PHIL 2500: INTRO TO SYMBOLIC LOGIC*
TR 9:30-10:45
This class introduces the concepts and methods of deductive logic. Students will learn to symbolize statements in natural language and evaluate the validity of arguments, the logical status of statements, and equivalence of pairs of statements in propositional logic. Methods will include truth tables, truth trees, and proofs. The skills acquired in this class are essential for advanced work in philosophy and are useful in linguistics, mathematics, computer science, and other fields; and these skills may improve performance on the LSAT and other standardized tests.

PHIL 3000: INTRO SEMINAR IN PHILOSOPHY-CTW*
TR 11:00-12:15
Human Nature: Is there such a thing as “human nature”? And if so, is it determined by natural (biological) facts about us? What role do social and historical forces play in shaping human nature? Far from being silenced by scientific progress since Darwin, the debate over these questions, and others, will consider in this course in philosophical anthropology, has only intensified. The centerpiece of this course will be an introduction to what has come to be known as “the Darwin wars,” in which we will explore philosophical writings (both before and after Darwin) on issues of human equality and seminal works on morality and human psychology.

PHIL 3000: INTRO SEMINAR IN PHILOSOPHY-CTW*
MW 12:00-1:15
Civil Rights and Social Justice: Blacks, Jews, and the Meaning of Equality. A central principle of modern democracy is that all citizens must be treated equally under the law. But there has been disagreement over what equality means and who should be a citizen. Historically, various social groups have been excluded from citizenship or treated in horribly unequal ways. In this class, we will examine ethical issues concerning two social groups that have been subjected to exclusion, discrimination, and worse: Blacks in the U.S., from their enslavement to the present day, and Jews in Europe, from their segregation in ghettos to the Holocaust. We will read philosophical works on discrimination and genocide and legal cases on slavery, segregation, and affirmative action.

PHIL 3000: INTRO SEMINAR IN PHILOSOPHY-CTW*
TR 2:30-3:45
Individual Happiness and Social Welfare. What is happiness? Can you think you are happy and be wrong? Is “social welfare” the sum of the happiness we each have (perhaps after subtracting any unhappiness)? Either way, what does that mean for political society? Should governments create “national happiness statistics” to judge their policies?

PHIL 3010: HISTORY-WESTERN PHILOSOPHY I: ANCIENT*
MW 1:30-2:45
Western Philosophy has its roots in the Mediterranean world. In this course we will examine the works of philosophers from the 6th century BC through the 2nd century AD. We will begin with the pre-Socratic philosophers, whose questions about the nature of reality gave rise to the first scientific investigations and eventually to philosophy. We’ll then move on to study two foundational figures in the Classical period, Plato and Aristotle. After that we’ll consider two schools in the Hellenistic period: the Epicureans and the Skeptics. We will focus on the metaphysics, ethics and theories of knowledge of the philosophers.

PHIL 3020: HISTORY-WESTERN PHILOSOPHY II: MODERN*
MW 12:00-1:15
This course offers a survey of the history of early modern philosophy (roughly, 1650–1800). The philosophers of this period sought to understand the implications of the Scientific Revolution—what it means for our understanding of God, the universe, and the place of human beings within it. In this course, we shall try to learn from their efforts. We’ll concentrate on the work of four great philosophers: Descartes, Leibniz, Locke, and Hume. These writers revolutionized the art and practice of philosophy, and they set the agenda for everything that came after them.

PHIL 3710: MARRIAGE AND FAMILY*
TR 11:00-12:15
In the United States, there is intense political debate about whether or not the state should recognize same-sex marriage. Philosophers are currently debating even more radical reforms for marriage law. Some call for the privatization of marriage. This course is a philosophical investigation of issues relating to marriage and the family. In addition to consideration of what form of marriage, if any, the state ought to recognize, we will consider children’s rights and parental obligations as well as issues of gender justice in the family.

PHIL 3720: CONTEMPORARY MORAL PROBLEMS
MW 3:00-4:15
Dowewe have anyduties towardanimals? Is euthanasia ethical in any circumstances? Can capital punishment be justified? Abortion ever the right choice? After an introduction to major ethical theories, students will debate with contemporary philosophers’ opposing views on these and other ethical issues.

PHIL 3730: BUSINESS ETHICS
TR 9:30-10:45
Is it possible to do business without ethics? Is it more profitable to do business ethically? Do CEOs have a responsibility to anyone other than themselves to their stockholders, their customers, the local community, the environment? Are international corporations different from mom-and-pop stores? If so, how and why? After an introduction to contemporary management and ethical theories, students will discuss cases and issues that address the economic questions.
All 4000-level philosophy classes have a pre-requisite of one 2000- or 3000-level philosophy class. However, we strongly encourage students to take Phil 3000 (Intro Seminar in Philosophy) before taking 4000-level classes.

PHIL 4030: TOPICS IN ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY*  TR 11:00-12:15  TIM O’KEEFE
Epicureanism was one of the major philosophical systems competing for the allegiance of thoughtful people in the Hellenistic world. This course will range broadly over Epicurus’ (materialistic and reductionist) metaphysics, (empiricist and anti-skeptical) epistemology, and (egoistic and hedonistic) ethics. Particular topics include: Why the mind is identical to a bodily organ; why skepticism is unlivable and self-refuting; why living simply and reducing your desires leads to pleasure; why you have to love your friends as much as yourself for the sake of your own pleasure; how realizing that death is annihilation helps relieve the fear of death.

PHIL 4085: TOPICS IN HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY*  TR 7:15-8:30  SANDRA DWYER
Hannah Arendt and Feminist Theory: Reading The Human Condition: Was Hannah Arendt, one of the most controversial and original political philosophers of the 20th century, an anti-feminist? Commentators take her to be so, due to her reliance on an Aristotelian distinction between public and private. To familiarize us with key Arendtian ideas and recurring themes, excerpts from a variety of her works will be consulted, but our focus will be on The Human Condition. We will use the exegetical question among commentators to jump start an investigation into deeper questions about the essence and scope of feminist philosophy, and whether the public/private split itself is untenable or worth salvaging.

PHIL 4300: METAPHYSICS*  TR 9:30-10:45  STEPHEN JACOBSON
The aim of this course is to read, write, and think intensively about a variety of topics in metaphysics—such as free will and determinism, the existence of God, the nature of truth, the nature of necessity, contingent identities, personal identity, the persistence of physical objects, universals and particulars, the relation between objects and their parts, and realism versus anti-realism regarding such areas as science, ethics, modality, and the physical universe, among others.

PHIL 4330: PHILOSOPHY OF MIND*  TR 4:00-5:15  GEORGE GRAHAM
Opening with a concise survey of the major classical problems in philosophy of mind—mind/body, other minds, consciousness, intentionality, selfhood, among others—the course will then turn to new avenues of research in the field. These include the problems of autism and “mindblindness,” alcoholism and self-control, and religion and delusion. Special attention will be given to the relevance of classical problems to the new avenues of research.

PHIL 4500: SYMBOLIC LOGIC*  MW 12:00-1:15  ED COX
This class presents the concepts and methods of contemporary, first-order formal logic. Students will learn to symbolize statements and arguments, evaluate the validity of arguments, the logical status of sentences, consistency and inconsistency of sets of sentences, and equivalence of pairs of sentences in both sentential and predicate logic. Methods will include truth tables, truth trees, and proofs in sentential logic, and interpretations, truth trees, and proofs in predicate logic. The skills acquired in this class are essential for advanced work in philosophy. (Prereq: PHIL 2500 with B or better)

PHIL 4700: ETHICS*  TR 2:30-3:45  ANDREW I. COHEN
A study of some leading historical and contemporary theories of what the good is, how we can know it, and what evaluative statements mean. The figures we study may include Plato, Aristotle, Epicurus, Hobbes, Hume, Kant, Mill, and some contemporary theorists such as Moore, Hare, Mackie, Gauthier, and Rawls.

PHIL 4770: MORAL PSYCHOLOGY*  MW 1:30-2:45  EDDY NAHMIAS
Psychologists, neuroscientists, and other cognitive scientists are increasingly studying moral judgment and behavior, often with little explicit connection to the rich philosophical history of moral theory. Meanwhile, philosophers often neglect the relevance of this empirical research to debates about morality. We will consider how this gap should be bridged as we study the rich interdisciplinary field of moral psychology. Topics may include: reason and emotion, altruism and empathy, free will and moral responsibility, character and virtue, moral intuitions and moral disagreement. Readings will include historical and contemporary selections from philosophy and from relevant sciences.

PHIL 4820: PHILOSOPHY OF LAW*  MW 3:00-4:15  ANDREW ALTMAN
Modern societies are not possible without complex systems of law to regulate the actions and interactions of their members. But these systems of law raise many philosophical questions. What is law and how is it related to morality? When, if ever, is it justifiable to deliberately violate the law? What kinds of conduct can be legitimately criminalized? What is a war crime? What does the U.S. Constitution really mean? In this class, we will examine these and related questions by reading philosophical works as well as legal cases.

PHIL 4855: ADVANCED TOPICS IN POLITICAL THEORY  MW 12:00-1:15  PETER LINDSAY
Do you have opinion on capital punishment? Immigration? Gun control? The use of torture? If so, where did you get it? Is it an informed and reasonable opinion—one that does not contradict the opinions you have on any other issues? Being a political philosopher involves understanding political reality, but also being able to think clearly about controversial political issues. In this course we will go beyond talk shows and stump speeches to explore what is at stake in those issues. We will examine how one might hold an informed and reasonable view about them—a view that makes sense in light of one’s core moral commitments, be they Republican, Democratic, libertarian, Marxist, Christian, Islamists or undecided.

PHIL 4990: SENIOR SEMINAR IN PHILOSOPHY-CTW*  TR 11:00-12:15  ANDREW J. COHEN
Happiness and Justice. What is happiness? Can you think you are happy and be wrong? What does happiness have to do with justice? Can a state be just with no happy citizens? Is it just if everyone is happy? What should we do about all this? (Prereqs: PHIL 3000, 3010, 3020)

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