

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY SUMMER I 2017 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

PHIL 2300-001 **Beginning Philosophy** **12:00-1:50** **MTWRF** **ENG/PHIL 164**
Dr. Darren Hick

This is a general introduction to philosophy, designed to acquaint students with certain significant problems as they are considered by major philosophical figures. These are not esoteric questions but instead ones central to ordinary human experience. Students will be encouraged to formulate and defend their own answers to these questions, using the concepts and methods of inquiry introduced in the course. This process will help improve students' abilities to think more critically and to communicate with greater clarity and precision.

PHIL 2300-260 **Beginning Philosophy** **Barcelona** **TBA** **TBA**
Dr. Jonathan Dorsey **Class held June 1 - 29, 2016**

Beginning Philosophy in Barcelona introduces philosophy via classic and contemporary readings in four areas: epistemology (theory of knowledge), philosophy of mind, philosophy of art and philosophy of religion. In connection with the latter two we will visit the most famous cultural and religious sites in and around Barcelona to experience firsthand the amazing historical and cultural influences of art and religion in the region for the past two millennia. Our many trips will also enrich our discussions of the readings and provide concrete examples for discussion. This course fulfills a core requirement in the Language, Philosophy, and Culture category and in the Multicultural category.

PHIL 2310-001 **Logic** **10:00-11:50** **MTWRF** **MCOM 363**
Dr. Joel Velasco

This course is an introduction to formal logic focused on two artificial languages, propositional logic and first-order logic. By studying these languages (and translating sentences of natural language--sentences of English--into them), we will develop some tools to help us understand and evaluate arguments built up out of ordinary English sentences. We will also develop a better understanding of important philosophical concepts, such as truth and meaning. Overall, we will learn to use mathematical and logical reasoning to evaluate the validity of an argument. Assessment will be by exams and homework, which will require you to apply various tools and techniques in making such evaluations.

PHIL 5341-001 **Great Figures in Philosophy** **2:00-3:50** **MTWRF** **ENG/PHIL 264**
Dr. Francesca DiPoppa

This class will offer a limited survey of great thinkers in history of political philosophy from Machiavelli to Burke.