

Philosophy

PHIL S-167. Biomedical Ethics (CRN: 30201)

Eli Hirsch PhD, Charles Goldman Professor of Philosophy, Brandeis University

Students will examine ethical issues that arise in a biomedical context, such as euthanasia, eugenics, reproductive control, lying to patients, and the right to healthcare. The relevance of ethical theory to such issues will be considered.

PHIL S-140. Introduction to Logic (CRN: 30200)

Russell Wahl PhD, Professor of Philosophy, Idaho State University

This course is an introduction to modern formal logic. Students will learn truth-functional and quantificational logic, with special attention to systems of natural deduction, the concepts of validity and invalidity, and the analysis of the logical structure of complex statements. The course also will provide an introduction to some issues in metalogic, including the relation between the semantics and the syntax of a formal system.

PHIL S-7. Introduction to Philosophy (CRN: 30198)

Andreas Teuber PhD, Associate Professor of Philosophy, Brandeis University

This course will cover a number of central topics in philosophy through the writings of major Western philosophers as well as through the close study of several fundamental issues that have arisen in the development of the Western philosophical tradition. Readings will be drawn from the writings of Plato, Aristotle, Anselm, Aquinas, Descartes, Locke, Berkeley, Hume, Kant, Mill, and Nietzsche. Fundamental topics will include arguments for the existence of God; the value of religious belief; faith and subjectivity; the problem of evil; the nature of human knowledge; causation and scientific explanation; perception and illusion; the nature of consciousness; minds, brains, and machines; personal identity and survival after death; freedom and determinism; proposed standards of right conduct; moral relativism; morality and self-interest; and the meaning of life.