

Course Schedule PHIL2101, Fall 2021

Instructor: Michael L. J. Greer, she/her

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Important Dates to Keep in Mind

August 24th – Last day to **drop** for 100% tuition refund

August 31st – Last day to **add** a course

September 9th – Last day for pass/fail

December 13th – Last to withdraw with W

December 15-21 – Final exam week

December 21st – End of Fall Term

December 27th – Final Grade Submission Deadline

Notes:

- This schedule is subject to change based on the progress of the class.
- See “Assignments and Grading” Tab on the [class website](#).
- PSA = “Philosophical Skills Assignment.” While there are four opportunities to hand these in, I only require you to hand in one, and if you hand in more than one I take the highest grade.

Unit	Week dates	Guiding Question(s)/	Read/Watch/Attend	Assignments	Due Dates
	Week 1 8/25 - 8/29	What are we doing when we do philosophy?	Attend: Live session 8/25 <i>Syllabus Day</i> Read: Nothing	Intro Assignment due	8.29

EPISTEMOLOGY	Week 2 8/30 - 9/5	How can we know what is real and what isn't?	Attend: Live session 8/30 Read: Nicholas Bostrom, Are You Living in a Computer Simulation? Attend: Live session 9/1 Read: (1) Plato, Republic, Book VII. Read here , listen here . (2) Selections (61-71) from Douglas Drabkin's The Intelligent Troglodyte's Guide to Plato's Republic		
	Week 3 9/6 - 9/12	N/A	No class 9/6 No class 9/8	Note to Self 1 due	9.6
	Week 4 9/13 - 9/19	<i>What</i> can we know?	Attend: Live session 9/13 Read: Zhuangzi, Section 2, The Butterfly Dream No class 9/15	PSA Hand In	9.15
	Week 5 9/20 - 9/26	How is knowledge shaped or constrained by your location?	Attend: Live session 9/20 Read: Thi Nguyen, Escape the Echo Chamber Attend: Live session 9/22 Read: Briana Toole, From Standpoint Epistemology to Epistemic Oppression	Organize First Group Meeting and send Prof Greer the meeting details (time, date, Zoom info)	9.20

	Week 6 9/27 - 10/3		Attend: Live session 9/27 Read: Briana Toole, From Standpoint Epistemology to Epistemic Oppression (continued)		
		(Why) Is truth important?	Attend: Live session 9/29 Read: Friedrich Nietzsche, On Truth and Lies in a Non-Moral Sense		
	Week 7 10/4-10/10		Attend: Live session 10/4 Gordon Pennycook, Why bullshit is no laughing matter	Last day to come to my office hours for credit.	10.4
AXIOLOGY	Week 7 10/4-10/10	What is morally important?	Attend: Live session 10/6 Read: William James, The Moral Philosopher and the Moral Life		
	Week 8 10/11 - 10/17	(continued)	No class 10/11 Attend: Live session 10/13 Read: John Stuart Mill, chapters 1, 2, and 4 from Utilitarianism	Short Essay 1 Due PSA Hand In	10.11 10.17

	Week 9 10/18 - 10/24	(continued)	<p>Attend: Live session 10/18</p> <p>Read:</p> <p>(1) Ta-Nehisi Coates, The case for reparations</p> <p>(2) Kevin D. Richardson , The Case Against Reparations</p> <p>Listen to:</p> <p>(3) Olúfẹ̀mi O. Táíwò, Climate Colonialism and Reparations</p> <p>Attend: Live session 10/20</p> <p>Read:</p> <p>(1) Jeremy Fischer & Rachel Fredericks, The Creeps as a Moral Emotion</p> <p>(2) Audre Lorde, The Uses of Anger</p> <p>Watch:</p> <p>(3) Myisha Cherry, Anger is not a Bad Word TED Talk</p>	Literature Review Summary due on BB and in shared drive	10.18
	Week 10 10/25 - 10/31	Should there be a revolution? What should it look like?	<p>Attend: Live session 10/25</p> <p>Read: (1) Martin Luther King, Letter from a Birmingham Jail. Listen here, read here.</p> <p>(2) Ashwin Bhumbla, Why Saying Rioting is Bad is Bullshit</p>		

			<p>Attend: Live session 10/27</p> <p>Watch:</p> <p>(1) Audre Lorde, Youtube video: There is no hierarchy of oppressions</p> <p>Read:</p> <p>(2) Lila Abu-Lughod, Do Muslim Women Need Saving?</p>		
	<p>Week 11 11/1 - 11/7</p>	<p>(continued)</p>	<p>Attend: Live session 11/1</p> <p>Attend: Live session 11/3</p> <p>Reading for both classes:</p> <p>(1) Robert Paul Wolff, “The Conflict between Authority and Autonomy” and “Beyond the Legitimate State” from In Defense of Anarchism</p> <p>(2) <u>Case study:</u> Prison and Police Abolition. Click on the following Critical Resistance graphic: Reform vs. Abolition</p>	<p>Upload Group Project Proposal to BB</p> <p>PSA Hand in</p>	<p>11.1</p> <p>11.3</p>

METAPHYSICS	Week 12 11/8 - 11/14	Where and what is the self?	<p>Attend: Live session 11/8</p> <p>Read: Class 1: (1) John Locke, The Prince and the Cobbler, chapter 27 in An Essay Concerning Human Understanding</p> <p>(2) Podcast episode with Nigel Wharburton and Anthony Grayling on Personal Identity. Listen here.</p> <p>Attend: Live session 11/10 ~ Class cancelled ~</p>		
	Week 13 11/15 - 11/21	(continued)	<p>Attend: Live session 11/15</p> <p>Read: (1) Kristin Seemuth Whaley, Are we Animals? Animals and Personal Identity</p> <p>Watch: (2) Daniel Dennett's Where Am I (on Youtube Part 1 here, Part 2 here, Part 3 here)</p> <p>Attend: Live session 11/17</p> <p>Read: Shayla Love, What Waking Up in a Friend's Body Does to Your Mind</p>	Short Essay 2 Due	11.15
	Week 14 11/22 - 11/28	Are there "kinds" of people?	<p>Attend: Live session 11/22</p> <p>Read: Lisa Guenther, The Concrete Abyss</p> <p>Attend: Live session 11/24</p>	Groups receive feedback on Project Proposals	11.15

			(1) Ian Hacking, Making Up People (2) Anna Mollow, The Ninety-Five Percent: Fighting Neoliberalism and Fatphobia Together		
	Week 15 11/29 - 12/5	Do race(s) and gender(s) exist?	Attend: Live session 11/29 <i>Hacking and Mollow continued.</i> Attend: Live session 12/1 Read: (1) Linda Martín Alcoff, Philosophy and Racial Identity Watch: (2) Prince Ea, I am NOT Black, you are NOT White		
	Week 16 12/6 - 12/12	Buffer week	Attend: Live session 12/6 Read: Robin Dembroff, Why be nonbinary? Attend: Live session 12/8 <i>Buffer Day</i>	PSA Hand In	12.8
	Week 17 12/13 - 12/19		Attend: Live session 12/13 <i>Presentations</i> Attend: Live session 12/15 <i>Presentations</i>	Group Presentations Short Essay 3 Due	12.13 and 12.15 12.13

				Note to Self 2 due	12.15
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