

## DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY SUMMER I 2022 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

**PHIL 2310-D01**                      **Logic**    **ONLINE**    **ASYNCHRONOUS**

**Dr. Christopher Hom**

A central aspect of reasoning is the ability to give arguments for one's conclusions. Logic is the formal representation of arguments, so mastering logic is essential for good reasoning. In this course, we will investigate the underlying, logical form of sentences and the deductive relations that hold between them, thus giving us deeper insight into the notion of inference from premises to conclusion. The course will present three logical systems, each in increasing expressive power: sentential logic, monadic quantificational logic, and polyadic quantificational logic. For each system, we will closely examine the syntax of the system, its relation to English, its particular semantic features, and the general properties of satisfiability, validity, implication and equivalence.

This is an online course, so all lectures, handouts, assignments and exams will be on Blackboard. Exams require a regular computer (Windows/Mac computer or laptop). You cannot take exams from mobile devices (e.g. iPhone, iPad, Android devices, etc.). You also need a working webcam and microphone, and your computer will need the Google Chrome web browser.

**PHIL 2320-101**                      **Introduction to Ethics**    **10:00-11:50**                      **MTWRF**    **PHIL 164**

**Dr. Jeremy Schwartz**

How should we live? What is a good life? Ought I to forgo my own interests for the interests of another? Is it sometimes permissible to kill innocent human beings? Is it permissible to kill animals for food? Ethical philosophy attempts to answer these sorts of questions through reason and reflection. Within current ethical philosophy, there are three major schools of thought on how these sorts of questions should be answered: utilitarianism, virtue theory, and deontology. While each of these attempts to shed light on all of these questions merely through reason and reflection, each of them arrives at very different answers to these questions. In this class, we will investigate utilitarianism, deontology, and virtue theory in some detail by closely reading both the founding texts of each of the ethical theories as well as reading some modern re-interpretations and criticisms. In addition, in the last part of the class, we will seek to apply these theories to three test cases: abortion, animal rights, and global poverty. The application to test cases should both shed light on our intuitions about these morally contested issues but also shed light on the ethical theories themselves.

**PHIL 3341-101**                      **Philosophy of Literature**    **2:00-3:50**                      **MTWRF**    **PHIL 264**

**Dr. Anna Ribeiro**

What kinds of texts are literary works'? Is a work identical with its text'? How do we interpret literary works'? How do we evaluate them'? Is it irrational to feel emotions for fictional characters? Do we acquire knowledge by reading poems or novels that we could not have acquired by other means'? We will discuss these and other questions relating to literature as they have been investigated by contemporary analytic philosophers as well as Plato, Aristotle, David Hume and others.