



SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

**PHILOSOPHY
106: ARGUMENT AND ANALYSIS**

TRIMESTER 1 2010
1 March to 4 July 2010

Trimester dates

Teaching dates: 1 March 2010 to 4 June 2010

Mid-trimester break: 5 April to 18 April 2010

Study week: 7 June to 11 June 2010

Examination/Assessment period: 11 June to 4 July 2010

Withdrawal dates

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

Names and contact details

Course coordinator:

Ramon Das

Room no.: Murphy (MY) 608

Phone no.: 463 5038

Office hours: Tuesday 9-10 and by appt.

Lecturers:

Nick Agar

Room no.: MY 601

Phone no.: 463 5046

Office hours: by appt.

Edwin Mares

Room no.: MY 618

Phone no.: 463 5234

Office hours: by appt.

Dan Turton

Room no.: MY 715

Phone no.: 463 5233, x8651

Office hours: Thursday 2:10-3 and by appt.

Class times and locations

Lecture time[s]: M, W, F 13:10-15:00

Lecture venue[s]: Hugh Mackenzie LT 206

Course delivery

This course will involve 3 lectures and one tutorial per week. Attendance is strongly encouraged but not mandatory.

Communication of additional information

Additional information or information on changes will be conveyed to students via class Blackboard.

Course content

This course introduces some central problems in applied moral and political philosophy. Topics covered include ethical issues surrounding abortion, euthanasia, pornography, advertising, global justice, and the death penalty.

Course Schedule

A schedule of topics for the course is available on Blackboard.

Learning objectives

Students passing the course should be able to demonstrate a broad introductory-level knowledge of and an ability to critically analyse some of the central philosophical issues in the topics covered in the course.

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. For more details please consult our website www.victoria.ac.nz/phil/degrees/index.aspx

Expected workload

In accordance with Faculty of Humanities and Social Science guidelines, the overall workload for this course is 200 hours in total.

Readings:

Students must purchase the PHIL 106 Course Book. For the first two weeks of trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of vicbooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. 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.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

Assessment requirements

PHIL 106 is assessed on the basis of one in-class test, one essay, and a final exam:

- (a) *In-Class Test:* The in-class test, which is worth 15% of the final grade, is given during the usual lecture time on Monday, 29 March. The test consists of one question that should be answered in essay format. The test question can be found on Blackboard.
- (b) *Essay:* The essay is designed to test your ability to critically analyse one of the key issues discussed in class. The essay should be approximately 2,000 words and must be typed. Essays must be submitted electronically to Blackboard; a hard copy is not required. The essay is due no later than 5:00pm on Friday, 14 May. The essay topics are available on the assignments page of Blackboard. **Please note that essay extensions will be granted only for doctor-verified medical reasons or other emergencies.**
- (c) *Final exam:* The final exam is a registry conducted exam. The date and time will be announced later in the trimester, but it will fall sometime between 11 June and 4 July. The exam comprises four essay questions, and is worth 50% of the final grade.

Penalties

Late essays, without extension, will be penalized at the rate of 2 marks per day.

Mandatory course requirements

There are no mandatory requirements for passing this course.

Class Representative

A class representative will be elected on the first day of class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator. The representative's contact details will be made available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator, and the class.

Statement on legibility (applies only to the in-class test and final exam)

Students are expected to write clearly. Where work is deemed 'illegible', the options are:

- the student will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) within a specified time frame after which penalties will apply;
- the student will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) and lateness penalties apply;
- if the student does not transcribe it to an acceptable standard, the work will be accepted as 'received' (so any associated mandatory course requirements are met) but not marked.

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>

Use of Turnitin

Student work provided 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.

GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATUTES

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 or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

The AVC (Academic) website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students

with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates. This website can be accessed at:

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcademic/Publications.aspx