

PHIL3683
Topics in Applied Philosophy 應用哲學專題

Course Outline

Time: H 3:30pm-6:15pm

Location: NAH 11

Course overview (as shown on CUSIS)

The course examines selected topics in applied philosophy. The specific content of the course varies from semester to semester. Offerings with different subtitles can be taken up for credit, up to a maximum of two times.

Learning outcomes (as shown on CUSIS)

1. Acquire knowledge of the selected topics of the course.
2. Have a solid grasp of the philosophical issues of the selected topics of the course.
3. Demonstrate familiarity with the primary/secondary source texts.
4. Be able to articulate and defend a philosophical thesis of their own.

Topics

- I. A central question: What do we value?
 - a. Humans
 - b. Animals
 - c. Life
 - d. Ecosystems
- II. Alternative perspectives
 - a. Ecofeminism
 - b. Phenomenology
 - c. Love of nature
- III. Applications
 - a. Waste and consumption
 - b. Climate change
 - c. Rights of nature
 - d. Growth and degrowth

Learning activities

Lecture, in-class presentations, in-class discussions. Quizzes and other in-class activities may be introduced depending on student participation levels.

Assessment scheme as prescribed on CUSIS (revise if necessary)

<i>Task nature</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Weight</i>
Essay		60%
Presentation		25%
Participation		15%
Quizzes (if required)		10%

Remarks on Assessment Scheme (if any)

Quizzes may be given if attendance, preparation, or participation are poor.

The final essay may include a one-on-one oral discussion with the teacher.

Grade Descriptor

Please refer to: http://phil.arts.cuhk.edu.hk/~phidept/UG/Grade_descriptors.pdf

Recommended learning resources

See blackboard.

Course schedule

<i>Week</i>	<i>Topics</i>	<i>Required reading</i>
1	Introduction	
2	Anthropocentrism	Baxter, "People or Penguins,"; Selections from Clowney and Mosto, "Worldviews of the Abrahamic Religions"
3	Zoocentrism	Selections from Regan, Singer, and Steinbock on animal rights
4	Biocentrism	Taylor, "The Ethics of Respect for Nature"
5	Ecocentrism	Selections from Leopold, <i>A Sand County Almanac</i> ; Naess, "The Deep Ecological Movement"
6	Ecofeminism	Warren, "The Power and Promise of Ecological Feminism"
7	Ecophenomenology	Selections from James, <i>The Presence of Nature</i>
8	Biophilia	Selections from Wilson, <i>Biophilia</i> ; Fleischner, "Our deepest affinity"; Fleischner, "Natural history as a practice of kinship"
9	Waste	Ewen, "Form follows waste"; Westra and Wenz, "Just garbage"
10	Climate change	Gardiner, "A Perfect Moral Storm"
11	Rights of nature	Selections from Stone, "Should Trees Have Standing?"; Macfarlane, <i>Is a River Alive?</i>
12	Growth/degrowth	Selections from Saito, <i>Slow Down</i>

Details of course website

See blackboard.

Contact details for teacher(s) or TA(s)

Teacher	
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TA	
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Academic honesty and plagiarism

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/>

With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed **declaration** that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. For group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign the declaration.

For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the receipt will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.