

Cover Sheet: Request 12498

PHI 3XXX: Reasoning

Info

Process	Course New Ugrad/Pro
Status	Pending at PV - University Curriculum Committee (UCC)
Submitter	Gregory Ray gregray@ufl.edu
Created	4/7/2018 9:20:18 PM
Updated	7/18/2018 12:52:23 PM
Description of request	The class teaches practical techniques for understanding reasoned argumentation. Students are provided instruction in the use of diagrammatic techniques to develop both interpretations and criticisms of philosophical arguments as well as in the application of these techniques in the writing of critical essays on a range of philosophical topics.

Actions

Step	Status	Group	User	Comment	Updated
Department	Approved	CLAS - Philosophy 011615000	John Palmer	This course has been successfully taught a number of times by Dr. Greg Ray under the rubric of PHI 3930: Special Topics. Dr. Ray has personally developed the argument-mapping software he has utilized in this course. Student response to the course has been very positive.	4/9/2018
Reasoning External Consult form.pdf					4/7/2018
College	Conditionally Approved	CLAS - College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	Joseph Spillane	The College Curriculum Committee conditionally approves, with the following changes requested: 1) this course requires a prerequisite; 2) add a grading scale; 3) revise the course objectives to make them clearer.	5/6/2018
No document changes					
Department	Commented	CLAS - Philosophy 011615000	John Palmer	As per the request from the College Curriculum Committee and College Approver Joseph Spillane, the following changes have been made: 1) the required prerequisite has been provided, 2) a grade scale has been added in the Grading Scheme section, and 3) the Course Objectives have been revised to make them clearer and more readable.	5/7/2018
No document changes					
Department	Approved	CLAS - Philosophy 011615000	John Palmer		5/7/2018
No document changes					

Step	Status	Group	User	Comment	Updated
College	Approved	CLAS - College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	Joseph Spillane		7/18/2018
No document changes					
University Curriculum Committee	Pending	PV - University Curriculum Committee (UCC)			7/18/2018
No document changes					
Statewide Course Numbering System					
No document changes					
Office of the Registrar					
No document changes					
Student Academic Support System					
No document changes					
Catalog					
No document changes					
College Notified					
No document changes					

Course|New for request 12498

Info

Request: PHI 3XXX: Reasoning

Description of request: The class teaches practical techniques for understanding reasoned argumentation. Students are provided instruction in the use of diagrammatic techniques to develop both interpretations and criticisms of philosophical arguments as well as in the application of these techniques in the writing of critical essays on a range of philosophical topics.

Submitter: John Palmer palmerj@ufl.edu

Created: 5/7/2018 10:38:14 AM

Form version: 7

Responses

Recommended Prefix PHI

Course Level 3

Number XXX

Category of Instruction Intermediate

Lab Code None

Course Title Reasoning

Transcript Title Reasoning

Degree Type Baccalaureate

Delivery Method(s) On-Campus

Co-Listing No

Co-Listing Explanation n/a

Effective Term Spring

Effective Year 2019

Rotating Topic? No

Repeatable Credit? No

Amount of Credit 3

S/U Only? No

Contact Type Regularly Scheduled

Weekly Contact Hours 3

Course Description This class teaches practical methods for understanding reasoned argumentation. Students are provided instruction in the use of diagrammatic techniques to develop both interpretations and criticisms of philosophical arguments as well as in the application of these techniques in the writing of critical essays on a range of philosophical topics.

Prerequisites sophomore or higher standing or PHI 2010(C) or PHI 2100(C) or PHI 2630(C) or PHM 2204(C) or philosophy major or philosophy minor or instructor permission

Co-requisites n/a

Rationale and Placement in Curriculum This course teaches explicitly a skill fundamental for students in the major and beyond, namely critical reasoning and argumentation. It also teaches techniques for the analysis of argumentative texts and the effective presentation of reasoning. By the central use of diagrammatic techniques, a unified approach to all of these matters is effected.

Neither a logic course nor a philosophical writing course, the Reasoning course stands somewhere between PHI 3130 Symbolic Logic and PHI 3950 Philosophical Writing (no longer offered).

Course Objectives This course aims to help students develop analytical skills that are useful not only in the study of philosophy but also in any field where reasoned argumentation is regularly employed. The course aims to help students better understand complex philosophical argumentation and argumentative case-making more generally. It aims to familiarize students with a set of techniques for discerning the structure of arguments and representing their structure in a clear and accurate manner. It aims to provide students with techniques for then evaluating the cogency of arguments analyzed in this manner. The course also aims to assist students more effectively at writing clearly and persuasively about complex topics both in and out of philosophy. On the whole, the course aims to improve students' critical thinking skills in a substantive manner and thereby to inculcate

fundamental skills in reasoning applicable to a wide variety of intellectual areas.

Course Textbook(s) and/or Other Assigned Reading In its current (pilot) incarnation, this course is taught with original materials and custom software designed specifically for the course.

- 1) Reasoning Handbook (lecture notes) &
- 2) Reasoning Toolbox (custom software).

Alternatively, this course might be taught with a diagram-based textbook such as:

*) Harrell, Maralee. *What is the Argument? An Introduction to Philosophical Argument and Analysis*. (MIT Press, 2016)

In addition, this course requires use of

- 3) a web-based diagramming service

(currently paid for by the department).

Weekly Schedule of Topics Introduction

- Casemaking

Structure — representing argument structure

- Elements of Argument

- Fragmentation (with FRAG)

- Support Structures (with SUPP)

- Argument Mapping (with TIS)

Development — developing arguments

- Puzzle-Solving Arguments

Exam #1

Extraction — extracting argument from larger contexts

- Extraction (with EXT)

Rebuttal — structuring effective criticism

- Rebuttal (with TIS)

Presentation — rendering argument in essayical form

- Pathing (with PATH)

- reTEXTing (with reTEXT)

- reTEXTing Rebuttal

Final Projects — bringing it all together

- Analysis Project

- Synthesis Project

Closure and Review

Exam #2

Links and Policies Attendance to success in this class and is thus required.

Course Materials:

This course requires subscription to a web-based diagramming service for the duration of the course.

(Free to you; monthly service fee is paid by us.)

[Required course textbook here, if using.]

Some course materials will be made available in lecture, through this class web site or via the Reasoning UF mapping site. Local documents will typically be in PDF format. These course materials may be password protected.

Rules of Engagement:

1) The materials on this site do not belong to you. You may not give access to or share them with anyone outside the class. 2) You may not use digital devices in lecture or discussion sessions without special permission from the professor. The same applies to the taking of pictures or the making of audio or video recordings of any kind.

Nota bene:

Academic honesty violations are not tolerated and will result in i) immediate failure in the course and ii) referral to the Dean of Students for further action. All assignments are to be completed on your own. It is your responsibility to know and understand the UF Student Honor Code.

Note for Students with Disabilities:

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Disability Resource Center.

The DRC will provide an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. This should be done as early in the semester as possible.

UF General Policy:

Course Evaluation:

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are made available to students.

Conformality:

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with prevailing university policy.

Grade Points:

Information on how UF calculates grade points from grades can be found here.

Grading Scheme Regular exercises (40%), two exams (30%), and project (30%).

Grade Scale

Grade Value

100-93=A

A=4.0

92-90=A-

A-=3.67

89-86=B+

B+=3.33

85-82=B

B=3.00

81-79=B-

B-=2.67

78-75=C+

C+=2.33

75-72=C

C=2.00

71-69=C-

C-=1.67

68-66=D+

D+=1.33

65-62=D

D=1.00

61-60=D-

D-=0.67

59-0=E

E=0.00

Instructor(s) Dr. Greg Ray

External Consultation Results (departments with potential overlap or interest in proposed course, if any)

Department Linguistics	Name and Title Eric Potsdam, Chair
Phone Number 294-7456	E-mail potsdam@ufl.edu
<p>Comments</p> <p>"I do not see any substantive overlap with any courses in our department." (11/14/17)</p>	

Department Dial Center	Name and Title Kellie Roberts, Director
Phone Number 273-1655	E-mail robertsk@ufl.edu
<p>Comments</p> <p>"I've had the opportunity to look over the course syllabus for the proposed new course, Reasoning, and I find that it certainly relates to some of our courses in the Dial Center that have a focus on Argumentation and Rhetoric. However, the methods utilized in the new course take on a very different approach especially in regard to the use of the web-based diagramming techniques in order to consider the structure of arguments. I can actually see how our courses and Philosophy's new Reasoning course will complement one another. With that said, the Dial Center supports the Philosophy Department's proposed new course." (12/1/17)</p>	

Department	Name and Title
Phone Number	E-mail
<p>Comments</p>	