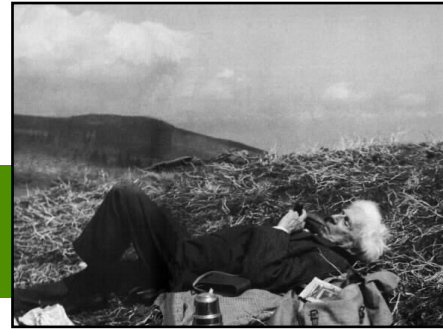


Introduction to Philosophy

Spring Semester Update



Instructor: Karen Brown
E-mail: klbrown@uvic.ca
Office: Clearihue Hall B 314
Office Hours: Wednesdays 1:30 pm – 3:00
 and by appointment

DRAFT

Not the official course
outline

Texts

For the second semester you will need these books:

Stephen Stich and Tom Donaldson. **Philosophy: Asking Questions—Seeking Answers**. Oxford University Press. 2019. Available through the UVic Bookstore and through RedShelf (redshelf.com).

Daniel C. Dennett. **Elbow Room: The Varieties of Free Will Worth Wanting**. MIT Press. 2015. Available through the UVic Bookstore and Kobo (kobo.com) and Amazon.

All the other readings will be available on-line through the course Brightspace page.

Spring Semester Schedule

Philosophy of Religion and the Ethics of Belief

T 1/10	Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion, Parts I and II
W 1/11	Hume <i>Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion</i> , Parts III through IX S&D Chapter 3: <i>Does God exist?</i> Sections 1–6
F 1/13	Hume continued
T 1/17	Hume <i>Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion</i> , Parts X through XII S&D Chapter 4: <i>Why does God leave us to suffer?</i>
W 1/18	Clifford <i>The Ethics of Belief</i> James <i>The Will to Believe</i> S&D Chapter 3: <i>Does God exist?</i> Section 9
F 1/20	Workshop for Writing Assignment 6 <i>Evidence and Belief</i>

Philosophy of Science

T 1/24 S&D Chapter 7: *Will the sun rise tomorrow?* Sections 1–3
Gould *The Chain of Reason vs. the Chain of Thumbs*
Pigliucci and Boudry *The Dangers of Pseudoscience*

W 1/25 S&D Chapter 7: *Will the sun rise tomorrow?* Sections 4 and 7

F 1/27 **Writing Assignment 6 – Evidence and Belief due 8pm**
Kuhn from **The Structure of Scientific Revolutions**

T 1/31 **Workshop for Writing Assignment 7 Scientific Method**

W 2/1 **QUIZ 5 Science and Religion open from 9:30 am to 11:30 am**

Free Will

F 2/3 Introduction to Free Will

T 2/7 **Writing Assignment 7 – Scientific Method due 8pm**
Dennett *Please Don't Feed the Bugbears*

W 2/8 Dennett *Making Reason Practical*

F 2/10 **Workshop for Writing Assignment 8 Free Will and Control**
Dennett *Control and Self-Control*

T 2/14 Dennett *Self-Made Selves*

W 2/15 **Writing Assignment 8 – Free Will and Control due 8pm**
Dennett *Acting Under the Idea of Freedom*

F 2/17 Dennett “*Could Have Done Otherwise*”, *Why do we want free will?*

2/20 – 2/24 Reading Break – No Classes

T 2/28 **QUIZ 6 Free Will open from 9:30 am to 11:30 am**

Philosophy of Mind

W 3/1 S&D Chapter 10: *How is your mind related to your body?*, Sections 1 & 2

F 3/3 Ryle from **The Concept of Mind**
S&D Chapter 10: *How is your mind related to your body?*, Section 3

T 3/7 S&D Chapter 10: *How is your mind related to your body?*, Section 4–6

W 3/8 **Workshop for Writing Assignment 9 Minds and Machines**
Turing from *Computing Machinery and Intelligence*

Philosophy of Mind *continued*

F 3/10 Searle *Watson Doesn't Know It Won on "Jeopardy!"*

T 3/14 Nagel *What is it like to be a bat?*

W 3/15 **Writing Assignment 9 – *Minds and Machines* due 8pm**
Churchland *The Hornswoggle Problem*

F 3/17 Quiz 7 Mind *open from 9:30 am to 11:30 am*

The Good Life and the Meaning of Life

T 3/21 Tolstoy from *My Confession*

W 3/22 Schopenhauer *On The Vanity of Existence*

F 3/24 Camus from *The Myth of Sisyphus*

T 3/28 S&D Chapter 13: *What really matters?*, Section 3

W 3/29 Nagel *The Absurd*

F 3/31 Wolf *Happiness and Meaning*, Section II *Meaning in Life*
S&D Chapter 13: *What really matters?*, Sections 4 & 5

T 4/4 Quiz 8 *The Meaning of Life* *open from 9:30 am to 11:30 am*

W 4/5 Wallace *This is Water*
Russell *The Value of Philosophy*
Last Day of Class

T 4/11 **Writing Assignment 10 – *Existential Crisis* due 8pm**

For all other course information see the course outline from the fall semester, available on the course Brightspace page.