



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

**PHILOSOPHY PROGRAMME  
PHIL107: MEDIA AND THE ARTS  
TRIMESTER 2 2010**

12 July to 14 November 2010

**Trimester dates**

Teaching dates: 12 July to 15 October

Study week: 18 to 22 October

Examination/Assessment period: 23 October to 14 November (Note: Students who enrol in this course should be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the formal exam period.)

Withdrawal dates: Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

**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 12am and 2pm. The second is on Thursday between 12am and 12.50 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, Richard Joyce and Steve Riley. Ismay Barwell is the coordinator of the course. Information about the tutors will be posted on Blackboard.

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

Sondra Bacharach has office hours 1-2 pm on Thursdays and by appointment. Her room is Murphy 711(MY711), her extension is 5178 and her email is [sondra.bacharach@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:sondra.bacharach@vuw.ac.nz).

Richard Joyce will post office hours and contact information shortly. His email will be [Richard.joyce@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Richard.joyce@vuw.ac.nz)

Steve Riley has office hours between Thurs 1-2 or by appointment. His room number is Murphy 705 (MY705), his extension is x8398 and his email is [steven.riley@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:steven.riley@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.

**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 12 July to Friday 16 July 2010.

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, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, MY518.

**Course Aims:**

The main aim is to provide an introduction to some central philosophical issues raised by media and the arts. Students who pass this course will have acquired an understanding of the issues that will enable them to evaluate arguments relevant to them. 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 philosophical questions.

**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 2010, 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](http://www.vicbooks.co.nz) or can email an order or enquiry to [enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz](mailto: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 the 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 the total course mark:

### **Question:**

Walton believes that understanding an artwork correctly depends in part on our ability to place that artwork in the correct category. Explain what Walton means by this. In doing so, you should provide an example that illustrates how an artwork can be understood differently, depending on the category in which it is placed.

**This question is covered in session two in week one and in the tutorials for week two.**

**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:**

The essay should be of approximately **2,000 words and is worth 30%** of the total course mark. It is due by **4pm on Friday 10 September**.

**Question:**

What is the point of public art? Can it serve this purpose even if it is not popular? Critically discuss these questions with reference to at least one social value or function assigned to it in class or in the reading.

Symposium: Public Art 1996, *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*

Hein, Hilde "What is Public Art: Time, Place and Meaning"

Horowitz, Gregg M. "Public Art/ Public Space: The spectacle of the Tilted Arc Controversy"

Kelly, Michael "Public Art Controversy: The Serra and Lin Cases"

**This question is covered in session one in week four and in the tutorials for week five.**

**Penalties:**

Late essays, without extension, will be penalised ten points per week. No essays will be accepted after 24 September, 2010. 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 questions on topics taught in the first seven weeks of the course, excluding those which constituted the test and essay questions. In the second section will be questions on topics taught in the last five weeks of the course. Students must answer three questions. They must write one answer on each section. The third can come from either. All questions have equal marks value. The examination is worth 50% of the 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 **22 October to 13 November 2010**.

**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 course.

**Penalties:**

Essays submitted after 4pm on Friday 10 September, 2010 will be penalised ten points per week. No essays will be accepted after 24 September, 2010.

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, 24<sup>th</sup> September 2010** is the **FINAL DATE** on which any written work can be accepted. This means that the provision for late submission with a penalty does not apply beyond this date. Permission to submit work after 24<sup>th</sup> September 2010 must be sought in writing from the Course Coordinator 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).

**Return of Course Assignments:**

Essays and tests will be returned during tutorials, within three weeks of the due date. If students fail to attend the relevant tutorial, they may pick up their essay from the Programme Office on the fourth/fifth floor between the hours of 2 and 3pm on Monday to Friday.

**Class Representative:**

A Class rep will be elected on the first day of class; that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course coordinator (Ismay) and the class. It will be posted on Blackboard as well. The class rep provides a communication channel to liaise with the course coordinator on behalf of students.

**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>

### **Use of Turnitin.com**

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/avcacademic/Publications.aspx](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic/Publications.aspx)

**Course Content:**

**Week One: (Sondra)**

Session One: Introduction and a little bit of logic

Session Two: Categories of Art

Reading: Kendall Walton

**Week Two: (Ismay)**

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

Session Two: Conceptions of Art: Modernism and Mimetic Theories

Reading: Plato

**Week Three: (Ismay)**

Session One: Is Popular Art and Culture Dangerous to those for whom it is intended?

Reading: Plato and Alexander Nehamas (The latter is number 22 in the coursebook)

Session Two: **in-class test on topic covered in Week One**

**Week Four: (Ismay)**

Session One: What is the Point of Public Art?

Reading: Symposium on Public Art

Session Two: Conceptions of Art: Institutional Theories

Reading: George Dickie, Arthur Danto and Anita Silvers

**Week Five: (Sondra)**

Session One: Music and Recording Technology: Brown vs. Glasgow

Reading: Lee Brown and Joshua Glasgow

Session Two: Digital Interactive Art

Reading: Sherri Irvin, "Interpretation and Ignorance".

**Week Six: (Sondra)**

Session One: The Artist's Sanction

Reading: Sherri Irvin

Session Two: Hume on the Standard of Taste

Reading: David Hume

**Week Seven: (Ismay)**

Session One: How to Appreciate Nature

Reading: Allen Carlson and Emily Brady

Session Two: Is All Virgin Nature Beautiful?

Reading: Allen Carlson

**Week Eight: (Ismay)**

Session One: What is Wrong with Fakes and Forgeries?

Reading: Alfred Lessing and Nan Stalnaker

Session Two: Beauty and Design

Reading: John Armstrong

**Week Nine: (Steve)**

Session One: Screening of *Manufacturing Consent*



Session Two: Mill's Argument for a Free Press

Reading: John Stuart Mill and Edward Herman and Noam Chomsky

**Week Ten: (Steve)**

Session One: Evaluating Mill's Argument (and some alternatives)

Reading: Joel Feinberg twice

Session Two: Montague's Argument for a Free Press

Reading: Phillip Montague

**Week Eleven: (Richard)**

Session One: Emotions and Fiction

Reading: Neill, "Fiction and the Emotions"

Session Two: Horror: Disgust and Fascination

Reading: Carroll, "The Nature of Horror"

**Week Twelve: (Richard)**

Session One: Tragedy

Reading: Hume, "Of Tragedy"

Session Two: Comedy

Reading: Cohen, "Humor"