Course Outline

Lectures: MWF 9:00 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.
Location: SA 015
Instructor: Alison K. McConwell
Office: SS 1231
Phone: (403) 220-8622
Email: akrenas@ucalgary.ca (include ‘Phil 367’ in subject line).
Office Hours: M 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., W 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., and by appointment.

Course Description

We will discuss how to distinguish science from pseudoscience, whether all science can be unified or reduced to more fundamental science, the role of values in scientific decision-making, and the general progress and structure of science.

Required Texts and Readings

- Additional readings will be posted to D2L along with a reading list. The assigned articles and chapters are also available through the University of Calgary Library website.

Topics and readings will be discussed in the following order.

*NOTE: Page numbers indicate the sections that will be discussed in class. Students are only required to read the specified pages.
Topic #1 Introduction and Demarcation

- Barker and Kitcher chapter 1 and 2 (Read pp. 1-24)

Topic #2 Scientific Unity and Reductionism

- Barker and Kitcher chapter 3 (Read pp. 50-61).
- Putnam and Oppenheim 1958 Unity of Science as a Working Hypothesis sections 1-3 (pp. 3-11) and section 5.3 to the end (pp. 20-29)
- Keller, Evelyn Fox (2009). It is possible to reduce biological explanations to explanations in chemistry and/or physics. In Contemporary Debates in Philosophy: Contemporary Debates in Philosophy of Biology, Francisco Ayala and Robert Arp, (eds.) (Read pp. 1-13).

Topic #3 Truth, Progress, and the Structure of Science

- Barker and Kitcher chapter 4 (pp. 78-94)
- Barker and Kitcher chapter 4 (pp. 94-105)
- Roush, Sherrilyn (2010). Optimism About the Pessimistic Metainduction. Center for Philosophy of Natural and Social Science, Series editor Damien Fennell (pp. 2-9)
- Barker and Kitcher chapter 5 (pp. 106-17, 122-34)

Topic #4 Science and Values

- Read Barker and Kitcher Chapter 6 (pp. 136-43, 150-6)

**Evaluation and Grading**

One article analysis, one discussion question, quiz, midterm, final paper outline, and final paper. There will be no Registrar-scheduled final exam.

**ARTICLE ANALYSIS:** 10%

Due Friday September 30th (to D2L)

Provide a maximum two page, double-spaced summary and critical analysis of one article from Topic#1: Demarcation. Submit an electronic copy to D2L.

**QUIZ:** 15%

In class on Monday October 17th

A true-false, multiple choice, fill-in-the blank, and short answer quiz.

**MIDTERM EXAM:** 30%

In class on Wednesday November 9th

Two essay questions. A list of possible midterm exam questions will be provided before the exam. The two essay questions will be chosen from that list.
**DISCUSSION QUESTION:** 10%

Choose ONE topic and write a clear and concise question about a reading with an short explanation of how that question is relevant to the topic. It should be a question about a specific reading that relates to problems or issues discussed as part of the topic. *Bring a hard copy to class the day we discuss the reading.* Discussion questions that fall under particular topics must be handed in while discussing that topic.

The last day to hand in a discussion question is Wednesday November 23rd. Students are encouraged to submit their questions earlier in the semester.

**FINAL PAPER OUTLINE:** 5%

Due no later than Friday December 2nd (to D2L)

Provide a maximum one-page, single-spaced outline for your final paper. Include a thesis statement (what you are arguing for), as well as sections. Bullet-point format is recommended. Essay questions will be provided, however, students may write on the topic of their choosing so long as they clear that topic with the instructor. Submit an electronic copy to D2L no later than the due date at 11:59 p.m. Students may submit this outline any time up until that point.

**FINAL PAPER:** 30%

Due Friday December 9th (in class)

The final paper should be a minimum of eight pages to a maximum of ten pages, double-spaced. For anonymous grading, students must include only their student number. Papers must also include page numbers, one inch margins, a title, and maximum 250 word abstract. A hard copy is due in class.

Writing and the grading thereof is a factor in the evaluation of your work for this course. For further explanation, see the University Calendar at [http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html)

Final grades will be awarded as follows:

- 96-100 = A+
- 90-95  = A
- 85-89  = A-
- 80-84  = B+
- 75-79  = B
- 70-74  = B-
- 65-69  = C+
- 60-64  = C
- 55-59  = C-
- 50-54  = D+
- 45-49  = D
- Below 45 = F

Final averages will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole number.

**Important Dates** (NB: schedule of readings is available on D2L)

Week 1 M Sept. 12 Introduction
  W Sept. 14
  F Sept. 16

Week 2 M Sept. 19
  W Sept. 21
  F Sept. 23
Week 3 M Sept. 26
W Sept. 28
F Sept. 30 Article Analysis on Topic #1 Demarcation due to D2L

Week 4 M Oct. 3
W Oct. 5
F Oct. 7

Week 5 M Oct. 10 NO CLASS Thanksgiving (Canada)
W Oct. 12
F Oct. 14

Week 6 M Oct. 17 Quiz in class
W Oct. 19
F Oct. 21

Week 7 M Oct. 24
W Oct. 26
F Oct. 28

Week 8 M Oct. 31
W Nov. 2 NO CLASS (Instructor away)
F Nov. 4 NO CLASS (Instructor away)

Week 9 M Nov. 7 Review for Midterm
W Nov. 9 Midterm Exam in class
F Nov. 11 NO CLASS (Remembrance Day)

Week 10 M Nov. 14
W Nov. 16
F Nov. 18

Week 11 M Nov. 21
W Nov. 23 Last day to submit discussion questions
F Nov. 25

Week 12 M Nov. 28
W Nov. 30
F Dec. 2 Last day to submit final paper outlines

Week 13 M Dec. 5
W Dec. 7
F Dec. 9 Final paper hard copy due in class
Assignment Submission and Reading Instructions

Students are expected to hand in all assignments by the due date and as per the instructions for each assignment unless a medical note is provided and/or permission is granted by the instructor prior to the set date.

It is the student’s responsibility to keep up with lectures, assignments, and readings. Students are responsible for the material covered in class as well as the assigned readings. Students are expected to read the material prior to attending the lecture. Class readings, as well as the schedule according to which we will be discussing them will be posted on D2L.

Policy on Late Assignments or Missed Exams

No late assignments or make-up exams are permitted. No extra credit assignments will be provided. Students with medical or other extenuating reasons for not taking an exam or finishing an assignment on the designated date will not be penalized if they inform the instructor and provide her with documentation confirming the special circumstances. They can make up the exam or hand in the assignment after consultation with the instructor.

Style and Citation Requirements

- All written work must be double-spaced, with 12 point font and 1 inch margins.
- Whenever you quote someone, provide the source and page numbers from that source. Here’s an example: Dr. Blue writes that “all puppies are incredibly cute” (1993, p. 46). ‘(1993, p. 46)’ refers to the article or book and page number where Dr. Blue says that. Place detailed information about the article or book in your bibliography.
- Whenever you attribute a view or idea to a person, provide the source and page number where that claim is made. Here’s an example: Dr. Blue likes kittens, but argues that puppies are far cuter (1994, p. 333).
- Use the following method for listing articles and books in your bibliography.
  

The first entry is for an article, the second for a book, the third for a chapter in an edited book, and the fourth for a website.

Email and D2L

Some class information and handouts will be posted on D2L. You’ll be sent class announcements through email. The email account used will be the one you gave the University
Registrar, so make sure to check that account. Emails to instructor should include ‘Phil 367’ in the subject line.

Academic Honesty

Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is regarded as an extremely serious academic office, the penalty for which may be an F on the assignment, an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw from the University. See the relevant sections on ‘Academic Misconduct’ in the current University Calendar. Intellectual honesty requires that your work include adequate referencing to sources. Plagiarism occurs when you do not acknowledge or correctly reference your sources. If you have questions about correct referencing, consult your instructor.

Academic Accommodation

Student’s seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services. SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For more information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/). Students who require accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their instructor. The full policy on student accommodations is available at [http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf).

D2L Help

Desire2Learn is UCalgary’s online learning management system. Go to [http://www.ucalgary.ca/it/services/d2l](http://www.ucalgary.ca/it/services/d2l) for help.

Student Advising and Information Resources

- **General Academic Concerns and Program Planning** – Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students’ Centre is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Drop in at SS102, call 403-220-3580, or email ascarts@ucalgary.ca. Advisors in the ASC can also provide assistance and advice in planning your program through to graduation. Visit the Faculty of Arts website at [https://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate](https://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate) for detailed information on common academic concerns.
- **Advice on Philosophy Courses** – You may find answers to your more specific questions about a philosophy degree on the Department of Philosophy’s website [http://phil.ucalgary.ca](http://phil.ucalgary.ca) or contact one of Philosophy’s Undergraduate Advisors (see below).
- **Registration Overload/Prereq Waivers** – If you are seeking to register in a Philosophy course that is full or to get permission to waive the prereqs for a course, email the Philosophy Department Manager, Merlette Schnell schnell@ucalgary.ca.

Protection of Privacy

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. The Department of Philosophy ensures the student’s right to privacy by requiring all graded assignments be returned to the student directly from the instructor or teaching assistant.

Safewalk

Call 403-220-5333 (24/7/365) for a Safewalk volunteer to accompany you safely to your destination on campus including parking lots, housing, and the LRT station or use a Campus Help Phone.

PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

The Department of Philosophy is located on the 12th floor of the Social Sciences Building and on the web at [www.phil.ucalgary.ca](http://www.phil.ucalgary.ca)

**PHILOSOPHY UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM ADVISORS FOR FALL 2016:**

Jeremy Fantl (Undergrad Director) jfantl@ucalgary.ca  
Reid Buchanan buchanan@ucalgary.ca  
Megan Delehanty (Honours Program Advisor) mdelehan@ucalgary.ca

For assistance with registration issues in Philosophy courses, contact Merlette Schnell (schnell@ucalgary.ca)