



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

PHILOSOPHY PROGRAMME PHIL104: Minds, Brains, and Persons 20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 2 2016

Key dates

Trimester dates: 11 July to 13 November 2016

Teaching dates: 11 July to 16 October 2016

Mid-trimester break: 22 August to 4 September 2016

Study period: 17–20 October 2016

Examination/Assessment Period: 21 October to 12 November 2016

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

Class times and locations

Lectures:

There are two lecture streams. You are welcome to move between streams; just make sure that you attend one lecture each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Stream 1: Mon 9-9.50, New Kirk KKLT301
Wed 9-9.50, New Kirk KKLT301
Fri 9-9.50, New Kirk KKLT301

Stream 2: Mon 11-11.50, New Kirk KKLT301
Wed 11-11.50, Maclaurin MCLT102
Fri 11-11.50, Maclaurin MCLT102

Tutorials

You will attend one tutorial a week. Tutorials begin in week 2. Please see the Academic Timetable 2016 www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/timetables.

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Simon Keller
Room No: MY 720
Phone: x9638
Email: Simon.Keller@vuw.ac.nz
Office hours: Thurs 9.30-11 and by appointment

Course Administrator: Michael Gilchrist
Email: Michael.Gilchrist@vuw.ac.nz

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 tutorial programme will be advised by email, announced in lectures, and posted on the course Blackboard site.

Prescription

This course is an introduction to philosophical questions about the nature of minds and how they relate to brains and persons. Topics may include: What is consciousness? What can science tell us about the mind? What is a person? In virtue of what do persons persist over time?

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. explain the fundamental ethical principles that govern good scholarship in philosophy
2. explain some of the current debates in the fields of philosophy of mind and metaphysics
3. evaluate a variety of arguments using established methods of formal or informal logic
4. an ability to define clearly and precisely key concepts in the fields of philosophy of mind and metaphysics.

Teaching format

PHIL 104 is taught in three 50-minute lectures per week and one 50-minute tutorial per week. A schedule of readings and topics will be provided separately and posted on Blackboard.

Workload

This course has been designed on the assumption that students will devote approximately 200 hours to it throughout the trimester. This is an average of 14 hours per week across the 14 weeks of trimester. This includes attendance at 36 lectures and a tutorial each week. The remainder of your time will need to be shared between tutorial preparation and making progress on assignments.

Things to consider when planning your time:

- Tutorial preparation involves careful reading of set texts for meaning and argument, as well as note-taking and preparation of responses to topics raised in the readings and lectures.
- Essays and other written assignments may require enough time for location, retrieval and reading of a range of sources. Note-taking, planning, drafting and editing the draft will all be necessary before writing up a final version.

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	500 word writing exercise	10	1, 2, 3, 4	29 July
2	In-class test	10	2, 3, 4	12 August
3	500 word writing exercise	10	1, 2, 3, 4	9 September
4	In-class test	10	2, 3, 4	23 September
5	1000 word essay	15	1, 2, 3, 4	7 October
6	Examination, 2 hours	35	2, 3, 4	During university exam period, 21 October to 12 November 2016
7	Very short unannounced tests to be given in lectures and tutorials. There will be at least 15 tests during the term. You will get 1 point for each test successfully completed, up to a total of 10 points.	10	2, 3, 4	

Submission and return of work

Written exercises and essays should be submitted electronically through Blackboard. Use the “essay submission” link. When marked, essays will be returned to you either in hard copy in tutorials or lectures, or electronically through Blackboard.

We reserve the right to ask for an electronic copy of any assessable work for checking in Turnitin.com (see www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin).

Graded assignments that are not collected in tutorials will be placed in the School Office, MY 518, where they can be collected between the hours of 2.00-3.00 pm, Monday to Friday.

The written exercises and in-class tests will be returned within 12 days of the date of submission.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

If you need an extension on an assignment, you must contact the course coordinator or the course administrator before the assignment is due to be submitted, unless circumstances make this impossible. The circumstances under which an extension will be considered are outlined in section 3.2.1 of the Assessment Handbook.

(See: www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf).

Penalties

Philosophy Programme policy stipulates that there is no guarantee that late work will be accepted for assessment, and that if it is accepted, there may be penalties. Where work is not submitted on time, students should contact the course coordinator to explain the lateness (preferably before the assignment is due to be submitted).

For this course, the lateness policy is as follows:

For the written assignments and essay:

- If you need an extension, you must email the course administrator or coordinator as soon as is practically possible. Extensions of up to a week will usually be granted, if you give a good reason and if you contact us at least 24 hours before the piece of work is due. Extensions beyond a week, or where we have not been contacted 24 hours before the work is due, will be granted only in very special circumstances.
- If work is submitted late without an extension having been granted, there will be a late penalty of one-third of a grade for each day of lateness (eg. a B- becomes a C+).
- Late penalties will not cause a piece of work to fail; late penalties may take you down to C-, but no lower.
- If you submit your work late (for whatever reason), you cannot expect it to be returned to you before the end of term.
- No work will be accepted after 21 October.

For the in-class tests:

- Make-up tests will only be offered in very special circumstances.
- If you cannot sit the test at the assigned time, or if you need to make special arrangements, you must email the course administrator or coordinator at least two weeks before the test.
- If something happens that causes you to miss the test, you must contact the course administrator or coordinator as soon as possible.

There will be no make-ups (no exceptions) for the unannounced tests.

The final exam is administered by the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, and all enquiries concerning it should be addressed to the Faculty Student and Academic Services Office.

Set texts

Some of the readings will be accessible following instructions on Blackboard, through the university library catalogue. Some of the readings will be available in a coursebook, which can be purchased from Vicbooks (www.vicbooks.co.nz). A full reading list, and further instructions on where to find the readings, will be given in the first lecture.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course.

Student feedback

Based on student feedback from 2015, we have changed the assessment to include a larger number of smaller tests and exercises. Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin

- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz