to take reasoned and informed stands on the issues treated. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

PHL 205/History of Modern Philosophy	Sec.01 (41818) McAndrew	9:30 – 10:50 AM TF
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Prerequisite: One course in philosophy or permission of instructor

In this course we will address some of the most central (and exciting!) questions in philosophy through the work of some of the most important philosophers within the Western tradition. Drawing primarily on the work of the Rationalists Descartes, Leibniz, and Spinoza, and the Empiricists Locke, Berkeley, and Hume, together with the work of Kant, we will address three major issues: How can we have knowledge of the external world? Does God exist? Do humans possess free will? Since all three of these issues are live philosophical questions this course will not merely focus on providing an exegetical account of the views of the above philosophers whose work we will read.

(LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing; Writing Intensive)

PHL 210/Indian Philosophy

Sec.01 (41814) Le Morvan 2:00 – 3:20 PM TF

Prerequisite: One course in philosophy or religion or permission of instructor

This course critically examines major issues and positions in Indian philosophy of the Hindu, Buddhist, and Jain traditions. The course will revolve around four main questions: What is Indian philosophy? Who or what am I? What is reality and how can it be known? How should I live? Students will be encouraged to learn from great thinkers of the past and of the present, to examine their own values and beliefs, and to take reasoned and informed stands on the issues treated. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

PHL 245/Existentialism

Sec.01 (41840) Kamber 12:30 – 1:50 PM MR

Existentialism is a philosophical movement that examines the world from the standpoint of the individual human being. It strives to illuminate the journey from birth to death that each of us travels in a search for meaning and personal identity. Our focus this semester will be on Soren Kierkegaard, Friedrich Nietzsche, Martin Heidegger, Jean-Paul Sartre, Albert Camus, and Simone de Beauvoir. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

PHL 265/Environmental Ethics

Sec.01 (42341) Conley 3:30 – 6:20 PM T

Prerequisite: One course in philosophy or permission of instructor.

This course provides a comprehensive overview of the key issues and arguments within the field of environmental ethics. The course includes an examination of some basic issues in metaethics and normative ethical theory, and several kinds of ethical arguments for animal rights and environmental protection. We will also study major environmental movements, such as deep ecology, social ecology, ecofeminism and the environmental justice movement, and will consider selected public policy issues such as habitat preservation, land -use management, or pollution abatement. Special attention will be given to the issue of climate change, in particular, whether the present generations of human beings have a moral responsibility to future generations mitigate the effects of atmospheric pollution believed to be causing global warming. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

PHL 311/Philosophy of Science

Sec.01 (42524) Le Morvan 11:00 – 12:20 AM TF

Prerequisite: One philosophy course and one natural or social science course or permission of instructor

A seminar examining the epistemological, metaphysical, and ethical issues raised by science. Issues addressed may include: scientific realism vs. anti-realism, scientific explanation, the historical development of science, induction, scientific observation, confirmation theory, and the ethical responsibility of scientists. Students will be encouraged to learn from great thinkers of the past and of the present, to reflect on their own values and beliefs concerning science, and to take reasoned and informed stands on the issues treated.

PHL 420/Metaphysics

Sec. 01 (41817) Preti 2:00 – 3:20 PM R

Prerequisite: One course in philosophy or permission of instructor

A seminar promoting deeper understanding of core issues in contemporary theories of consciousness in the analytic tradition. Topics covered may include: dualist theories, type-identity theories, token-identity theories, the logic of identity, the nature of causation and scientific explanation, models of explanation, causation, theories of mental representation, artificial intelligence and zombies.

PHL 494/Senior Project*Prerequisite:* Senior status or junior status, and permission of instructor

A writing project prepared under the advisement of a member of the philosophy faculty. Students must complete a carefully researched and written, in-depth work in philosophy on a topic of significance in philosophy, selected by the student in consultation with faculty and written under the close supervision of a faculty member who serves as advisor.

PHL 495/Senior Thesis Research*Prerequisite:* Senior standing as a philosophy major and permission of instructor

Independent research under the guidance of a full-time faculty member on a mutually agreed-on topic. Students will be expected to define a topic suitable for a capstone thesis, conduct a series of appropriate literature reviews, and develop

a writing plan.

PHL 496/Senior Thesis

Prerequisite: PHL 495 and permission of instructor

A substantial writing project prepared under the advisement of a member of the philosophy faculty. Students must complete a carefully researched and written, in-depth work in philosophy on a topic of significance in philosophy, selected by the student in consultation with faculty and written under the close supervision of a faculty adviser.

RELIGION COURSES

REL 100/Basic Issues in Religion

Sec.01 (41841) Rech

8:00-9:20 AM TF

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to: different ways of analyzing religion as part of human culture, different forms of religious expressions (such as rites), and different religious beliefs.

(LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

REL 110/World Religions

Sec.01 (40648) Richardson

2:00-3:20 PM MR

This course focuses on the exploration of the world's major religious traditions. Students will examine and compare the essential teachings, and the historical and cultural context, of most or all of the following: Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and one or more additional non-western traditions.

(LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing; Global)

REL 111/Buddhism & Buddhist Thought

Sec.01 (40649) Thomas

9:30 – 10:50 AM MR

This course will study the historical and philosophical development of Buddhism from its origin in India to its modern day practice in Japan and Tibet. It will explore the essential teachings and practice of Buddhism both in its early and modern form found in India, Sri Lanka, China, Japan and Tibet. It will examine both primary texts from various Buddhist traditions and secondary materials in order to gain a better appreciation for this religious tradition which has survived in Asia for centuries and is gaining popularity in the West in recent times.

(LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing; Global)

REL 112/Hinduism and Hindu Thought

Sec.01 (41820) Thomas

11:00 – 12:50 PM MR

The goal of this course is to introduce students to the main ideas of Hinduism through an exploration of those issues which reveal basic beliefs, attitudes and the important values in the Hindu religious community. The course will combine a broadly historical approach highlighting major movements and persons with a focused exploration of some philosophical issues that shape and inform the Hindu worldview. Topics to be covered include the Vedas and the Upanishads, Yoga and the Bhagavad Gita, and the contemporary Hindu revivalist movements. The course will attempt to combine scholarship with a concern for an appreciative understanding of the subject.

(LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing; Global)

REL 121/Modern Judaism

Sec.01 (41820) Greenbaum

11:00 – 12:20 PM MR

This course will examine the fundamentals, history and development of the Jewish faith and way of life. The relationship between Jewish historical experience and the evolving theological responses to that experience will be traced. Primary texts, drawn primarily from the Jewish experience in the modern period, will be examined as illuminations of this relationship. The vocabulary of Jewish theological expression will be explored as it relates to the history of Jewish philosophical inquiry. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

REL 170-01/Special Topic: Jewish Mysticism

Sec.01 (40651) Greenbaum

12:30 – 1:50 PM MR

This course will cover a broad scope of Mystical concepts. From the afterlife, angels and demons to the inner makeup of the human psyche, students will become familiar with many of the major topics as well as leading scholars in this field. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

REL 210/Indian Philosophy

Sec.01 (41842) Le Morvan 2:00 – 3:20 PM TF

Prerequisite: One course in philosophy or religion or permission of instructor

This course critically examines major issues and positions in Indian philosophy of the Hindu, Buddhist, and Jain traditions. The course will revolve around four main questions: What is Indian philosophy? Who or what am I? What is reality and how can it be known? How should I live? Students will be encouraged to learn from great thinkers of the past and of the present, to examine their own values and beliefs, and to take reasoned and informed stands on the issues treated. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

REL373/Women and Spirituality

Sec.01 (40652) Hopps

11:00-12:20 PM MR

This course focuses on the intersections of feminism and spirituality, examines the experiences of women in a variety of spiritual traditions, and examines how worldview is shaped by historical context. The question of how feminists connect to, critique, transform, and remember spiritual experience will be considered. The course explores several aspects of spirituality including language, ritual and creativity; it also considers what happens when feminists alter, shape, retell and interpret rituals and traditions. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing; Gender)

CLASSICAL STUDIES COURSES**CLS 108/Late Antiquity**

(same as HIS 108)

Sec.01 (40494) Chiekova

9:30 – 10:50 AM MR

Sec.02 (42094) Chiekova

12:30 - 1:50 PM MR

Tracing the breakdown of Mediterranean unity and the emergence of the multicultural-religious world of the 5th and 10th centuries as the European, West Asian, and North African hinterlands interact. (LL: World Views & Ways of Knowing)

CLS 111/Rome and the Barbarians

(same as HIS 111)

Sec.01 (42455) Chazelle

11:00 – 12:20 PM MR

Sec.02 (42456) Chazelle

2:00 – 3:20 PM MR

An examination of western Eurasia and the Mediterranean from the third to the ninth centuries. Topics include the "fall" of Rome; the impact of contacts between "Roman" and "barbarian" populations (Huns, Vandals, Goths, etc. etc.); barbarian society and culture; artistic developments; relations among Christians, Jews, Muslims, and pagans. (LL: Social Change in Historical Perspectives)

CLS 250/Introduction to Greek Mythology

Sec.01 (40487) Dakin

11:00 – 12:20 PM TF

.02 (40488) Pilney

2:00 – 3:20 PM MR

.03 (40490) Haynes

9:30 – 10:50 AM TF

.04 (41821) Haynes

2:00 – 3:20 PM TF

This course is an introduction to ancient Greek mythology through primary texts such as Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, Aeschylus' *Agamemnon*, Sophocles' *Ajax*, et al. We shall focus on the Trojan War cycle of myths and its greatest heroes in order to understand how the ancient Greeks explored important aspects of their society through literature that ostensibly presents mythological events and characters. Attention is also given to visual representations of myth in sculpture and on vases and to differentiating the ancient Greek concept of "myth" from our own. (LL: Literary, Visual & Performing Arts)

CLS 270/Topics: Warfare in Antiquity
(same as HIS 300)

Sec.01 (41922) Dakin

9:30 – 10:50 AM TF

This course is designed to explore goals, motives, and methods of warfare in the ancient world as well as people's thinking about war. By reading primary texts (and some secondary texts) and looking at images of ancient weaponry, you should be able to develop a complex understanding of the multifaceted phenomenon of ancient warfare, its causes and consequences, and its interaction with social, political, intellectual, and economic phenomena. (LL: Social Change in Historical Perspectives)

CLS 304/History of the Roman Empire
(same as HIS 304)

Sec.01 (42096) Jones

7:00 – 8:20 PM MW

The Roman imperial system at its height and its ultimate decline and/or transformation after the third century C.E..

LATIN

LAT 102/Latin II

Sec.01 (40505) Haynes

11:00 – 12:20 PM TF

This course is the first part of a two-semester introduction to the elements of classical Latin, and aims at allowing students to read classical Latin texts as quickly as possible. The focus of the course is the vocabulary, grammar, and syntax of classical Latin, but linguistic and cultural history will also be treated. (LL: Language-Modern & Classical)

HONORS

HON 203.01/Issues in Philosophy

Sec.01 (42323) Preti

11:00 – 12:20 PM MR

Study of several major philosophical issues such as: the nature of reality, the existence of God, free will, knowledge, and morality. Explores ways of rationally evaluating classical and contemporary arguments supporting different positions on those issues. Students learn to develop and defend their own views on the issues.

HON 210.01/Indian Philosophy

Sec.01 (42324) Le Morvan

3:30 – 4:50 PM TF

This course critically examines major issues and positions in Indian philosophy of the Hindu, Buddhist, and Jain traditions. The course will revolve around four main questions: What is Indian philosophy? Who or what am I? What is reality and how can it be known? How should I live? Students will be encouraged to learn from great thinkers of the past and of the present, to examine their own values and beliefs, and to take reasoned and informed stands on the issues treated

HON 245.01/Existentialism

Sec.01 (42468) Kamber

2:00 – 3:20 PM MR

Existentialism is a philosophical movement that examines the world from the standpoint of the individual human being. It strives to illuminate the journey from birth to death that each of us travels in a search for meaning and personal identity. Our focus this semester will be on Soren Kierkegaard, Friedrich Nietzsche, Martin Heidegger, Jean-Paul Sartre, Albert Camus, and Simone de Beauvoir.

Requirements for Major in Philosophy
Ten PHL courses, including:
Logic (1 course unit) PHL 120/Introduction to Logic <i>or</i> PHL 220/Metalogic
History of Philosophy (2 course units) PHL 201/History of Ancient Philosophy <i>and</i> PHL 205/History of Modern Philosophy
Ethics (1 course unit) PHL 350/Ethical Theory <i>or</i> PHL 375/Law and Ethics
Epistemology or Metaphysics (1 course unit) PHL 410/Theory of Knowledge <i>or</i> PHL 420/Metaphysics
Philosophy Electives (4 course units) Four additional philosophy courses including at least two at the 300 or 400 level.
Senior Capstone (1-2 course units) PHL 494/Senior Project (1 course unit) <i>or</i> PHL 495/Senior Thesis Research <i>and</i> PHL 496/Senior Thesis (2 course units)

Required Courses for Philosophy Major with Specialization in Ethics	Required Courses for Philosophy Major with Specialization in Law and Philosophy
Ten PHL courses, including:	Ten PHL courses, including:
PHL 255 (Biomedical Ethics), 350 (Ethical Theory) and 430 (Advanced Ethics); Senior capstone in ethics (10 courses total)	PHL 275 (Philosophy of Law) and 375 (Law and Ethics); Senior capstone in law and philosophy (10 courses total)
For more information, see Melinda Roberts.	For more information, see Melinda Roberts.

Requirements for Minor in Philosophy	Requirements for Minor in Religion	Requirements for Interdisciplinary Concentration in Religious Studies	Requirements for Interdisciplinary Minor in Classical Studies	Requirements for Interdisciplinary Concentration in Classical Studies
Five PHL courses, including: PHL 120/Introduction to Logic; PHL 201/History of Ancient Phil. <i>or</i> PHL 205/History of Modern Phil.; One additional PHL course at any level; Two additional PHL courses at 300 or 400 level	Five courses, including: Two REL courses; Three courses from selected list. Two of the five courses must be at the 300 or above level.	Six courses, including: One course in each of world religions, religious culture and critical issues; two courses from social science and history, all from selected lists. One additional course approved by program coordinator.	Five courses, including: GRE 201 or LAT 201 One course in ancient history of philosophy from selected list; One course in ancient art or literature from selected list; Two additional courses approved by program coordinator. Two of the five courses must be at the 300 or above level.	Six courses, including: Five courses satisfying the requirements for the Classical Studies Minor; one additional course approved by program coordinator. At least two courses must be at the 300 or above level.
For more information, see Melinda Roberts	For more information, see Pierre Le Morvan.	For more information, see Pierre Le Morvan.	For more information, see Holly Haynes.	For more information, see Holly Haynes.

For more information, please see <http://www.tcnj.edu/~philos/index.html>