



Greetings From The Chair

DePaul Philosophy Department

Spring 2019



The dog days of summer...

The first half of 2019 has been a busy time for the department on many fronts. Our calendar featured a rich array of visiting speakers and research events, kicked off by the Graduate Student Conference at the end of January, with keynote speaker Beatrice Marovich from Hanover College. Other visiting speakers included Andrew Cutrofello, Hasana Sharp, Dermot Moran, Fernando Zalamea, Céline Leboeuf, and Petra Lohmann. Graduate student recruitment season featured our annual Graduate Student Colloquium, and the department also hosted two workshops: the Chicago Area Consortium in German Philosophy, and a workshop of the newly founded chapter of Minorities and Philoso-

phy (MAP). MAP also participated in a meeting of the Philosophy Circle, which featured a rich program of events, including films and even bowling! A highlight of our undergraduate program was the highly successful DUOS presentation day at the end of spring quarter, in which DUOS students discussed the results of their research projects. Spring quarter saw not just the end of another academic year, but marked a series of other “endings.” Several of our graduate students successfully defended their dissertations this year, bringing their graduate student careers to a close. Congratulations to Güçsal Pular, Gil Morejon, Daniel Rosiak, and Miguel Gualdrón! Two of our recent alumni, Selin Islekel and Ashley Bohrer, were hired in tenure-track positions at Fordham and Notre Dame respectively. Last but

not least, June 2019 marked the end of an era (or of an epoch in the History of Being, as one colleague put it): Our administrative assistant Mary Amico, who has anchored our department for almost 19 years, decided it was time for a well-earned retirement. Her colorful presence will certainly be missed, and we wish Mary all the best for her future adventures.

Finally, a word of welcome to our new student worker, Sahara Bratland, who together with Katie Esslinger designed and created this current Newsletter. We hope you enjoy the Newsletter, and I wish everyone a healthy and productive summer.

William McNeill
Professor & Chair, Philosophy

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Visiting Speakers

Each year the Department of Philosophy invites distinguished professionals to present their research and scholarship to our academic community. We invite researchers and specialists from the Continental Philosophy discipline, covering a broad range of topics. The Department of Philosophy wishes to thank all of our visiting speakers for their memorable presentations during Winter and Spring 2019.

Andrew Cutrofello

Loyola University,
Chicago

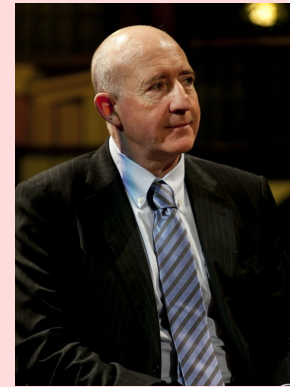


"Kant, 'the French Philosopher,' and the Duties of a Doorkeeper."

February 15th, 2019

Dermot Moran

Boston College,
Massachusetts



"Heidegger's Critical
Appropriation of
Husserl's

Phenomenological
Project in the 1920s"

April 5th, 2019



Hasana Sharp

McGill University, Montreal, Canada

"Spinoza and Solitude"

March 15th, 2019



Fernando Zalamea
Universidad Nacional de
Colombia



"Benjamin's Arcades Project
and Mathematical Residuation"

April 12th, 2019

Céline Leboeuf

Florida International University



"What Are You?:
Addressing Racial Ambiguity"

May 3rd, 2019

Petra Lohmann

University of Siegen, Germany



"The Aesthetic Implications
of Fichte on Feeling "

June 10th, 2019



Sean Kirkland and visiting speaker Céline Leboeuf

Philosophy Circle Events

This semester the **Philosophy Film Festival** showed three movies: *Derrida*, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, and *The Pervert's Guide to Ideology*. Professors Elizabeth Rottenberg, Michael Naas and Sean Kirkland did a great job showing the connections between thinkers such as Derrida, Plato and Zizek, with the art of filmmaking, and the possibilities of finding in the movies a very fruitful source for philosophical thinking and debate.



We also had two events devoted to strategies for applying to graduate programs in philosophy, with an emphasis on underrepresented groups in the discipline. Professor Eduardo Mendieta, from Penn State, gave a very insightful workshop on the subject in February, followed by our own DePaul alumni and current graduate students at Penn State, Cynthia Marrero-Ramos and Brooklyn Leonhardt, in May. Cynthia and Brooklyn not only shared with us their own experiences in applying to graduate school and successfully being admitted, they also gave wonderful talks on their current research in grad school. Their presentations, “Active Subjectivity and Spatiality in Lugones” and “Fat Trans of Color Subjectivity: Moving Towards the Abject in Merleau-Ponty,” were organized and supported by the MAP chapter (Minorities and Philosophy) in the Philosophy Department and were really well attended.

Philosophy Circle Events

Amelia Hruby, a current graduate student in the Philosophy Department working on questions of feminism and aesthetics in her dissertation, prepared an entire Philosophy Circle session on her podcast, *50 Feminist States*. The session was devoted to discussing the connections between the work that has been required to put the podcast together and her own philosophical reflections on feminism and political action.



Finally, we ended the year with a fantastic performance by the Q-brothers, “The Madness of Love Mix-tape,” a combination of hip-hop and rap music with a recreation of Plato’s Symposium and the dialogue’s focus on the philosophical question of love.



Workshops

Midwestern Race Theory Workshop and Consortium

The Midwestern Race Theory Workshop and Consortium, co-organized by María Acosta (DePaul), Jacquie Scott (Loyola), José Medina (Northwestern), and Grant Silva (Marquette) on January 19th, was a success in spite of the snow storm. Lots of people showed up, including many of our students, and had a super productive time. Coffee and pastries made it even better!

The day included the following presentations:

“A Dream Deferred: African American Meta-Oppression and the Path towards a Pessimistic Racial Health” by Jacqueline Scott

“The (Questionable) Utility of Arendt during the Trump Presidency” by Katherine Brichacek

“Doubling Down on Epistemic Injustice: The Smothering Effects of Calls for Charity” by Claire A. Lockard

“W. E. B. Du Bois’s The Conservation of Races: A Metaphilosophical Text” by Kimberly Ann Harris

“A New Approach to Unintentional Racism” by Phil Mack

“Race Anxieties: Incorporating Anxiety into Sullivan’s Transactional Unconscious” by Robert Budron



Graduate Student Conference

The Graduate Student Conference entitled “Death, Decay, and Disgust,” was a great success. It showcased a wide range of topics, each connecting back to the central themes of death, decay, and disgust, many of which were productively tied together in Dr. Beatrice Marovich's keynote address. The participants had fruitful discussions with one another, and exemplified a welcoming and rigorous academic community.

Presentations included:

“The Origin of Ugliness: Critical Perspectives on Aesthetic and Artistic Possibilities” by Gabriel Toupin

“Venerable Father Abraham: Horror and Admiration in Fear and Trembling” by Jared Highlen

“Anticipative Experience of Death as a Gnostic Point of Departure in the Philosophy of Miguel de Unamuno” by Algirdas Fediajevas

“What Is It About Death? Mortality Salience and Worldview Defense” by Wade Munroe

“Termination without Time?” by J. L. Contos

“Exhuming the Corpse as Profit: Disinterment, Neoliberalism, and the Necropolitics of the Corpse.” by Trevor Gullion,

“Spinning Out the Full Thread of Life. Francis Bacon on the Prolongation of Life as the End of Knowledge.” by Marcela Duque

“Awaiting Each Other at the Limits of Death: Heidegger and Derrida on the Community of Those Who Are Going to Die” by Humberto González Núñez

“The Impossible Work of Mourning as Respect for Otherness” by Pablo B. Sánchez Gómez

“Boredom or Disgust: The Hypersensitivity Dilemma in J.K Huysmans’ *Against Nature*” by Roman Peter



“Race Anxieties: Incorporating Anxiety into Sullivan’s Notion of Transactional Unconscious Habit” by Robert Budron

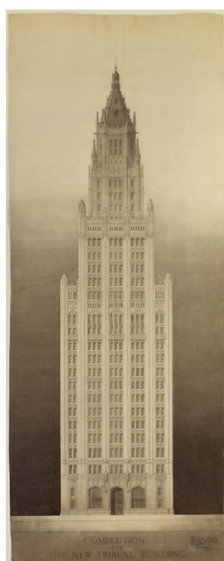
Le’ah Kaplan, “In the Wreck: The Hole of Black Place”

Alan Chavoya, “Being-Towards-the-Death-of-Whiteness”

The Keynote address that was given by Beatrice Marovich was entitled, “The Powers of Death: On Bringing Death Back to Life.”

Graduate Student Colloquium

The Tenth Annual Graduate Student Colloquium took place on Friday, March 1, in the Richardson Library. Ryan Froese, Zhen Liang, and Bradley Ramos presented their research to an audience of students, faculty, and prospective graduate students. The Colloquium was followed by a dinner at Simply It.



Tenth Annual Graduate Student Colloquium

Abstract and Absolute Modality in Hegel's
Logic

Ryan Froese

Planck's Length

Zhen Liang

Anti-Hermeneutics, Un-translating, and the
Status of the Unconscious in Freud's *Deutung*

Bradley Ramos

4-6 pm, Friday, March 1st, 2019
Richardson Library, Rosati Room (Room 300)
DePaul University

Image: Chicago Tribune Tower
Michigan Avenue Elevation, 1922
Art Institute of Chicago, Permanent Collection

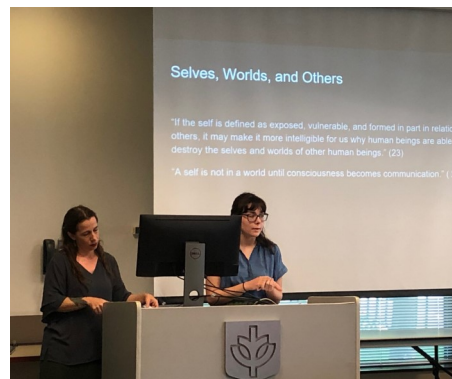
DUOS Presentations

DUOS Presentations were held on May 30th, 2019 and were a great success! Eleven pairs of undergraduate and graduate students gave wonderful presentations on the results of their collaborative research projects!



Presenters

“Michel Foucault: From Bio-Politics to Care of the Self” by Grace Kunkel and David Maruzzella



“Broken Worlds and Fractured Presents: Possibilities for Commemoration and Communicability in the Aftermath of Violence” by Grace Baffoe and Jennifer Gammage

“On Kant’s Conception of God: Divine Usher to Happiness for the Morally Inclined” by Antonia Pappas and Khafiz Kerimov



“Narrative and Truth in the JonBenet Ramsey Case” by Kate Meulemans and Carlie Hughes

“‘An Infinite Amount of Hope but not for Us’: On the Thought of Redemption in Walter Benjamin” by Sarah Ferrara and Daniel Pepe



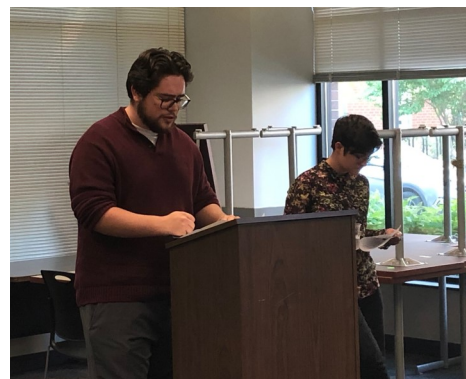
“Abstraction and Morality in Hegel’s *Phenomenology of Spirit*” by Angela Godoy and Ryan Froese

“Justice and Communicability in Derrida” by Amanda Loeffelholz and Michael Peterson



“Camus’s Absurd Ethics: Is it Hedonism?” by Trevor Netzer and Rachel Silverbloom

“Audre Lorde as a Warrior-Poet: Reading Audre Lorde to Understand the Relationship between Art and Activism” by Hannah Kaplan and Amelia Hruby



“From Aesthetics to Metaphysics: On the Historical Problem of Tragedy in Nietzsche and Lukács” by Jacob Whitford and Ashley Fleshman

Humanities Center Events



On February 25th, DHC had the pleasure of hosting a world famous dancer and choreographer,



Akram Khan, who is not afraid to go against societal expectations and bring contrasting traditions together.



The Bourgeois Disgust event on April 10th brought interesting interactions with regard to how



the ideas of cleanness and disgust are conceptualized.



The Scholar's Improv III: Return of the Sith Prof on April 3rd was quite the match up between comedians, professors, and spontaneity.



End of the Year Celebration

The End of the Year party was held on Friday, June 7th. Faculty enjoyed drinks and snacks as well as celebrated Mary Amico's retirement. We will miss you, Mary!



Faculty & Staff News

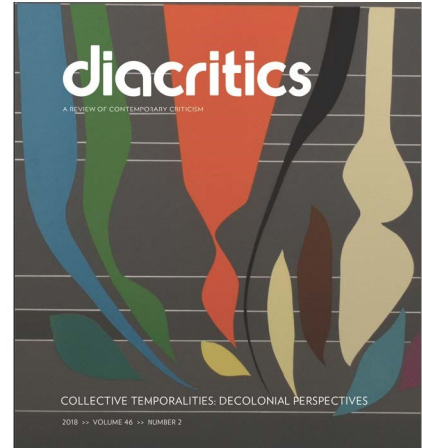


Mary Amico, Administrative Assistant with the Department of Philosophy, retired at the end of June 2019 after some 26 years of service at DePaul University. Mary joined the Department of Philosophy in 2001. In her almost 19 years with Philosophy, Mary maintained the department as a friendly and welcoming place for students and faculty alike: an efficiently functioning environment where one could always find coffee, free candy, or stop in for a friendly chat—all essential ingredients as a foundation for serious academic work! We shall miss Mary’s good humor, friendly smile, and especially her metaphysical openness (!). We wish her all the best in her next new adventures.

Sean Kirkland gave a public lecture at DePaul entitled “On Aristotelian Substance Ontology as the Historical Origin of Our Intractable Indifference Toward the Earth and Others Who Inhabit It with Us” at an event organized and hosted by the Chicago Area Peace Action DePaul student group. The event, “Coping with Climate Catastrophe,” took place on May 29th. He also presented his paper, “The Destruction of an Aristotelian Concept: *Ousia*.” at the 53rd Annual Heidegger Circle in Rochester, New York, and the 37th Annual Texas Heidegger Symposium in McKinney, Texas. The paper came from the last chapter of a book manuscript Sean has just completed, entitled *The Destruction of Aristotle: Historical Method in the Early Heidegger*.



María Acosta co-edited a special issue on Collective Temporalities: Decolonial Perspectives for the journal *diacritics*. A workshop around her work on art and resistance to oblivion and on her most recent project on Grammars of listening, connected to philosophical approaches to memory initiatives in Colombia, was organized in UC Irvine by the Department of Comparative Literature on April 24, 2019. María was also the keynote speaker of three conferences this semester: “What is Art for,” organized by the Southern California Working Group at UC Irvine on April 25, the *International Conference Friedrich Schiller and German Idealism*, at Leuven, and *Latinoamerica en Perspectiva*, organized by the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Harvard on May 23rd and 24th.



Peter Steeves published a book chapter called, “Waking Up,” in *Messy Eating: Critical Animal Studies and the Politics of Meat*, edited by Samantha King et al. (NYC: Fordham U P, 2019): 112-27. He was invited to Extinction Rebellion in Chicago, in June and presented on “How We Got Here; How We Get Out.” Peter also presented “‘I’ve Got No Strings!’ Fascism and Personhood in Walt Disney’s Animated Film Pinocchio,” at A Celebration of Disney, The DePaul Pop Culture Conference and “The Journey of ‘The Wandering Soul’: Philosophy, Painting, Dance, and the Question of Personhood,” at the 2019 Health Humanities Consortium Meeting/8th International Health Humanities Conference in Chicago in May. He was also invited to do two lecture-performances as a keynote conference speaker presenting with “Dark City, Dark Mountain,” at the 2019 Urban Innovation Symposium at University of Illinois at Chicago in January and “The FWPCA in Spaaaaace!,” at The Far West Popular and American Culture Association in Las Vegas in February. Peter was awarded a University Research Council Grant from DePaul University in the amount of \$5,000 with co-grantees Zack Ostrowski (DePaul, Art Media and Design) and Greg Scott (DePaul, Sociology) for the project, “Synergies from the Floating Slab”—a film and art installation project. He was also awarded an Outreach Lecturing Fund award from the Fulbright program in January 2019 to bring Romanian actress/scholar Éva Patko to DePaul to speak in a workshop he organized on the topic of teaching the arts in a prison setting.

Mary Jeanne Larrabee continued to amplify the philosophical ideas of Gene Gendlin (U. of Chicago emeritus) for the International Focusing community at two conferences on a steering committee of the new Eugene Gendlin Center for Research on Experiential Philosophy and Psychology. The first, “Wholebody Focusing and the Arts for Freedom” was presented at the International Focusing Conference 2019 in Merida, Mexico, March 2019. The second, “Creating with Your WholeSelf by means of a Gendlinist ‘Open Process Focusing’,” was presented at the Second Annual Felt Sense Conference at Hebrew Union College in New York City on May 17-18, 2019. Also, a paper will be published soon on Gendlin’s philosophical contribution to a variety of approaches to spiritual growth. Mary Jeanne gave an invited paper, “Critical Phenomenology and the Limits of Critical Buddhism: Edmund Husserl’s Self-reflective Strategies,” that brought Husserl’s radical phenomenological methods to bear on a group of Japanese Buddhologists at the conference Husserl in Japan, co-sponsored by the University of Shizuoka and the University of Nebraska in May, with expected publication in *Husserl in Japan*, vol. 5. Pictures below.



Mary Jeanne with the morning check-in group.



Mary Jeanne’s presentation, “The Salt Doll and the Sea: Discovering the Beings We Are, with Deleuze, Sartre, and Buddha,” was accepted for the Pacific Association for Continental Thought at Seattle University in September 2019. She had a chapter, “Opening the Process, Processing the Opening: A Modality of ‘Focusing-into-Creative Expression’,” accepted for publication in *Senses of Focusing*, edited by Nikolaos Kypriotakis and Judy Moore (expected 2020). She gave two workshop presentations for the first Midwest Focusing Retreat in Michigan in September, introducing Wholebody focusing practice in one and giving an explanation and demonstrations (including practice) of “open process focusing” in the other; both of these come out of her philosophical research on the Austrian-American phenomenologist-pragmatist Eugene Gendlin.

Adjunct Faculty News



Jessica Elkayam is starting a new job as Assistant Professor of Philosophy in the Department of Psychology & Philosophy at Sam Houston State University. She published a review of *After Heidegger?* (Rowman & Littlefield International, 2019) in *Gatherings, The Journal of the Heidegger Circle*, Volume 9 (2019). She attended SPEP 2018 (Penn State) as an invited panelist to deliver "Differential Unities and the Question of the Postmetaphysical" in response to Jussi Backman's *Complicated Presence: The Postmetaphysical Unity of Being* (SUNY Press, 2015), and attended the Eastern APA (New York, NY) to deliver "Critical History and the Creation of the Present in Nietzsche's *Untimely Meditations*" at the meeting of the Society for the Philosophy of Creativity.



Undergraduate Student News



Grace Baffoe, a junior philosophy major, was awarded the 2018-2019 Patricia Werhane Business Ethics Scholarship by the Institute for Business and Professional Ethics. They were excited about her interest in both philosophy and hospitality leadership.

Amanda Loeffelholz presented “A Neo-Aristotelian Account of Relative and Divisible Unity” at Southern Utah University’s Undergraduate Philosophy Conference (pictured right) and



“Desire, Consumption and the Self in Hegel and Hobbes” at Loyola University Chicago’s Undergraduate Philosophy Conference. She also has two forthcoming creative writing publications: “Hope, the Minotaur” on The Manifest-Station and “Fever Dream” in Abstract Magazine: Contemporary Expressions.

Dinner for Graduating Seniors

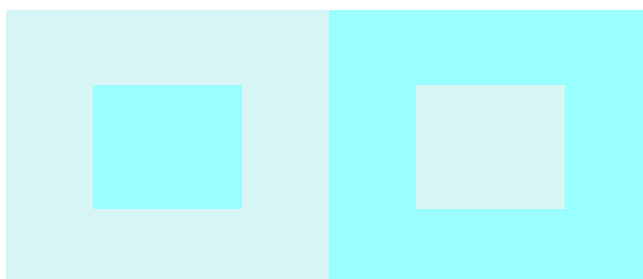
The Annual Dinner for Graduating Philosophy Seniors was held at Simply It on Thursday, June 6th, 2019. Around 30 students and faculty attended.



Graduate Student News



Joel Bock presented at the History of Philosophy Society (HOPS) conference at Villanova University with a paper entitled, "Liberation from the Constraints of Nature or Enslavement to the Machine? Technology as a Historical Moment in the Philosophies of Hegel and Adorno."

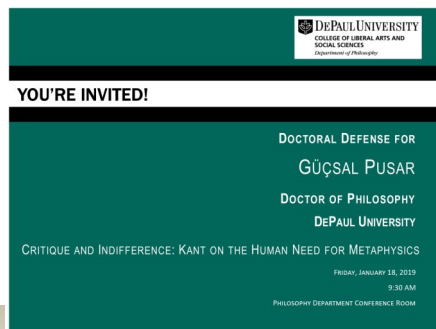


Ryan Froese gave a paper entitled, "Absolute and Blind: Hegel on Necessity and Contingency," at a conference called "Examining Hegel's Idea of Self-Determination: From Actuality to Concept" held at the University of Warwick, England from June 4th through 6th.



Dissertations Successfully Defended

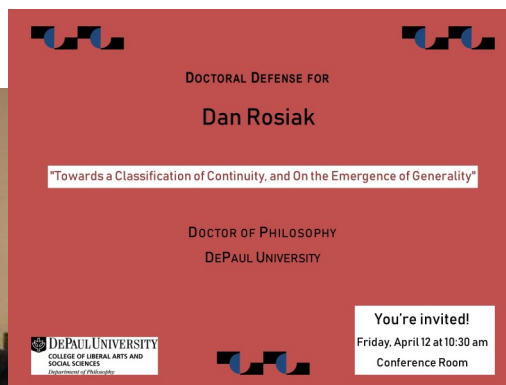
Güçsal Pular successfully defended his dissertation, "Critique and Indifference: Kant on the Human Need for Metaphysics," on January 18th, 2019.



Gil Morejón successfully defended his dissertation, entitled "Obscurity and Involvement: On the Unconscious of Thought in Leibniz, Spinoza, and Hume," on March 15th, 2019.



Daniel Rosiak successfully defended his dissertation, “Towards a Classification of Continuity, and On the Emergence of Generality,” on April 12th, 2019.



Miguel Gualdrón successfully defended his dissertation, “Éduard Glissant and the Poetics of the Abyss,” on June 14th, 2019.



Alumni News

Hajrije Kolimja, a graduate of DePaul's Philosophy Department in 2017, is wrapping up her Fulbright grant year currently and will begin as an MFA candidate at Queens College, CUNY pursuing Fiction and Literary Translation. She published an article in Albanian called, "Why Does Albania Lack Reading Culture," with the arts & culture magazine [Medius](#) and presented her theory at the 11th ELTA Conference in Tirana in early May. She also started and finished the first-ever youth writing program in Elbasan, called "Dhelprat me rrushtë," or "Foxes with Grapes."



Jason P. Drucker, who completed his Philosophy Ph.D. at DePaul in 1998, was appointed Associate General Secretary for Advancement for American Friends Service Committee (AFSC). Jason will lead a motivated team of over 40 development and communications professionals and provide strategic leadership and vision for the institutional advancement of AFSC. Jason has more than 20 years of experience in development, communications, strategic planning, and management at organizations focused on social justice, human rights, and global education and leadership.

53rd Annual Heidegger Circle in Rochester, New York

An impromptu DePaul reunion took place at the Heidegger Circle conference held at Nazareth College, May 16-19, 2019.



Pictured (left to right) : Zachary Gittrich (BA 2016), Will McNeill, Khafiz Kerimov, Elena Bartolini, Sean Kirkland, and Rodrigo Therezo (MA 2011).

Undergraduate Courses 2019-2020

Autumn

Winter

Spring

HISTORY SEQUENCE

PHL 293 – Ancient Philosophy
TTH 11:20-12:50
Sean D. Kirkland

PHL 294 – Medieval Philosophy
MW 11:20-12:50
Richard Lee

PHL 293 – Ancient Philosophy
MW 9:40-11:10
David White

PHL 295 – Early Modern
Philosophy
TTH 2:40-4:10
Avery Goldman

PHL 297 – 20th Century
Philosophy
MW 9:40-11:10
Frédéric Seyler

PHL 296 – Kant and the 19th
Century
TTH 11:20-12:50
Avery Goldman

COGNITIVE SKILLS

PHL 280 – Critical Thinking
MW 1:00-2:30
Ryan Froese

PHL 282 – Symbolic Logic I
TTH 11:10-12:50
Zhen Liang

PHL 281 – Basic Logic
Online
Mary Jeanne Larrabee

300-LEVEL MAJOR FIELD ELECTIVES

PHL 315 – Survey of Political
Philosophy
MW 1:00-2:30
Jason Hill

PHL 341 – Aesthetics
T 6:00-9:15
TBA

PHL 314 – Survey of Ethics
MW 11:20-12:50
Daryl Koehn

PHL 320 – Metaphysics
TTH 9:40-11:10
David White

PHL 342 – Philosophy of Law
TTH 1:00-2:30
Peg Birmingham

PHL 373 – Nietzsche
TTH 11:20-12:50
Sean D. Kirkland

PHL 380 – Merleau-Ponty
TTH 11:20-12:50
Avery Goldman

PHL 389 – Latin American
Philosophy
MW 11:20-12:50
Elizabeth Millán Brusslan

PHL 381 – Dramatic Theory:
Tragedy
MW 11:20-12:50
David White

PHL 361 – Plato
MW 11:20-12:50
Michael Naas

SENIOR CAPSTONE

PHL 391 – Capstone
TTH 4:20-5:50
Richard Lee

Graduate Courses 2019-2020

Autumn

Winter

Spring

“World” Philosophy

PHL 411 – Plato
Plato’s Cosmos (*Gorgias, The Laws*)
Michael Naas
M 3:00-6:15 [H-I]

PHL 500 – Special Topics in the History of Philosophy: Latin American Philosophy
Elizabeth Millán Brusslan
W 3:00-6:15 [H-II]

TBA

Humor, Comedy, Aesthetics

PHL 557 – Topics in Continental Philosophy: Joking Around, Seriously (Baudelaire, Bergson, Freud, Kofman)
Elizabeth Rottenberg
T 3:00-6:15 [CE]

PHL 400 – Special Topics in Traditional Philosophers: Aristotle and Hegel on Comedy
Richard Lee
M 3:00-6:15 [H-I or H-II]

PHL 511 – Kant Critique of Judgement
Avery Goldman
T 3:00-6:15 [H-II]

20th Century French Philosophy

PHL 570 – Sartre I
The Transcendence of the Ego and Being and Nothingness
Frédéric Seyler
W 3:00-6:15 [CE]

PHL 590 – Trends in Continental French Philosophy: Deleuze’s *Difference and Repetition*
Kevin Thompson
T 3:00-6:15 [CE]

PHL 522 – Social and Political Philosophy: Deleuze and Guattari, *A Thousand Plateaus: Capitalism and Schizophrenia*
Peg Birmingham
TH 3:00-6:15 [NP]

Heidegger

PHL 550 – Heidegger I
Being and Time
Will McNeill
TH 3:00-6:15 [CE]

PHL 551 – Heidegger II
Being and Time
Will McNeill
TH 3:00-6:15 [CE]

PHL 697 – Teaching Practicum
2nd Year Student Enrollment Requirement
Sean D. Kirkland
TBA

Distribution Requirement Key:

H-I = History of Western PHL (Ancient or Medieval) NP = Normative Philosophy

H-II = History of Western PHL (Modern or 19th Century) CE = Contemporary European Philosophy



*Thanks for another great year of
Philosophy...*