



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

PHILOSOPHY PROGRAMME
PHIL 107: Philosophy of Media and the Arts

TRIMESTER 1 2013
4 March – 3 July 2013

Trimester dates

Teaching dates: 4 March to 7 June 2013

Easter break: 28 March to 3 April 2013

Mid-trimester break: 22–28 April 2013

Study week: 10–14 June 2013

Examination/Assessment Period: 14 June to 3 July 2013. Students must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at
www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Dr Sondra Bacharach
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Lecturer: Professor Richard Joyce
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Lecturer: Dr Stuart Brock
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Class times and locations

Can be found on the Victoria website at:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/subjects/coursecatalogue>

It is advisable to check the above for any changes to the timetable programme.

Lecture Time: Mon 2.00 - 3.00 pm, Wed 2.00 – 4.00 pm

Lecture Venue: New Kirk, (KK)LT301

Tutorial/Seminar:

For Tutorial/Seminar times and venue see the website below

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/timetables/lecture-timetable.aspx>

Teaching/learning summary

PHIL 107 will involve one two-hour lecture and one 50-minute lecture and one 50-minute tutorial per week. Students will be expected to attend lectures and tutorials, take part in the discussion and keep up with the reading.

Communication of additional information

This course uses Blackboard and presumes that all enrolled students have valid myvuw.ac.nz addresses. Please check that this account is active and you have organised email forwarding. Additional information and any changes to the timetable or lecture and seminar programme will be advised by email, announced in lectures, and posted on the course Blackboard site.

Course prescription

An introduction to the philosophy of art, focusing on philosophical issues concerning popular culture, film, fiction, music and the visual arts.

Course content

An outline of the course content will be posted on Blackboard.

Learning objectives

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.

Graduate attributes

As with all Philosophy 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 <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/hppi/about/overview-of-the-school/phil-overview#graduate-attributes>

Expected workload

In accordance with Faculty Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 200 hours to the course throughout the trimester. This includes weekly attendance at lectures, and tutorials, completion of all set weekly readings and research and writing for set assessment tasks.

Readings

You should purchase the PHIL107 coursebook. All undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre Foyer from 11 February to 15 March 2013, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from vicbooks' new store,

Ground Floor Easterfield Building, Kelburn Parade. After week two of the trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from vicbooks, Easterfield 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 nominated collection points at each campus. 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:

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 **examination** is worth **50%**.

Tutorial Attendance:

Tutorial attendance is **strongly encouraged**.

In-Class Test: The test will consist of one question, to be answered in class in Week Four, Session One Monday 25 March. 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.

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 Monday 29 April**. **Note: All essays will be submitted to turnitin.com**

Question:

EITHER:

A) What is the paradox of fiction? Discuss at least two solutions to the paradox that have been proposed by philosophers. Critically assess these proposals. [Suggested readings: K. Walton, "Fearing fictions"; P. Lamarque, "How can we fear and pity fiction?"; R. Joyce, "Rational fear of monsters."]

OR:

B) What is the normative paradox of fiction? Critically assess Colin Radford's solution to the paradox. [Suggested readings: Radford: "How can we be moved by the fate of Anna Karenina?"; Lamarque: "How can we fear and pity fiction?"; Joyce "Rational fear of monsters."]

(iii) Final Examination: The final examination is a **closed-book, three-hour**, examination during the examination period. Students must answer four questions. All questions have equal marks value. The examination is worth 50% of the total course marks. Further

information about the final examination will be posted on “Blackboard” as details become available. The examination period for the first trimester 2013 is from 14 June – 3 July 2013.

Penalties

Philosophy Programme policy stipulates that late submission of essays is penalised. For each week or part thereof of lateness, a late assignment gets a 5 point penalty, up to three weeks, after which the assignment will get a zero mark. (i.e. 1-7 days late a loss of 5%; 8-14 days late a loss of 10 %; 15-21 days late a loss of 15%, and after that a zero mark.) Extensions may be granted in exceptional circumstances, but **all extensions require the student to provide documentation**. 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.

If granted an extension, students must agree to a new due date. Contact your lecturer as soon as a problem emerges. Extension forms are available in the School office.

Mandatory course requirements:

There are no mandatory course requirements.

Return of marked course work

Essays and tests will be returned at times to be advised. If students fail to attend these times, they may collect their essay from the School Office, Room 518, Murphy Building between the hours of 2.00 and 3.00 pm from Monday to Friday and must show their Student ID card before collection.

Class representative

A class representative will be elected in the first week, and that person’s name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students. You can find out more information on Class Representatives on the [VUWSA website](#).

Statement on legibility

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>

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.

Where to find more detailed information

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study. Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress. Most statutes and policies are available at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the Academic Office website, at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcademic.