

Philosophy at USU • Fall 2017

PHIL 1000: Introduction to Philosophy (BHU) (Clark and Kleiner; multiple sections): *an introduction to the biggest questions of philosophy. What is real? What do we know? What is justice? What are our obligations? Does God exist?*

PHIL 1320: The Good Life (BHU) (Kleiner, MWF 9:30): *This course is an interdisciplinary course with readings drawn from history, literature, philosophy, and theology. Course readings focus broadly on the question of the good life for human beings, with a focus on the distinction between civilization and barbarism in the soul and in the polis.*

PHIL 1120: Social Ethics (BHU) (Holberg, MWF 1:30): *Examination of principles and arguments underlying current debate in American law and politics. Topics may include abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment, discrimination and affirmative action, sexual harassment, freedom of expression, welfare, and duties to help the poor in other nations.*

PHIL 1500: The Examined College Life (BHU) (Kleiner, MWF 10:30): *What sort of education should a student pursue, and what sort of education should a university provide? This course will explore the aims of liberal education, as well as exploring various voices who are opposed to it. Considered along the way will be the relationship between education and human flourishing, work and leisure, transcendence, and the common good.*

PHIL 2200: Deductive Logic (QI) (Steinhoff, MWF 3:30): *This course applies a math-like science of symbols to natural language arguments, with an aim toward understanding validity - the science of what really "follows from" what. Includes propositional logic, quantifier logic, symbolization, and proofs.*

PHIL 2400: Ethics (BHU) (Clark, MWF 12:30): *How ought we to live our lives? How ought we to treat other people? What makes an action right or wrong - and a person good or bad? We'll explore these questions and others through the lenses of Consequentialism, Deontology, and Virtue Ethics.*

PHIL 3120: Early Modern Philosophy (Huenemann, TR 10:30): *We'll explore the fundamental questions and problems that have shaped modern philosophy, with attention to Descartes, Spinoza, Locke, Leibniz, Hume, and other figures who deserve to be better known!*

PHIL 3530: Environmental Ethics (DHA) (Clark, MWF 9:30): *Key issues in the treatment of nature, such as: the value of wilderness, animal rights, comparative views of nature, and moral issues in economic approaches to the wilderness.*

PHIL 3600: Philosophy of Religion (DHA) (Sherlock, TR 3:00): *Problems in defining "religion" and the existence of God; the problem of evil; the immortality of the soul; religious experience; faith; alternatives to theism; religious language.*

PHIL 3700: Political Philosophy (DHA) (Holberg, MW 2:30-3:45): *We will explore the nature of a just society, political obligation, and the justification and proper limits of political power.*

PHIL 4400: Metaphysics (Steinhoff, TR 3:00): *Study of fundamental problems of existence, including mind and its relation to the body, determinism and human freedom, fatalism, idealism and realism, truth, and our knowledge of the world.*

PHIL 4600: Philosophy of Law (Huenemann TR 1:30): *What makes law law? Is it just any set of prescriptive rules for a society - or are there certain features (possibly including moral ones) any system of laws must have? What are the aims of law, and do they change as societies change? Also: justifications for punishment, and conditions for liability.*