**PH 101-1 PROBLEMS OF PHILOSOPHY**

**TO BE OFFERED:**

Section 001, Monday & Wednesday | 8:00 a.m. -- 9:20 a.m.| INSTRUCTOR: Jesse Hughes

Section 002, Monday & Wednesday | 3:00 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.| INSTRUCTOR: Alex DiPippo

Section 003, Monday & Wednesday | 5:00 p.m. – 6:20 p.m. | INSTRUCTOR: Alex DiPippo

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

**Context and Perspectives**: Arts and Science Course

This course seeks to help the student think rationally and critically about basic questions concerning the meaning of human life and our place in society and the universe, and to recognize the bearing of these questions on contemporary social issues. This course exposes students to both classical and contemporary philosophical problems. Among problems for possible discussion are the existence of God, freedom and responsibility, human nature and happiness, appearance and reality, ethics and the environment, abortion and individual rights, affirmative action and equality, love and sex, and law and authority.

**PH 102 PRACTICAL ETHICS**

**TO BE OFFERED:**

Section 001, Monday & Wednesday | 8:00 a.m. – 9:20 a.m. | INSTRUCTOR: Jerry Steinhofer

Section 002, Monday & Wednesday | 9:30 a.m. – 10:50 a.m. | INSTRUCTOR: Jerry Steinhofer

Section 003, Monday & Thursday | 11:00 a.m. – 12:20 p.m. | INSTRUCTOR**:** Pengbo Liu

Section 004, Tuesday & Friday | 11:00 a.m. – 12:20 p.m. | INSTRUCTOR: Debra Candreva

Section 005, Tuesday & Friday | 12:30 p.m. – 1:50 p.m. | INSTRUCTOR: Debra Candreva

Section 006, Tuesday & Friday | 12:30 p.m. – 1:50 p.m. | INSTRUCTOR: Pengbo Liu

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

**Context and Perspectives**: Values, Ethics, and Society

Our lives abound with questions about what is right and wrong, good and bad, ethical and unethical. How should we live and why should we live that way? What should our society allow and what should it forbid? How should we relate to one another as citizens, as coworkers, and as human beings? Ethical theory aims to help us answer these daunting but pressing questions. In this course, students will learn how to use ethical theory to analyze and evaluate differing perspectives on contemporary issues such as abortion, gun rights, racial and gender justice, online privacy, climate change, immigration, animal rights, and economic inequality. Students will develop their capacity to think critically, rationally, and creatively about the ethical questions we face as individuals and as a society.

**PH 103 ULTIMATE QUESTIONS**

**TO BE OFFERED:**

Section 001, Winter Sessions | Asynchronous | INSTRUCTOR: Axel Seemann

Section 002, Tuesday & Thursday | 3:30 p.m. – 4:50 p.m. | INSTRUCTOR: James Schofield

Section 003, Tuesday & Thursday | 5:00 p.m. – 6:20 p.m. | INSTRUCTOR: James Schofield

Section 004, Monday & Wednesday | 5:00 p.m. – 6:20 p.m. | INSTRUCTOR: Jason Megill

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

**Context and Perspectives**: Culture, Change, and Behavior

Nobody makes it through life without at some stage being confronted with the ultimate questions about human existence: Who am I? Why am I here? What do I know? These and related topics, such as, for instance, the scientific method, the nature of truth, or the existence of God, are at the heart of philosophical inquiry. They are primarily theoretical (as opposed to practical or ethical) concerns that are largely addressed in metaphysics and epistemology – the areas of philosophy that reflect on the fundamental structure of the world, our place within and our ability to acquire knowledge about it. This course explores these questions through a number of historical and contemporary philosophical texts, as well as relevant perspectives in empirical disciplines (for instance psychology and psychiatry). It is designed to help students organize and deepen their thinking about the human condition.

**PH 104-1 CRITICAL THINKING**

**TO BE OFFERED:**

Section 001, Monday & Wednesday | 3:30 p.m. – 4:50 p.m. INSTRUCTOR: | Jason Megill

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

**Context and Perspectives**: Culture, Change, and Behavior

This course aims to boost your critical thinking skills. You will learn how to use some basic tools of logic and philosophy to assess and improve your own reasoning, and to evaluate the reasoning of others. Topics covered include: how to identify, interpret, and evaluate arguments; how to formulate good arguments; how to identify and avoid common mistakes in reasoning; how to evaluate information and evidence; and how to avoid being duped by misinformation.

**PH 131-1 BUSINESS ETHICS: PHILOSOPHY OF WORK**

**TO BE OFFERED:**

Section 001, Monday & Thursday | 11:00 a.m. – 1:50 p.m. | INSTRUCTOR: Aaron Ancell

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

**Context and Perspectives**: Value, Ethics, and Society

What should work look like in the 21st century? This course explores personal work values and a wide range of moral questions about contemporary work. It includes topics such as: globalization, technological change, wages and working conditions, work-life balance, discrimination and diversity, and workplace democracy. Texts include cases, academic articles, documentary films, literature, journalism, and discussions of public and institutional policies. The course draws on moral theories and students’ overall academic expertise to identify problems and defend solutions.

**PH 140 DISABILITY, VALUES & SOCIETY**

**TO BE OFFERED:**

Section 001, Wednesday | 6:30 p.m. – 9:10 p.m. | INSTRUCTOR:John Maier

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

**Context and Perspectives**: Race, Gender, and Inequality

Disability is and always has been a universal aspect of human experience. Every year, millions of people live with some form of physical or cognitive disability, and all of us have the potential to become disabled at any time. But what is disability exactly? Is it simply a medical problem? Or do disabilities arise from a mismatch between a person's body and her social environment? Is having a disability necessarily bad for you? What value does disability contribute to society? Drawing upon philosophy, memoirs, film, and other sources, this course will explore these and related questions with a particular focus on disability in the United States. Potential topics include different models of disability, the disability rights movement in the U.S., the ethics of causing and preventing disability, feminist perspectives on disability, disability in popular culture, and the relationship between disability and technology.

**PH 180 DISABILITY, VALUES & SOCIETY**

**TO BE OFFERED:**

Section 001, Monday & Thursday | 12:30 p.m. – 1:50 p.m. | INSTRUCTOR:Pengbo Liu

Section 002, Tuesday & Friday | 11:00 a.m. – 12:20 p.m. | INSTRUCTOR:Pengbo Liu

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

**Context and Perspectives**: Value, Ethics, and Society

Each of us comes into existence, lives for a time, and eventually dies. How do we make the most of our lives? We all want to lead a happy and meaningful life, but what exactly is happiness? And what makes life meaningful? Indeed, given our modest place in this vast universe, is it even possible for us to live meaningful lives? Through the examination and discussion of philosophical writings and empirical studies, we will explore theoretical and practical questions about living a good life. Topics may include philosophical and psychological theories of well-being, analyses of absurdity and meaningfulness, and conceptions of the good life in various philosophical and religious traditions, such as Stoicism, Buddhism, and Daoism.

**PH 252-1 THEORIES OF KNOWLEDGE**

**TO BE OFFERED:**

Section 001, Monday & Wednesday | 9:30 a.m. – 10:50 a.m. | INSTRUCTOR: Arianna Falbo

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

**Context and Perspectives:** Culture, Change, and Behavior

This course examines the most important questions that we can ask about our beliefs: When should we take something that we believe to be knowledge and not mere belief? What sort of evidence, reasons or assurances must we have for some belief we hold in order to be justified in holding it? How should we respond to those skeptics who deny that we have knowledge about this for that area of human concern (for example, of ultimate reality, of ethics or of God)? And how should we respond to the radical skeptic who denies that we have any knowledge at all? The course will gain focus on these and similar questions in order to help the student gain a deeper understanding of the nature and limits of human knowledge.

PH 272-1 - Perception and Perspectives

Section 001, Monday & Thursday | 2:00 PM - 3:20 PM | INSTRUCTOR: Axel Seemann

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

**Context and Perspectives:** Culture, Change, and Behavior

This course examines the nature of perception from a philosophical and psychological lens. It inquires into the connection between perception and perspectives. All perception is from some perspective, but we see whole things, not the surfaces from which we have perceptual information. One question we will be considering is how this is possible. Another, closely related question is how perspectives inform our thinking about the objects of perception. How can we know that we are perceiving, and communicating about, the same objects if our perspectives on them are distinct? And how can we come to terms with differences in our value judgements about perceived objects (or events or actions) if perspectives are value-laden? Thinking about perception turns out to be vital for making sense of a world in which our perspectives on public events are starkly distinct.

PH 310-1 - Ethical Theory

**TO BE OFFERED:**

Section 001, Monday & Wednesday | 9:30 a.m. – 10:50 a.m. | INSTRUCTOR: Jesse Hughes

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

**Context and Perspectives:** Ethics and Social Responsibility

This course surveys important traditional and contemporary ethical views, with emphasis on relating reflective morality to life in the world today. It includes an investigation of absolutism versus relativism, egoism versus altruism, the nature of moral properties and moral language, and the justification of ethical theories, such as utilitarianism, deontology, and virtue ethics.

PH 316-1 - Feminist Theory

**TO BE OFFERED:**

Section 001, Monday & Thursday | 2:00 PM - 3:20 PM | INSTRUCTOR: Arianna Falbo

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

**Context and Perspectives:** Race, Gender, and Inequality

What is the nature of sex-based oppression, and how can we successfully recognize and resist it? This course aims to introduce students to feminist theoretical approaches to the above and related questions. Through readings of contemporary feminist philosophical texts, we will explore the social-structural source of sexist oppression, as well as the impact of such oppression on the self, knowledge, and values.

PH 317-1 - Democracy and Power

**TO BE OFFERED:**

Section 001, Monday & Thursday| 12:30 p.m.-1:50 P.M. | Aaron Ancell

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

**Context and Perspectives:** Institutions and Power

Is social media ruining democracy? Do corporations have too much political power? Is democracy doomed to disintegrate into discord and disorder? What exactly is democracy anyway and how is it supposed to work? Would some other political system work better? In this course, we will explore such questions from the perspective of political philosophy. We will examine different forms of political power, consider what makes political power legitimate, and ask how political power ought to be distributed. We will discuss arguments for and against democracy, and evaluate different visions of what democracy should look like. Finally, we’ll use what we’ve learned to think through some of the problems plaguing contemporary democracies, and to critically reflect on the role of business in democratic politics.

PH 319-1 - Race, Ethnicity, Nationality

**TO BE OFFERED:**

Section 001, Monday & Thursday | 2:00 PM - 3:20 PM | INSTRUCTOR: Ranjoo Herr

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

**Context and Perspectives:** Race, Gender, and Inequality

The aim of the course is to introduce Bentley students to philosophical issues and debates concerning race, ethnicity, and nationality in the US. In the era of Black Lives Matter and Stop Asian Hate, some understanding of current issues relating to race, ethnicity, and nationality in the United States is a must for informed American citizens of the 21st century, especially those who aspire to be business leaders. Yet one of the best ways to understand these issues is through critical thinking. This course aims to help Bentley students become critical thinkers regarding vitally important topics of race, ethnicity, and nationality in the United States.