

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY SUMMER I 2019 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

PHIL 2310-101 **Logic** **10:00-11:50** **MTWRF** **ENG/PHIL 164**

Dr. Joseph Gottlieb

This is an introduction to symbolic logic via the study of sentential and predicate logic. Topics to be discussed include analyzing arguments, translating ordinary prose into a formal language, as well the methods of truth-tables, truth trees, and natural deduction in sentential and predicate logic.

PHIL 2320-101 **Introduction to Ethics** **10:00-11:50** **MTWRF** **PHIL 163**

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 3322-101 **Biomedical Ethics** **12:00-1:50** **MTWRF** **ENG/PHIL 163**

Dr. Francesca DiPoppa

Is abortion always immoral? Is euthanasia? Are these morally permissible under certain circumstances, or maybe always? Everyone has an opinion about this. But there is a big difference between feeling a certain way about abortion, or euthanasia, or stem cell research, and having a philosophically informed opinion. This class will offer you the tools to be a philosophically informed participant in some of the most important debates in bioethics today.

PHIL 3334-260 **Philosophy of Biology** **Seville, Spain** **TBA** **TBA**

Dr. Joel Velasco

This course will examine a range of philosophical questions that arise within the study of evolutionary biology and its application to the human sciences. We'll first discuss questions concerning selection, fitness, adaptationism, and evolutionary explanations. We'll then look at Sociobiology and Evolutionary Psychology with an eye toward thinking about humans and human nature. We will then ask how we can (and should) study human behavior and finally, we will ask if human races exist.