

## New Course Proposal Form

### Directions:

- A. Complete this form.
- B. Attach a syllabus or course guidelines that includes
  - a. list of measurable student learning outcomes
  - b. information on how outcomes will be assessed including descriptions of reading and writing activities, projects, presentations, testing, etc
  - c. list of course requirements such as attendance, assignments, etc
- C. Have your proposal reviewed by the appropriate department and school/college committee.
- D. Submit your proposal to the University Curriculum Committee in care of the Office of Academic Affairs.

### Form information:

1. Department/Program: PHILOSOPHY
2. Course Information: PHIL / 3080 / Current Topics in Philosophy  
 Prefix                      Number Title  
3 / 3 credit hours of Philosophy or  
 Credit Hours      Prerequisites permission of the instructor
3. Catalog Description for the catalog: (This description should briefly describe the basic content of the course as it will be offered.)  
Upper level → Advanced undergraduate study of influential texts or topics in a special area of philosophy, such as epistemology, metaphysics, ethics, aesthetics, philosophy of science, philosophy of social science, political philosophy, or logic. Specific topics are decided on in consultation between philosophy majors and faculty prior to offering the course.
4. May students repeat: yes → 3 Prerequisite: 3 credit hours of philosophy or permission of the instructor. May be repeated for credit if content differs.
5. What is the rationale for adding this course?
  - a. How does it support the philosophy and enhance the curriculum of your department? the department has two reading courses on the 4000-level, one in the 2000, and we want to move PHIL 4100 to the 3000 level.
  - b. How does it relate to the overall University curriculum? it will enable us to cross list, more appropriately, courses such as RELG 3050 Topics in Religion and Philosophy
6. Should this new course be considered for General Education coding? NO  
 If yes, attach the Application for General Education Coding Form.
7. Staffing requirements:
  - a. Qualifications necessary for instructor MA in Philosophy or equivalent
  - b. What staffing changes, if any, will be necessary to offer this additional course?  
none
8. When will this course be initiated? Fall 2007 How often will it be taught? once/year at least  
 What sites are likely to offer this course? WEBG, Vienna
9. Does this course affect degree requirements in your, or any other, department/program's major, emphasis, minor, or certificate. (NO)

If yes, please attach corrected catalog copy for approval.

10. List any existing University course(s), undergraduate or graduate, which are similar in title and /or subject matter and explain how this course differs from them.

Topics courses on the 3000 level.

11. Are University resources adequate to support this course? (library holdings, space, specialized, equipment, etc.) yes If not, what additions are necessary?

NO change

12. What course(s), if any, will be dropped to make room for this course? \_

Phil 4100

13. What entities (department, college/school) have reviewed and approved this proposal?

Department of Philosophy

Signatures:

Brikt Marie Schiller, April 2, 2007  
Department/ Program Chairperson Date

[Signature], April 30, 2007  
Dean of College/School Date

Rev. 2004  
[Signature], 4 May 2007  
Chair, Curriculum Committee Date

OBJECTIVES, OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENT  
For PHIL 3080

1. Course objectives generically stated and to be specified appropriately in a course syllabus:

- to familiarize students with some of the main ideas of the topic covered;
- to provide students with a detailed understanding of some of the aspects of the topic;
- to help students develop a strong grasp of the texts covered in the course;
- to help students develop their own minds through sustained encounters with the thinkers studied in the course;
- to help students gain a deeper sense of their own life and its possible meanings and values in relation to the content of the course.

2. Course outcomes generically stated and to be specified appropriately in a course syllabus:

- ability to explain both orally and in adequate, if not exceptional prose, to a trained professional in philosophy, some of the key insights of the topic covered in the course;
- ability to provide insightful commentary on some of the world's great philosophical texts, as determined by a trained professional in philosophy;
- ability to think and write critically at an advanced undergraduate level as determined by a trained professional in philosophy;
- increased ability to be original and creative in thought and writing as determined by something that is not quite measurable.

3. Scoring of assessment:

- valuable and thoughtful contributions to class discussions;
- written graded work scored by grades that mean:
  - A: outstanding understanding of the material, ability to explain, creatively integrate, compare, contrast, and critique the material; ability to structure thought and present it in a logical flow.
  - B: good understanding of the material; some ability to explain, integrate, and critique the material; ability to structure the paper in a logical flow.
  - C: knowledge of the material but little ability to explain, integrate, or critique it.
  - D: inadequate knowledge of the material, inadequate ability to explain, integrate or critique it.
  - F: no demonstration of knowledge of material, ability to explain, integrate or critique it.

**Syllabus**  
**PHIL 4100: The Morality of War** *move to 3000 Level*

Webster University

Spring 2005

Wednesday 5:30-9:30

Priest House

**Eric M. Rovie, Adjunct Professor of Philosophy**

The best way to contact me is by email: [emrovie@artsci.wustl.edu](mailto:emrovie@artsci.wustl.edu). You can also get me by phone (314)772-6029, but that's less reliable. My office is on the second floor of Pearson house in the adjunct's room, and my office hours are Wednesday from 4:30-5:30. I may be in the common room at the top of the stairs or in the courtyard if the weather is nice, but I'll leave a note on the door if I'm not in my office. I'm also happy to meet with you at other times, by appointment. Just email me to set something up.

The point of this course is to better understand the debates, mostly philosophical but also social and political, that linger around the phenomenon of armed conflict, or war. We'll look at the historical evolution of the dominant tradition in theorizing war (Just War Theory) and some of the responses to it, including Pacifism and Realism. We'll also look at some of the more specific topics that attach themselves to war, including terrorism, humanitarian intervention, and the obligations of both sides after the war is over. Hopefully we'll have time at the end of the course to examine a few recent conflicts, including the current war in Iraq.

The structure of this course will be as a graduate seminar might be taught. The course meetings are very long and the class only meets for 8 weeks, so we have a lot of ground to cover in a very compressed time period. We will set up class presentations beginning with the third class meeting. These presentations will be formal: you will be expected to provide the class with a handout or outline of the material you have read for that week. Your presentation will cover one of the readings in some detail. Your attendance and participation will count and will be tallied, but the primary source of your final grade will come from your final paper and your seminar presentation(s).

**Course Text and Readings:** The primary readings for the course will be available via Electronic Reserves (ERES) and can be found at <http://ereserves.webster.edu/>. I have also assigned a supplemental text which we will be using, Paul Christopher's *The Ethics of War and Peace* (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition), which should be available at the campus bookstore.

**Requirements:** There are three bases for your grade in this course:

1. An 8-12 page final paper (40%)
2. Seminar Presentation(s) (40%)
3. Attendance, Participation, and Class Decorum (20%)

**Policy on Students with Disabilities:** I am happy to meet all of the requirements for “reasonable accommodations” expected by the University under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. If you have disabilities that need to be addressed, please let me know as soon as possible, preferably in the first class meeting, so we can make arrangements. If you’ve made arrangements through the Academic Resource Center, you should still talk to me about your specific needs, to make certain that they are addressed promptly and effectively.

**MEETING SCHEDULE: (The readings are tentative and may be changed from week to week. If you miss a class, EMAIL me to find out what the next reading assignment will be)**

**WEEK ONE (1/19):** The Just War Tradition. Read Chapters 1-4 in Christopher.

**WEEK TWO (1/26):** The Just War Tradition. Cicero, Tertullian, Augustine, Aquinas, Vitoria.

**WEEK THREE (2/2):** Natural Law Theories. Gentili, Suarez, Grotius, Hobbes, Pufendorf. Chapters 5 and 6 from Christopher are recommended but not required.

**WEEK FOUR (2/9):** Moralists and Realists. Vattel, Kant, Clausewitz, Thoreau.

**WEEK FIVE (2/16):** Pacifists. James, Narveson, Hauerwas, Yoder.

**WEEK SIX (2/23):** Absolutists and Consequentialists. Anscombe, Mavrodes, Nagel, Brandt.

**WEEK SEVEN (3/2):** Terrorism. Walzer, Fullinwider, Valls, Boyle. Chapter 11 from Christopher is recommended but not required.

**WEEK EIGHT (3/9):** Humanitarian Intervention: Luban, Teson, Wilkins, Lucas. Chapter 15 from Christopher is recommended but not required.

We may also substitute other topics (including the post-war responsibilities of both sides and the evaluation of recent wars) in weeks seven and eight.