



**SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

**PHILOSOPHY PROGRAMME
PHIL107: MEDIA AND THE ARTS
TRIMESTER 2 2009
13 July to 15 November 2009**

Trimester dates

Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October

Study week: 19 to 23 October

Examination/Assessment period: 27 October to 15 November

Students who enrol in this course should be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the formal exam period.

Course Delivery

The course is taught in two lecture sessions a week for the duration of the second trimester. The first session is on Monday for two hours between 11am and 12.50pm. The second is on Wednesday between 11am and 11.50 am. Both sessions take place in Hugh Mackenzie (HM) LT 206.

Students are encouraged to participate in limited discussion during the lecture sessions, but tutorials are the main forum for discussion.

The lecturers are Sondra Bacharach, Ismay Barwell and Dan Turton. .

Ismay Barwell is the coordinator of the course.

The tutors are Rhydian Thomas and Sadaf Momeny

Ismay Barwell has office hours between 2-4 pm on Tuesdays or by appointment. Her room number is Murphy 713 (MY713), her extension number is 8653 and her email address is ismay.barwell@vuw.ac.nz. .

Sondra Bacharach has office hours between 2-4 pm on Wednesdays or by appointment. Her room is 711, Murphy, her extension number is 5178 and her email address is sondra.bacharach@vuw.ac.nz.

Dan Turton has office hours between 2-3 pm on Thursdays or by appointment. His room number is 715, Murphy, his extension is 8651 and his email address is dan.turton@vuw.ac.nz

Rhydian Thomas's room is Murphy 712 (MY 712) and his email address is Rhydian.thomas@vuw.ac.nz

Sadaf Momeny's room is Murphy 710 (MY710) and her email address is Sadaf.momeny@vuw.ac.nz

Communication of additional information

The course is available on Blackboard.
Additional information and announcements will be given out in lectures and put on Blackboard.

Tutorials:

Tutorial Times and Venues: as shown in S-cubed. Tutorials commence in the **second** week of the course.

PHIL107 will use S-Cubed for tutorial registration.

Use your internet browser to go to: <https://signups.vuw.ac.nz>.
Use your normal **student login** and **password** to sign into S-Cubed.
Click on "**PHIL107**" You will see info about your course and about the different tutorial sessions.
Sign up to your preferred session by clicking on the "**sign up**" button.

Please note: This sign-up programme is only available from Monday 13 July to Friday 17 July 2009.

If you do not sign up during this time, you may be extremely limited in your choice of tutorial time.

If you have any problems, check the handout you were given about S-cubed. If you still have problems please see the Philosophy Programme Administrator, Murphy Building, 5th Floor, MY518.

Course Aims:

The main aim is to provide an introduction to some central philosophical issues raised by media and the arts. The student who passes this course will have acquired an adequate understanding of, and ability to evaluate, arguments and issues from this area. The course should provide a solid foundation for further work in the discipline, and help students think more carefully and critically about a wider range of issues.

Course Content:

Week One:

Session One: Introduction and a little bit of logic

Session Two: Categories of Art

Week Two: How to Think about Art: the Role of Mechanical Reproduction

Session one: Benjamin

Session 2: Irvin and Computer Art

Week Three: Music and Recording Technology

Session one: Brown vs. Glasgow

Session two: in class test

Weeks Four: Intention and Interpretation

Session one: Anti-intentionalism: Beardsley and Fish

Session two: Intentionalism: Hirsch

Week Five: Appreciating Art

Session 1: Artist's Sanction (Irvin)

Session 2: Hume on the Standard of Taste

Week Six:

Session One: Popular Culture and Moral Danger

Session Two: Public Art

Week Seven

Both Sessions: Aesthetic Appreciation of Natural and Modified Environments

Week Eight:

Session One: Fakes and Forgeries

Session Two: Fearing Fictions

Week Nine

Session One: Field Trip to the Adams Art Gallery and the University Art Collection

Session Two: Conceptions of Art

Week Ten:

Session One: Conceptions of Art

Session Two: Beauty and Design

Week Eleven and Twelve: Media Ethics: Should We Have a Free Press?

A schedule of lecture topics and the reading for each week is included in Course Resources on Blackboard

Learning objectives

Students will be expected to attend lectures, take part in the discussion and keep up with the reading. Those who pass the course should have acquired an enhanced capacity for critical analysis and sufficient understanding of some theories and controversies in contemporary philosophy of art and media ethics to be able to explain them clearly and to support an evaluation of them with reasoned argument.

Marking criteria

The marking criteria for all pieces of written work are the same.

1. A philosophical issue should be analysed. This means it should be stated and explained clearly. (Why is there a puzzle or a problem? How does it arise? What does it presuppose?)
2. Alternative positions should be described and evaluated. These must include some discussed in class and in the reading set for the course. Evidence of extra research is not required.
3. An argument for a conclusion should be presented in an orderly way. It should support the conclusion.
4. The conclusion should be stated clearly. (Has the problem or puzzle been solved or dissolved? If not, why not? Are any of the alternative positions satisfactory? If not, why not? Does the solution to one problem give rise to another?)

Graduate attributes

As with all PHIL courses, learning objectives of this course contribute to the attainment of specific attributes in the areas of logical and critical thinking, conceptual analysis and rational and ethical decision-making. Please consult the Programme Prospectus 2009, p. 7, for more details or on our website <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/degrees/phil//index.aspx>

Expected Workload:

In accordance with Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 12 hours per week to PHIL107; this includes 3 hours of lectures, 1 50 min tutorial, and 8 hours of independent work.

Essential Texts:

Text: The PHIL107 Coursebook is available for purchase from the University's Class Notes Shop in the Student Union Building.

For the first two weeks of trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer. After week two all undergraduate textbooks will be sold from VicBooks and student notes from the Student Notes Distribution Centre on the ground floor of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from the shop. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Other Texts:

Any other materials will be posted on Blackboard and announced in lecture.

Assessment:

The assessment will be based on one in-class test, one essay and a final examination. The **in-class test** is worth **20%** of your total course mark; the **essay** is worth **30%** and the **exam** is worth **50%**.

In-Class Test:

The test will consist of one question, to be answered in class in Week Three, Session Two **29 July from 11-11.50 am**. It is worth **20%** of your total course mark:

Question:

There will be no make-up tests. The penalty for cheating is a zero mark. Extreme cases may result in University academic disciplinary procedures being invoked.

(ii) Essay:

Students are required to write one essay, of approximately **2,000 words, worth 30%** of your total course mark. It is due by **4pm on Friday 2 October**. An essay topic handout will be posted on Blackboard in the first week of the course.

Late essays, without extension, will be penalised ten points per week. No essays will be accepted after 16 October 2009. An extension can be granted only with the **prior** approval of the course coordinator, and only in **exceptional** circumstances. Procrastination is not a legitimate ground for an extension, so plan accordingly. If you have other assignments due around the same time, plan ahead.

(iii) Final Exam:

The final examination is a **closed-book, three-hour**, registry-administered examination. The examination paper will be divided into two sections. In the first section will be topics questions from topics taught by Sondra Bacharach and Dan Turton. In the second section will be questions taught by Ismay Barwell. Students must answer three questions. They must write one on each section. The third can come from either. All questions have equal marks value. The examination is worth 50% of your total course marks. Further information about the final exam will be posted on "Blackboard" as details become available. The date of the examination is set later in the trimester by the Registrar but will fall within the date range of **27 October to 15 November 2009**.

Relationship Between Assessment and Objectives

The topics for the in-class tests, essay and final examination are chosen to ensure that the subject matter of the course has been adequately covered in the depth appropriate for the 100-level, while also giving students an opportunity to focus on those arguments and issues that they find most interesting. Students should demonstrate that they understand and can evaluate the arguments and issues covered in the three sections of the course.

Penalties:

Essays submitted after 4pm on Friday 2 October 2009 will be penalised ten points per week. No essays will be accepted after 16 October 2009.

An extension can be granted only with the **prior** approval of the course coordinator, and only in **exceptional** circumstances. Procrastination is not a legitimate ground for an extension, so plan accordingly. If you have other assignments due around the same time, plan ahead. Penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds, e.g. illness (presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary) or similar other contingencies. In such cases prior information will be necessary. It is in your interests to contact the course coordinator as soon as a potential problem emerges – not just before a deadline. Extension forms are available in the Philosophy Programme office. If granted an extension by the course coordinator, students are required to agree to a new assessment due date.

Attendance

Attendance at both lectures and tutorials is strongly encouraged, but not required.

Mandatory Course Requirements

Each student must:

- Submit the written work specified for this course, on or by the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work)

AND

- Sit the final exam.

PLEASE NOTE that **Friday, 16 October 2009** is the **FINAL DATE** on which any written work can be accepted by the Programme, since this is the date on which we must determine whether students have met the course requirements. This means that the provision for late submission with a penalty does not apply beyond this date. Permission to submit work after 16 October 2009 must be sought in writing from the Head of Programme, and will only be granted for serious medical reasons (supported by medical certificate), or in case of serious personal crisis.

Note: A student who has obtained an overall mark of 50% or more, but failed to satisfy a mandatory requirement for a course, will receive a K grade for that course, while a course mark less than 50% will result in the appropriate fail grade (D, E or F).

Aegrotats

Please note that under the revised Examination Statute (Sections 6-10) students may now apply for an aegrotat pass in respect of any item of assessment falling within the last three weeks before the day on which lectures cease. In the case of second trimester courses in 2009 the starting point for this period is **Monday, 21st September 2009**.

The following rules apply:

- Where a student is not able to sit a test falling within these last three weeks because of illness or injury etc., an alternative test will be arranged where possible. If the

student has completed in the view of the course-supervisor, sufficient marked assessment relevant to the objectives of the course, an average mark may be offered.

- Where a student has an essay or other piece of assessment due in the last three weeks, and has a medical certificate or other appropriate documentation, the student will be given an extension.

Submission of Written Work: Special Requirements

All essays must be submitted digitally via “Blackboard”;
Information about digital submissions will be posted on blackboard.

Briefly they are:

1. Save your file as a Microsoft Word document.

The title of your file should follow the following format:

LASTNAME_FIRSTNAME.ESSAYNUMBER.DOC

2. Select ‘assignments’ icon in the course menu and follow the instructions .

If you have trouble using this function, make sure you see the course coordinator *before the due date*.

Student work submitted for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <<http://www.turnitin.com>>.

Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party.

Please refer to the information below relating to plagiarism in order to avoid any confusion as to what constitutes plagiarism.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University’s learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University’s reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else’s work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. ‘Someone else’s work’ means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source

- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

General University Statues and Policies

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* available in hardcopy or under "about Victoria" on the Victoria homepage at:

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/calendar_intro.html

Information on the following topics is available electronically under "Course Outline General Information" at:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/newspubs/universitypubs.aspx#general>

- Student and Staff Conduct
- Academic Grievances
- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism
- Meeting the Needs of Students with Impairments
- Student Support