

PHIL 1: Introduction to Philosophy Spring Quarter, 2024

Course Description:

A selection of philosophical problems, concepts, and methods.

Instructor Information:

Rachel K Cooper

Email Address: rkcooper@uci.edu

Office Hours: TBD in HIB 69 and by appointment on Zoom

Teaching Assistants:

A. Lathrop (Sections 5&6)
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S. Park (Sections 1&2)
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Texts:

PDFs available via Canvas

Evaluation:

30% (150 points): Weekly Reading Responses

35% (175 points): Paper 1

35% (175 points): Paper 2

Weekly Reading Reflection:

Each week, you will be asked to write a short but substantive reflection on the reading for that week. A substantive reflection is generally >100 words. It may be a summary of the reading but should include some original thought. It may be a question but should also demonstrate some understanding of the reading. Reflections are submitted via Canvas. You also need to respond to two peers. Responses to others should not merely summarize what they said but expand on what was said or add something to it.

Original posts are due each Wednesday by 5pm. Responses to peers are due each Friday by 5pm.

Papers:

Papers involve thinking critically about a topic covered in our class. Papers must be both explanatory and critical. They should be about 3-5 pages (double spaced, 12-point font). They should be submitted via Canvas. Topics TBD.

Paper 1 due: Sunday May 5 at Midnight

Paper 2 due: Sunday June 9 at Midnight

Grading Scale:

Your final grade will be calculated by points earned out of the 500 total possible points. The standard UCI grading scale, listed below) will be used (based on percentage of points out of 500 earned and rounding up from .5 and down below that):

A+ ≥ 96.5 > A ≥ 93.5 > A- ≥ 90 > B+ ≥ 86.5 > B ≥ 83.5 > B- ≥ 80 > C+ ≥ 76.5 > C ≥ 73.5 > C- ≥ 70 > D+ ≥ 66.5 > D ≥ 63.5 > D- ≥ 60 > F

Lectures:

Lecture videos will be posted each Tues/Thurs by 5pm.

Class Schedule:

- ❖ **Week One (April 1):**
 - Kripke, “Identity and Necessity”
 - ❖ **Week Two (April 8):**
 - Baker, “The Ontological Status of Persons”
 - ❖ **Week Three (April 15):**
 - Nagel, “What is it like to be a Bat?”
 - ❖ **Week Four (April 22):**
 - Jackson, “Epiphenomenal Qualia”
 - ❖ **Week Five (April 29):**
 - Chalmers, “Consciousness and its place in Nature”
- **Paper 1 due Sunday May 5 at Midnight****
- ❖ **Week Six (May 6):**
 - Gilbert, “Walking Together”
 - ❖ **Week Seven (May 13):**
 - Haslanger, “Gender and Race”

❖ **Week Eight (May 20):**

- Barnes, “Valuing Disability, Causing Disability”

❖ **Week Nine (May 27):**

- Fricker, *Epistemic Injustice*

❖ **Week Ten (June 3):**

- Mills, “White Ignorance”

****Paper 2 due Sunday June 9 at Midnight****