

HPS Undergraduate Courses
Spring 2025 (Term 2254)

HPS 0611 Principles of Scientific Reasoning (26536)

W 6:00-8:30

Caitlin Mace

The course will provide students with elementary logic skills and an understanding of scientific arguments. Ours is an increasingly scientific and technical society. In both our personal life decisions and in our work we are daily confronted by scientific results which influence what we do and how we do it. Basic skills in analyzing the structure of arguments in terms of truth and evidence are required to make this type of information accessible and useful. We hear, for example, that drinking alcoholic beverages reduces the chances of heart disease. We might well ask what sorts of tests were done to reach this conclusion and do the tests really justify the claim? We read that certain geographical configurations in South America 'prove' that this planet was visited by aliens from outer space. Does this argument differ from other, accepted scientific arguments? This course is designed to aid the student in making sense of a variety of elementary logic skills in conjunction with the application of those skills to actual cases.

HPS 0612 Mind and Medicine (CGS) (26089)

M 6:00-8:30

Sloane Wesloh

What does it mean for medicine to cure a disease? What's the difference between a disease and an illness? Is mental illness a disease? Is medicine a science or an art? In this course, we'll explore these questions and more by way of an entry-level introduction to the fields of philosophy of medicine and philosophy of psychiatry. Through readings, lecture, and discussions, we will explore philosophical topics concerning the health professions and health sciences that go beyond traditional bioethical problems, such as: concepts of disease and mental disorder, classification and kinds in medicine and psychiatry, explanation in medicine and psychiatry, medical evidence and evidence-based medicine, antipsychiatry and medical nihilism, and medical AI. Students will come away with an understanding of some of the fundamental philosophical problems underlying science and practice in medicine and psychiatry. This course is of particular interest to anyone curious about medicine, science, and/or philosophy. No previous knowledge in these topics will be assumed; students at all levels are encouraged to join. This course is part of a core sequence leading to certification in the Conceptual Foundations of Medicine Certificate Program and is a companion course to HPS 0613 (Morality and Medicine) but may be taken independently.

HPS 0612 Mind and Medicine (27797)

TH 2:00-2:50

Jonathan Fuller

This course will provide an entry-level introduction to the fields of philosophy of medicine and philosophy of psychiatry. Through readings, lecture and discussions, we will explore philosophical topics beyond traditional bioethical problems, including: concepts of disease and mental disorder, classification and kinds in medicine and psychiatry, explanation in medicine and psychiatry, evidence-based medicine, antipsychiatry and medical nihilism, and medical AI.

Students will come away with an understanding of some of the fundamental philosophical problems underlying science and practice in medicine and psychiatry. This course is part of a core sequence leading to certification in the Conceptual Foundations of Medicine Certificate Program and is a companion course to HPS 0613 (Morality and Medicine) but may be taken independently. The course will be of particular interest to pre-medical and pre-health care students.

Recitation: One hour per week

HPS 0612 Mind and Medicine (27800, 27801, 28979)

TH 1:00-2:15

TH 2:30-3:45

MW 3:00-4:15

Amanda Evans

No course description available.

HPS 0613 Morality and Medicine (31309, 31310, 31311)

Laura Gradowski

MW 4:30-5:45

TH 11:00-12:15

TH 1:00-2:15

Laura Gradowski

No course description available.

HPS 0613 Morality and Medicine (31312, 21451, 23600)

MW 1:00-1:50

MW 3:00-3:50

MW 4:30-5:45

Laura Matthews

No course description available.

HPS 0613 Morality and Medicine (27798, 31313, 31314)

TH 9:30-10:45

TH 11:00-12:15

TH 1:00-1:50

Nina Atanasova

No course description available.

HPS 0613 Morality and Medicine (27799)

H 6:00-8:30

Tanner Leighton

In this course, we will examine bioethical issues that arise in contemporary medical research and practice through a philosophical lens. We will analyze bioethical dilemmas around a range of issues including moral relativism, ethical codes, informed consent and medical decision-making, race in medicine, pandemics, and the global distribution of medical resources. Students will develop reasoning strategies to support particular decisions and analyze disagreements by identifying the facts, values, concepts and logic that are assumed. This course is part of a core sequence leading to certification in the Conceptual Foundations of Medicine Certificate Program and is a companion course to HPS 0612 (Mind and Medicine) but may be taken independently.

HPS 0613 Morality and Medicine (31384)

TH 1:00-2:15

Dzintra Ullis

No course description available.

HPS 0616 Artificial Intelligence and Philosophy of Science (29031)

MW 3:00-4:15

Justin Shin

Artificial Intelligence and related Data-driven practices are rising in popularity and entering spaces that carry serious moral risks. This seminar will explore some of the core questions in Ethics of Artificial Intelligence and Data Ethics. What does it mean for an algorithm to be

racially biased? Is there something wrong with forming an emotional bond with an Artificial Intelligence? What does the right to privacy protect in the context of personal data collection by corporations? This seminar will focus on current practical issues related to Artificial Intelligence and Data Science using case studies and writings from applied ethics.

RELGST 0620 Science and Religion (REL DEPT) (22068)

TH 9:30-10:45

Brock Bahler

No course description available.

HPS 0621 Problem Solving (31385)

MW 4:30-5:45

Kamyar Asasi

No course description available.

HPS 1600 Philosophy and Rise of Modern Science (31386)

Harrison Payne

TH 2:30-3:45

Harrison Payne

It is generally agreed that what happened in the 17th century changed the human landscape irrevocably. The religious reformation was consolidated; divinely ordained kingship was decisively uprooted; upheavals across Europe ushered in non-traditional political and constitutional formations; and the forces of transformation forged new sociocultural contexts in which life was lived. Lying at the core of these transformations was the impact of early modern science as it emerged in the 17th century. This course will examine the dynamics of the “scientific revolution” paying close attention to such figures as Kepler, Galileo, Montaigne, Bacon, Descartes, Hobbes, Spinoza, and Leibniz. We will be concerned with the philosophical consequences of their thought within the context of their period, but also with the affect it had on the scientific world-picture of the 18th century enlightenment. There will be no tests or quizzes.

HPS 1671 Philosophical Foundations of Cognitive Science (29032)

T 6:00-8:30

Mara McGuire

No course description available.

1702 Jr/Sr Seminar for HPS Majors (10790)

1703 Practicum (10791)

M 9:30-11:55

Paolo Palmieri

No course description available.