Hofstra University Department of Philosophy
Fall 2022 Courses

PHI 05H Insights: Happiness
*1 credit
TR 3:00-4:00 (10/4-11/17) CRN: 93538
Professor Singer

PHI 10A What Does It All Mean?: Life, Meaning and Philosophy (HP)
TR 9:40-11:05, CRN: 92699
Professor McEvoy

PHI 10B Philosophic Themes in Film (HP)
MW 4:20-5:45, CRN: 92700
Instructor TBA
TR 4:20-5:45, CRN: 92701
Professor Karofsky

PHI 10F Introduction to Philosophy (HP)
*FIRST YEAR STUDENTS ONLY
*4 credits
TR 12:30-2:25, CRN: 91361
Professor Karofsky

PHI 10G Wondering and Wandering: A Historical Tour of Western Philosophy (HP)
TR 2:40-4:05 CRN: 93540
Professor Acampora

PHI 14 Introduction to Ethics (HP)
Multiple sections, multiple instructors
One section WI; one section mid-semester begin

PHI 14F.01 The Meaning of Life (HP)
*FIRST YEAR STUDENTS ONLY
*4 credits
MW 9:10-11:05, CRN: 91245
Professor McEvoy

PHI 14F.02 Law, Politics and Society (HP)
*FIRST YEAR STUDENTS ONLY
*4 credits
MW 9:10-11:05, CRN: 93685
Professor Ostrow

PHI 15 Law, Philosophy and Public Life (HP)
MW 11:20-12:45, CRN: 92145
Professor Baehr

PHI 15F Law, Philosophy and Public Life (HP)
*FIRST YEAR STUDENTS ONLY
MW 2:40-4:05, 93541

PHI 17 Intro to Eastern Philosophy (CC)
MW 11:20-12:45, CRN: 90791
Instructor TBA

PHI 17 Intro to Eastern Philosophy (CC)
MW 11:20-12:45, CRN: 90791
Instructor TBA

PHI 18D Dangerous Ideas
*1 credit
M 2:40-4:35 (begins 9/29), CRN: 93542
Professor Wallace and others

PHI 103 Life, Death and Immortality (CC)
MW 2:40-4:05, CRN: 90792
Instructor TBA

PHI 115 Philosophy and Literature
TR 11:20-12:45, CRN: 93543
Professor McEvoy

PHI 130 Bioethics: Medicine & Morality (HP)
TR 4:20-5:45, CRN: 93544
Professor Acampora

PHI 141 Ancient and Medieval Philosophy
TR 2:40-4:05, CRN: 93545
Professor Karofsky

PHI 154 Symbolic Logic (QR)
MW 9:40-11:05, CRN: 91647
Professor Eliot

PHI 164 Philosophy of Mind
TR 9:40-11:05, CRN: 93546
Professor Dardis
PHI 005H Insights: Happiness (1 cr.)
Happiness, or a good life, is a widely shared and fundamental goal. But how do we understand this goal? Is it a matter of pleasure? Of relationships? Of achievements? Of meaning? Of some kind of balance or harmony? In this course we'll discuss a wide variety of ideas about the good life, from various traditions. No prior experience in philosophy required.

PHI 10A What Does It All Mean: Life, Meaning and Philosophy (HP) (3 cr.)
What does it all mean? What is the point of life? We've all wondered about these questions from time to time. There are a range of answers available. For some people, the meaning of life has to do with God; for others, it is happiness; for others, it is helping others. Some thinkers reject the idea of a “one size fits all” view of meaning, and hold that we must create our own meaning, while still others argue that life has no meaning. Whatever the answer, the question of life’s meaning quickly becomes entangled with other philosophical questions. This course will examine various approaches to the question of the meaning of life, and how this question connects with other important philosophical questions.

PHI 10B Philosophic Themes in Film (HP) (3 cr.)
An introduction to various philosophical issues that arise in contemporary films like Ad Astra, Arrival, Ex Machina, Her, Beautiful Boy, Silence, A Serious Man, Edge of Tomorrow, Inception, and The Matrix. Some of the issues examined include the problem of skepticism, the mind-body problem, personal identity, artificial intelligence, free will and determinism, moral dilemmas, and the meaning of life.

PHI 10F Introduction to Philosophy (HP) (4 cr.)  FIRST YEAR STUDENTS ONLY
An introduction to some of the major questions in philosophy like: Are my actions determined? Or can I make free choices? Do I have a mind that is distinct from my brain? What makes me me? Could robots ever be conscious? Do animals think? Was there a beginning of the universe? Does God exist? If so, why is there evil in the world? Can I know anything with certainty? And what, if anything, is the meaning of life?

PHI 10G Wondering & Wandering: A Historical Tour of Western Philosophy (HP) (3 cr.)
Philosophy proceeds by wonder, and in this course we will wander through ages spanning two and half millennia and the whole Mediterranean world from northern Africa through all of Europe in search of the wonderings of philosophers who constitute the Western tradition. Towards the end, we will briefly touch upon contemporary philosophers of America. Our twin targets of attention throughout will be metaphysics (or ontology) and epistemology (theory of knowledge).

PHI 014 Introduction to Ethics (HP) (3 cr.)
The focus of this course is on critical reasoning about ethics. It reviews major approaches to ethical values and examines the bases for why some conduct (like killing, deceit, fraud) is wrong, and why some things (like freedom, fairness, compassion) are valuable. The course also examines the relationship between ethics and society, with focus on contemporary issues. For example: ethics in professional or business contexts, health and medical contexts, ethics in personal relationships, and environmental ethics.
**PHI 14F.01 The Meaning of Life** (HP) (4 cr.)  **FIRST YEAR STUDENTS ONLY**
This class pursues questions about the meaning of life through discussions and readings.

**PHI 14F.02 Law, Politics and Society** (HP) (4 cr.)  **FIRST YEAR STUDENTS ONLY**
Every year, tens of thousands of young people enter law school and begin the study of legal rules. Most do so because they see the legal profession as a noble calling, and they enter it with a desire to promote justice. In their three years of full-time study of the law, however, these future lawyers will spend little time thinking critically about those rules and about the place of the lawyer in a just society. In this course, we explore how our legal rules and constitutional norms have developed; how the American legal system interacts with the rest of our political institutions; how it reflects the cultural norms, class distinctions and idiosyncrasies of our society; and how legal rules and the role of the lawyer relate to larger ideals of a just society.

**PHI 15 Law, Philosophy and Public Life** (HP) (3 cr.)
Introduction to political philosophies that animate contemporary politics in the United States, including libertarianism, liberalism, and conservatism. Focus is on how these philosophies play out in disagreements about issues such as climate change, taxation, race and gender, immigration, and the role of religion in public life.

**PHI 17 Introduction to Eastern Philosophy** (CC) (3 cr.)
Introduction to the major schools of Indian philosophy, along with the Japanese School of Zen Buddhism and the Chinese philosophy of Taoism.

**PHI 51D Dangerous Ideas** (1 cr.)
Ideas matter. Concepts such as cultural identity, the meaning of food, democracy, faith, race, freedom, gender, have inspired social movements, shaped ways of life and political systems, and dramatically influenced the lives of individuals. Scientific ideas (such as evolution, species extinction, climate science) and skepticism about science also have power to shape our lives. Powerful ideas can be dangerous, generating turmoil and destabilizing the status quo, or supporting the status quo when change is needed, or creating unanticipated consequences. There is no required reading for the course, but attendance is required.

**PHI 103 Life, Death and Immortality** (CC) (3 cr.)
This course examines the concepts of life, death and immortality as represented in religious and literary texts from a range of cross-cultural sources: western and non-western monotheistic traditions, eastern traditions (e.g., Tibetan and Indian), middle-eastern (e.g., Turkish), African, and Native American. It also examines the encounter between a native tradition and a western colonial, typically Judeo-Christian presence. Discussion as well of the implications of these concepts for such issues as abortion, euthanasia, and suicide.

**PHI 115 Philosophy and Literature** (3 cr.)
An investigation into philosophical issues raised by or within literature. Possible topics include the puzzle of why we care for literary characters that do not exist, the claim that some truths can be revealed only through literature, the question of whether an immoral work can be a literary work, and the exploration in literary works of philosophical ideas like utopia, evil, free will, and many others.
PHI 130 Bioethics: Medicine & Morality (HP) (3 cr.)
An investigation of moral theory as applied to the traditional and modern practices of medicine, including techniques informed by recent developments in biological science. Meaning and value of health and disease, life and death will be explored. The course will be especially helpful to philosophy majors or minors concentrating on ethics and to any students preparing to become healthcare professionals.

PHI 141 Ancient and Medieval Philosophy (3 cr.)
A historical survey of ancient and medieval philosophy, examining pre-Socratic philosophers, Plato, Aristotle, Hellenistic thinkers, and medieval writers. The course is designed to help students develop competency in the oral presentation of philosophical ideas and arguments.

PHI 154 Symbolic Logic (QR) (3 cr.)
A formal study of the logical properties and relationships of sentences by means of the construction of a symbolic language for sentential and predicate logic.

PHI 164 Philosophy of Mind (3 cr.)
Philosophy of mind discusses issues like the mind/body problem, artificial intelligence, the nature of consciousness and intentionality, and mental causation. Some typical questions are: What are minds? Are they the same or different from souls? How could brains possibly think? Can animals, babies or computers think? Can persons change bodies? Could you or I survive the death of our bodies?