

194A,B. Senior Experimental Thesis. *Staff.* An empirical thesis in which students undertake an experimental project that addresses an original question. Half-course each semester. 194A, each fall; 194B, each spring.

99/199. Reading and Research. *Staff.* Prerequisite: permission of instructor. 99, lower-level; 199, advanced work. Course or half-course. May be repeated. Each semester. (Summer Reading and Research taken as 98/198.)

PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

Associate Professor Peter Thielke, department chair

Professors Atlas, Davis, Erickson, McKirahan

Associate Professor Thielke

Assistant Professors Green, Kung, Perini, Tannenbaum

Philosophy Department courses are designed to enable the student to understand the philosophic tradition and to cultivate critical thinking. The program serves the needs of those interested in philosophy as part of a liberal education and prepares philosophy majors for work in graduate programs. Most courses numbered 101 and below are suitable as first courses in philosophy. The philosophy program is offered in cooperation with the other Claremont Colleges.

Requirements for the Major in Philosophy (PHIL)

The Philosophy Major requires a minimum of nine courses, including:

1. One of 31, History of Ethics; 32, Ethical Theory; or 35, Normative Ethics
2. 30, Knowledge, Mind and Existence
3. 60, Logic
4. Two of the three courses from our core history sequence—40, Ancient; 42, Modern; and 43, Continental Thought
5. At least one course from the 185 and 186 series
6. 191 (Senior Thesis, taken over both semesters of the senior year)
7. It is recommended that philosophy majors complete 30, 31, 32 or 35, 60 and two of the three courses in our core history sequence (40, 42, 43) before the senior year.

Requirements for a Minor in Philosophy

Any student who is not a major in philosophy, politics and economics (PPE), or a special major including coursework in philosophy is eligible for a philosophy minor. The requirements of such a minor are the completion of six philosophy courses, including no more than two courses numbered below 10 and at least one course numbered 185 or 186.

Other Information

Students interested in graduate study in philosophy are strongly recommended to take both History of Modern and Ancient Philosophy. Reading knowledge of French, German, Greek or Latin is an asset for graduate study. For more specific information concerning particular graduate programs, consult members of the faculty.

Courses

Philosophy (PHIL) courses (except 60) satisfy Area 3 of the Breadth of Study Requirements.

1. **Problems of Philosophy.** *Mr. Green, Mr. Kung, Mr. Thielke.* A study of selected problems in philosophy, from such areas as ethics, philosophy of religion, theory of knowledge and metaphysics. Classical and contemporary readings. Each semester.
3. **Philosophy Through Its History.** *Mr. Erickson.* Study of the development of philosophy in the West. Plato, Descartes, Hume, Kant and Nietzsche will be considered. Fall 2009.
4. **Philosophy in Literature.** *Mr. Erickson.* Discussion of various aspects of the human condition, personal and social, as presented in various works of literature. Fall 2010
30. **Knowledge, Mind and Existence.** *Mr. Kung.* Introduction to some of the central issues regarding the nature of knowledge, the mind and reality. Topics include skepticism, the analysis of knowledge, mental causation, dualism, reductive and nonreductive physicalism, proofs for the existence of God and personal identity. Spring 2010.
31. **History of Ethics.** *Ms. Tannenbaum.* Introduction to the major writings of several leading figures in the history of moral philosophy. Focuses primarily on moral philosophy of the modern period. Fall 2009.
32. **Ethical Theory.** *Ms. Tannenbaum* Introduction to the central problems of philosophical ethics, including the nature of value, the justification of moral principles and the psychology of moral choice. Spring 2010.
33. **Social and Political Philosophy.** *Mr. Green.* Classical and modern sources on the nature of the state, justice and rights. Addresses questions such as these: Should we have a state at all? What is a just society? What powers does the state have? Must individuals obey the state? Spring 2010.
34. **Philosophy of Law.** *Mr. Green.* Concerns the nature and substance of law. Addresses questions such as these: What is law? How should judges interpret the Constitution? When, if ever, is punishment justified? When does one private party commit a tort against another? Spring 2010.
35. **Normative Ethics: Principles, Problems, Applications.** *Ms. Tannenbaum.* This course approaches the study of ethics through a focus on principles, problems and applications, rather than (as Ethical Theory does) through the study of classical ethical theories and the foundations of ethics. The course will focus on different problems in different years. Fall 2009.
37. **Values and the Environment.** *Ms. Davis.* To be announced.
38. **Bioethics.** *Ms. Davis.* Focuses on issues and themes in the conduct of scientific research and the application of its results and about the nature and practice of medicine. One year we may explore the conceptual underpinnings that help us understand and assess the efficacy and morality of medical treatment. Another year, the orientation of the course may be a more policy-centered one. Fall 2009.
40. **Ancient Philosophy.** *Mr. McKirahan.* Origins of Western philosophy through reading and discussion of its classical sources, including the Presocratics, Stoics, Epicureans, Sceptics, Plato and Aristotle. Fall 2010.
42. **Modern Philosophy.** *Mr. Thielke.* Major philosophers of the 17th and 18th centuries (e.g., Descartes, Locke, Berkeley, Leibniz, Hume), emphasizing their views on metaphysics, epistemology and philosophy of mind. Spring 2010.
43. **Continental Thought.** *Mr. Erickson.* Beginning with a review of Kant, German idealism (Fichte through Hegel), Kierkegaard, Schopenhauer, Nietzsche, Heidegger, Foucault and Derrida will be considered. Spring 2010.
47. **Socrates.** *Mr. McKirahan.* To be announced.
49. **Science and Values.** *Ms. Davis.* Addresses issues at the intersection of science and policy. Focuses on different specific issues in different years, including such things as the “junk science” wars, debates about teaching “Intelligent Design,” pharmaceutical companies’ marketing practices and FDA regulations, eugenics, “Frankenfoods,” etc. Next offered 2010-11.
54. **Existentialism.** *Mr. Erickson.* The origins of existentialism and its impact on philosophy, literature, theology and psychoanalysis. Extensive source readings in Kierkegaard, Sartre, Camus and others. Letter grade only. Fall 2009.

- 60. Logic.** *Ms. Perini.* Introduction to mathematical logic through the development of proof techniques (natural deduction and semantic tableaux) and model theory for sentential logic and quantification theory. Properties of logical systems, such as consistency, completeness and decidability. Fall 2009.
- CLAS 64. Gods, Humans and Justice in Ancient Greece.** *Mr. McKirahan.* Next offered 2010-11.
- 70. Aesthetics and the Philosophy of Art.** *Ms. Perini.* This class will focus on issues in contemporary aesthetics and philosophy of art, including the nature of art and its value, the nature of creativity and its role in the production of artwork and the moral significance of art. Spring 2010.
- 71. History of Aesthetics.** *Mr. Thielke.* A survey of various aesthetic theories, from antiquity to the 19th century. Topics will include the nature of beauty, the epistemological status of aesthetic judgments and the connection between art and morality. Readings from Plato, Aristotle, Kant, Schopenhauer and Nietzsche, among others. Next offered 2010-11.
- 80. Philosophy of Mind.** *Mr. Kung.* What can philosophers tell us about the mind? This course explores approaches—including scientific approaches—to explaining what the mind is. Can any of these views account for consciousness? Do they explain how thoughts can be about things? Do they allow that our mental states cause our actions? How can we know when something has a mind? Next offered 2010-11.
- 81. Epistemology: Truth, Justification, Knowledge.** *Mr. Kung.* The facts seem to matter: Does the movie start at 7? Do the brakes on the school bus work? Should we teach evolution, creationism or both? But how do we know what the truth is? What makes some of our beliefs justified and others unjustified? Can we have any objective grasp on the truth? Fall 2009.
- 103. Philosophy of Science: Historical Survey.** *Mr. Keeley, Ms. Perini.* To be announced.
- 104. Philosophy of Science: Topical Survey.** *Ms. Perini.* Introduction to a selection of topics in the philosophy of science, which might include the structure of scientific theories, the nature of scientific explanation, confirmation of scientific hypotheses, the difference between science and non-science, the reality of theoretical entities and contemporary critiques of science. Prerequisite: College-level science or philosophy course. Spring 2010.
- 106. Philosophy of Biology.** *Ms. Perini.* To be announced.
- 120. Metaphysics.** *Mr. Atlas.* An advanced introduction to causality, the existence of God, freedom of the will, the nature of particulars, attributes and events. Spring 2010.
- 121. Philosophy of Language.** *Mr. Atlas.* An advanced introduction to truth, reference, meaning, speech acts and metaphor. Lectures and discussions. Next offered 2010-11.
- PPE 160. Freedom, Markets and Well-Being.** *Ms. Brown, Mr. Green.* Our society embraces commitments both to safeguarding basic liberties and to facilitating the pursuit of happiness. This course examines the interplay of philosophy, politics and economics in social and political theory and explores scholarship that relates theory to issues of public policy, such as health care and development policies towards Third World countries. Prerequisites: one course in each of philosophy and politics and ECON 102. Fall 2010.
- 185A. Topics in Metaphysics.** *Mr. Atlas.* Conceivability, possibility, necessity and related notions have played a role in philosophy from Anselm's 11th-century ontological argument to Kurt Goedel's 20th-century one; from Descartes's 17th-century argument for mind-body dualism to Saul Kripke's 20th-century one. Seminar reviews the elements of formal modal logic and assesses the role of modal notions in metaphysical arguments. Next offered 2010-11.
- 185E. Self, Language and Imagination.** *Mr. Erickson.* Seminar on recent reflections on continental themes generated by such thinkers as Rorty and Taylor. Emphasis on the role of language and imagination in political and existential discourses. Fall 2010.
- 185L. Topics in Epistemology, Metaphysics and the Philosophy of the Mind.** *Mr. Kung.* An examination of various issues in contemporary epistemology, metaphysics and philosophy of mind. Topics may include the nature of consciousness, mental causation, the

- relationship between the mental and the physical, the nature of epistemic justification and the status of testimony as a source of knowledge. May be repeated for credit. Spring 2010.
- 185M. Topics in Mind and Language: Thought, Talk and Mind.** *Mr. Atlas.* What is it for a word/phrase/sentence to be meaningful, what role truth and inference play in understanding language, how language describes our mental states and their contents, what a mental representation is and how it compares with a sentence, the nature of consciousness and the first-person point of view, philosophical consequences for our theory of mind from computer science and neuroscience. Fall 2009.
- 185P. Topics in Value Theory.** *Ms. Tannenbaum.* Contemporary treatments of some of the dominant topics in value theory. Egoism, ethical relativism, realism, objectivity, the fact/value distinction and weakness of will. Prerequisite: 31, 32 or 35. Spring 2010.
- 185Q. Topics in Science and Values.** *Ms. Davis.* Examination of a family of issues in mental/psycho-social health, environmental and public health; legal, regulatory and educational issues related to scientific research and science teaching; reproductive ethics. Focus varies from year to year. Fall 2009.
- 185R. Topics in Philosophy of Science.** *Ms. Perini.* To be announced.
- 185S. Topics in Social and Political Philosophy.** *Mr. Green.* Detailed study of a particular issue. Examples: human rights, early modern political philosophy, the historical evolution of the concept of justice, contemporary theories of justice, issues in the philosophy of law. Next offered 2010-11.
- 186E. Heidegger and the Tradition.** *Mr. Erickson.* A selective examination of Heidegger's understanding of poetry, tradition and truth. Comparisons with Hegel, Nietzsche, Wittgenstein and Derrida. Spring 2010.
- 186H. Topics in History of Modern.** *Mr. Thielke.* An examination of issues central to 17th to 19th century philosophy. Topics might include the debate between rationalism and empiricism, the limits of reason, the nature of substance and mind and the nature of human experience. Letter grade only. Prerequisite: 42. Next offered 2010-11.
- 186K. Kant.** *Mr. Thielke.* A detailed examination of the works of Immanuel Kant, focusing on issues that arise from Kant's transcendental idealism. Topics may include Kant's account of cognition, the nature and limits of human knowledge, the force of the moral law and the warrant of aesthetic judgment. Prerequisite: 42. Fall 2009.
- 186R. Topics in Philosophy: Russell & Wittgenstein.** *Mr. Atlas.* To be announced.
- 187A, B. Tutorial in Philosophy.** *Mr. Atlas.* Selected topics, determined jointly by the student and the tutor, conducted through frequent student papers evaluated in Oxford-style tutorial sessions. Prerequisite: written permission of instructor. 187A, full course; 187B, half-course. May be repeated for credit. Offered by arrangement.
- 187C,D. Tutorial in Ancient Philosophy.** *Mr. McKirahan.* Selected topics in ancient philosophy. Requires regular meetings with the instructor to discuss original texts, interpretations and the student's written work. Sample topics: pre-Socratic philosophy, Socrates and the Sophists, Plato's theory of forms, Aristotle's philosophy of science, ancient ethical theories. 187C, full course; 187D, half-course. May be repeated for credit. Letter grade only. Prerequisite: One course in ancient philosophy. Each semester.
- 188A,B. Tutorial in Philosophy.** *Staff.* Offered in the tutorial style to a few qualified students on a topic of the instructor's choosing. 188A, full course; 188B, half-course. May be repeated. Offered by arrangement.
- 191. Senior Thesis.** *Staff.* Senior exercise for philosophy majors. A year-long sequence leading to the completion of a thesis supervised by faculty members. Half-course each semester of the senior year. Grade and credit awarded at the conclusion of the spring semester.
- 191F. Accelerated Senior Thesis.** *Staff.* Alternate senior exercise for philosophy majors. Course is intended for students who wish to complete the senior thesis in the fall semester. A prospectus and bibliography will be due in early October and the thesis must be

submitted to the department in early December. Permission of instructor required. Each semester.

99/199. Reading and Research. *Staff.* Reading and research on a topic agreed to by the student and the instructor. Normally, such study involves a set of short papers and/or culminates in a research paper of substantial length. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. 99, lower-level; 199, advanced work. Course or half-course. May be repeated. Each semester. (Summer Reading and Research taken as 98/198.)

PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS AND ECONOMICS PROGRAM

Professor Michael Green, coordinator

Steering Committee: Michael Green, Glenn Hueckel, John Seery

Professors Brown, Foster, Hueckel, Seery

Assistant Professors Green, McWilliams

The departments of philosophy, politics and economics (PPE) jointly offer a major in which students receive a foundation in the methods and issues of each discipline, combining normative sophistication with empirical grounding. A PPE major learns to combine knowledge of economic and political institutions as they currently function with a broader vision of the goals and purposes of human society. PPE is excellent preparation for careers in law, business and public service and serves as a structured but flexible multidisciplinary program in the liberal arts for students who want a broader approach than is generally possible within a single department. The major in PPE is administered by a faculty committee representing the three disciplines.

Requirements for the Major in Philosophy, Politics and Economics

Courses taken for the major must be taken for a letter grade.

1. Core courses

a. Four courses in philosophy (PHIL), including:

- 1) 33, Social and Political Philosophy, or 34, Philosophy of Law
- 2) 31, History of Ethics, or 32, Ethical Theory, or 35, Normative Ethics
- 3) 40, Ancient Philosophy, or 42, Modern Philosophy, or 43, Continental Thought
- 4) One additional course in philosophy numbered 10 or above

b. Four courses in politics (POLI), including:

- 1) 3, Introduction to American Politics, or 5, Comparative Politics, or 8, Introduction to International Relations
- 2) 1A, Classical Political Theory, or 1B, Modern Political Theory
- 3) 33A, American Constitutionalism I, or 33B, American Constitutionalism II
- 4) One additional course in politics numbered 10 or above

c. Four courses in economics (ECON)

- 1) 51, Principles of Macroeconomics
- 2) 52, Principles of Microeconomics
- 3) 102, Microeconomic Theory
- 4) One additional course in economics numbered 100 or above

2. Depth of Study. Each student must select a department of primary focus, either philosophy, politics or economics and must secure a faculty member of that department as academic advisor. Each student must complete two additional courses chosen in consultation with the academic advisor from the offerings of the student's department of primary focus.