**(Summer online offerings will be listed on the website. I will use these descriptions for those as well.)**

[PHI 151 (Smithka) 1](#_Toc1282684749)

[PHI 151 (Mullican) 2](#_Toc1909817296)

[PHI 151 (DeArmey) 3](#_Toc1285410612)

[PHI 151 (Bruton) 4](#_Toc1282380878)

[PHI 151 (Mullican) 5](#_Toc559215982)

[PHI 171 (Mullican) 6](#_Toc297005318)

[PHI 171 (Dunkle) 8](#_Toc1698135268)

[PHI 351 (Dunkle) 9](#_Toc1502560764)

[PHI 406/506/480 (Smithka) 9](#_Toc270155108)

[PHI 440/540 (DeArmey) 10](#_Toc1486553301)

[PHI 457 (Mullican) 11](#_Toc1129055072)

[PHI 452/552 (Dunkle) 12](#_Toc844227769)

[PHI 453 (Bruton) 13](#_Toc1849225996)

[REL 131 (Slagle) 14](#_Toc1458096363)

[REL 131 (Gutmann) 15](#_Toc1126851488)

[REL 335 (Slagle) 16](#_Toc1690630380)

## PHI 151 (Smithka)

**Introduction to Philosophy**

**2 sections: M/W 9:30 – 10:45 AM; M/W 11:00 AM – 12:15 PM**

**Dr. Paula Smithka**

Aristotle says, “For it is owing to their wonder that people both now begin and at first began to philosophize”.

Philosophy begins in wonder. It’s about asking fundamental questions—questions like, “Does God exist?”; “What is the nature of reality?”; “Is what I perceive really the way things are?”; “What is a Self?”; “Am I the same person over time?”; “What makes an action morally right?” “What is justice?”

Study philosophy and unlock your mind!

## PHI 151 (Mullican)

**Introduction to Philosophy**

**Online, multiple sections**

**Susan Mullican**

## PHI 151 (DeArmey)

**Introduction to Philosophy**

**Online, multiple sections**

**Dr. Michael DeArmey**

**NATURE OF THE COURSE: This is an online course**. An introduction to the most basic questions human beings ask about themselves and the world, and the answers philosophers have developed in response to these questions. What does it mean to know something? What is real? What is the mind? Self? Is there a God? What makes an object an art object? How can I tell what is right and what is wrong? What is evil? There will be lectures, and possible homework and/or reports.

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## PHI 151 (Bruton)

**Introduction to Philosophy**

**Online, multiple sections**

**Dr. Sam Bruton**

What is real? What is it to know something? What makes me me? Do I have free will? What’s the difference between right and wrong? These are some of the classic philosophical puzzles to be explored in this class. Learn how great philosophers from the past and the best contemporary minds have answered these questions and find out how their answers apply to real world issues we all confront daily. The class fulfills GEC requirements.

## PHI 151 (Mullican)

**Introduction to Philosophy**

**M/W 11:00 AM – 12:15 PM**

**Susan Mullican**

**\*\*GULF PARK CAMPUS\*\***

## PHI 171 (Mullican)

**Ethics and Good Living**

**T/TH 2:30 – 3:45 PM**

**Susan Mullican**

**\*\*GULF PARK CAMPUS\*\***

## PHI 171 (Dunkle)

**Ethics and Good Living**

**Online**

**Dr. Ian Dunkle**

What is it to live well? This is one of the oldest and most foundational questions in philosophy, and for good reason: what could be more important than understanding how to live well?—Maybe, actually living well!—Granted. But how can we hope to live well unless we have at least some idea of what that is? Answering this question is hard, though, for several reasons, including these: First, it seems to be ambiguous (to live uprightly? to maximize self-interest?). Second, common answers are ambiguous; there are different senses in which something might be good for you. Third, popular opinions on the good life contradict one another (consider what your parents tell you about the importance and non-importance of pursuing a lucrative career). But where else can we get a footing on the question except in popular opinions? This course explores the central philosophical puzzles and controversies regarding the good life and introduces students to major accounts offered in both the history of philosophy and in contemporary value-theory. Throughout the course students will also develop skills of critical thinking and argument analysis.

## PHI 351 (Dunkle)

**Critical Thinking**

**T/TH 11:00 AM – 12:15 PM**

**Dr. Ian Dunkle**

**How is it possible to learn what you don’t already know; how do we acquire knowledge? Sure, you could just find someone who does know and listen passively to what they say. But how will you know that they know what they’re talking about? And even if they do, is having the ability to parrot someone else’s knowledge the same as having that knowledge yourself? Acquiring knowledge seems paradoxical.**

**The solution: we acquire knowledge by building on prior knowledge through logical inference. The purpose of this course is to study and master the art of advancing knowledge through inference. We will study formal logical inference, informal logical rules and fallacies, statistical inference, and causal reasoning. Unlike in a logic course, our focus will always be on applying these skills to actual questions we all care about.**

**Two main learning objectives of this course are: (1) to be able to analyze arguments, represent them in standard form, and evaluate them; and (2) to become competent in the sort of reasoning required for excelling on the LSAT.**

## PHI 406/506/480 (Smithka)

**Philosophy of Human Nature**

**M/W 2:30 – 3:45 PM**

**Dr. Paula Smithka**

‘Philosophy of Human Nature’ could be taken to mean a variety of things, given the many facets of human existence and our nature (if there is such a thing). However, in this class, we will focus on the nature of the self (if there is one), personal identity, the nature of mind and its relation to the body, and the nature of consciousness, all of which are central questions for our existence.

## PHI 440/540 (DeArmey)

**American Philosophy**

**Online**

**Dr. Michael DeArmey**

**Nature of the Course**: **This is an online course.** An examination of selected highlights of American philosophy from the Colonial Period to the early 1900s. One central focus of the course is the so-called “Golden Age of American Philosophy,” which includes Emerson, Charles Peirce, William James, and John Dewey. A primary interest in this course is John Dewey’s analysis of democracy--his articulation and defense of participatory and experimental democracy, which incorporates self-realization ethics and empirical naturalism. For 60 years he was the #1 American philosopher, loved by people all over the world. Also included in our course are selections from Professor DeArmey’s new book, just published, *The Constitution of the United States Revised and Updated.*

## PHI 457 (Mullican)

**Environmental Ethics**

**Online CHAT: M/W 9:30 – 10:45 AM**

**Susan Mullican**

## PHI 452/552 (Dunkle)

**Health Care Ethics**

**T/TH 2:30 – 3:45 PM**

**Dr. Ian Dunkle**

**In this course, students will learn how to reach morally sound decisions in healthcare. The course will begin with moral theory as it applies to medical decision making. Then we will consider each of the four general principles of biomedical ethics in turn, surveying specific issues that arise in the application of each: these principles are Respect for Patient Autonomy, Justice, Beneficence, and Non-maleficence. Some of the specific issues we’ll cover along the way include how to respect the autonomy of intellectually disabled persons; whether the use of AI in medical technology can enhance healthcare professionals’ ability to promote autonomy; the extent to which reproductive healthcare serves to benefit the patient; to which contraceptive healthcare is compatible with non-maleficence; and to which various disabilities represent illnesses or harms.**

## PHI 453 (Bruton)

**Philosophy of Law**

**M/W 11:00 AM – 12:15 PM**

**Dr. Sam Bruton**

This class introduces students to pivotal issues in the philosophy of law: the nature of legal authority, the relationship between law and morality, and debates about the appropriate balance between legal regulation and individual liberty. The special emphasis in Fall 2025 will be the moral justification of legal punishment, focusing especially on the nature and legitimacy of capital punishment. This course satisfies a required option for Philosophy majors in the Pre-law emphasis track, and it is recommended for legal studies students, political science students and Human Rights minors.

## REL 131 (Slagle)

**Comparative Religion**

**T/TH 9:30 – 10:45 AM**

**Dr. Amy Slagle**

## REL 131 (Gutmann)

**Comparative Religion**

**Multiple sections: M/W 9:30 – 10:45 AM; 11:00 AM – 12:15 PM**

**Dr. Timothy Gutmann**

How can we talk about what matters most to people? How can we think about what is sacred to us? How can we encounter strangers in space and time on their own terms? For centuries, the term “religion” has been used to include ideas of what is sacred, what is forbidden, what is out of this world, and what is everyday, and the stories and ideas that inspire us to think these ways. This is a class for everyone curious about religion, both the religion they know and what they want to know more about. Because this class is part of our general education curriculum, we’ll also be thinking critically about how to make the most of our education in the world we live in.

## REL 335 (Slagle)

**Life of Jesus**

**T/TH 1:00 – 2:15 PM**

**Dr. Amy Slagle**