

# COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: PHIL-104: Philosophy of Sex and Love

CLASS SECTION: 002

TERM: Fall 2023

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Face-to-Face

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Lək̓ʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.

Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

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## INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

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NAME: Dr. Philip Puszczalowski

EMAIL: [puszczalowski@camosun.ca](mailto:puszczalowski@camosun.ca)

OFFICE: Lansdowne: Young 312

HOURS: Tuesdays: 4:30pm-5:30pm (Or by appointment)

*As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.*

## CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

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This course introduces students to philosophy through an exploration of love and sex, by examining the history of concepts and ideals of love; evaluating ethics around issues such as abortion, adultery, pedophilia, and birth control; exploring biological versus environmental causes of sexual orientation; and investigating the value of monogamy.

### PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

- C+ in English 12
- C in Camosun Alternative

### CO-REQUISITE(S):

Not Applicable

### EXCLUSION(S):

Not Applicable

## COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

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Upon completion of this course a student will be able to:

1. Differentiate and contrast historical ideals and concepts of love.
2. Assess claims about the biological and/or environmental basis of transsexuality and sexual orientation.
3. Evaluate long-term monogamy.
4. Analyze the abstinence versus birth control debate.
5. Give evidence for an opinion on abortion.

## REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

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(a) **Required Text:** Foster, Gary (ed.). *Desire, Love, & Identity: Philosophy of Sex and Love*. 2017. Oxford University Press Canada.

(b) Other necessary readings will be posted or linked on the class D2L website.

## COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

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**Lectures:** Tuesdays: 5:30pm – 7:20pm (Y 325)

**Seminars:** Tuesdays: 7:30pm – 8:20pm (Y 325)

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
<b>Lecture #1</b> Sept 5 (Lecture) Sept 5 (Seminar)	<b>Introduction</b> L: No Reading S: Introduction Ice-breaker	
<b>Lecture #2</b> Sept 12 (Lecture) Sept 12 (Seminar)	<b>What is Love?</b> L: Singer – Appraisal and Bestowal (p. 198-207) S: Singer	
<b>Lecture #3</b> Sept 19 (Lecture) Sept 19 (Seminar)	<b>Agape &amp; Eros</b> L: Soble – Two Views of Love (p. 217-228); Frankfurt – On Love and Its Reasons (p. 228-233) S: Soble & Frankfurt	
<b>Lecture #4</b> Sept 26 (Lecture) Sept 26 (Seminar)	<b>Love and Identity in Question</b> L: Beauvoir – The Woman in Love (p. 255-265); Merino – The Problem with “We”: Rethinking Joint Identity in Romantic Love (p. 265-274) S: Beauvoir & Merino	

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
<b>Lecture #5</b> Oct 3 (Lecture) Oct 3 (Seminar)	<b>Marriage</b> L: Kant – Marriage and Monogamy (p. 298-300); Rusin – The Meaning of Marriage (p. 300-310); Brake – Marriage for Everybody: What is Marriage Equality? (p. 310-319) S: <b>Mini-Test #1</b>	<b>Mini-Test #1</b> <b>(Lectures #1-4)</b>
<b>Lecture #6</b> Oct 10 (Lecture) Oct 10 (Seminar)	<b>Ethical Relationships</b> L: Shotwell – Ethical Polyamory, Responsibility, and Significant Otherness (p. 277-286); Bialystok – Different and Unequal: Rethinking Justice in Intimate Relationships (p. 286-295) S: Shotwell & Bialystok	
<b>Lecture #7</b> Oct 17 (Lecture) Oct 17 (Seminar)	<b>Friendship</b> L: Aristotle – Friendship (p. 322-335); Baier – How to Lose Friends (p. 345-353). S: Aristotle & Baier	
Oct 24 (Lecture) Oct 24 (Seminar)	L: <b>MIDTERM</b> S: <b>No Seminar</b>	
<b>Lecture #8</b> Oct 31 (Lecture) Oct 31 (Seminar)	<b>Talking About Sex</b> L: Cristina – Are We Having Sex Now or What? (p. 79-83) S: Cristina	<b>Trigger Warning:</b> <b>Rape (p. 82)</b>
<b>Lecture #9</b> Nov 7 (Lecture) Nov 7 (Seminar)	<b>The Structure of Sexual Desire</b> L: Nagel – Sexual Perversion (p. 16-26) S: Nagel	<b>Trigger Warning:</b> <b>Pedophilia (p. 23)</b>
<b>Lecture #10</b> Nov 14 (Lecture) Nov 14 (Seminar)	<b>The Object(s) of Sexual Desire</b> L: Jacobsen – Objects of Desire (p. 30-37); Russon – Why Sexuality Matters (p. 37-48) S: Jacobsen & Russon	
<b>Lecture #11</b> Nov 21 (Lecture) Nov 21 (Seminar)	<b>Sexual Objectification</b> L: Kant – Of Duties to the Body in Regard to the Sexual Impulse (p. 87-91); Nussbaum – Objectification (p. 91-98); Marino – The Ethics of Sexual Objectification: Autonomy and Consent (p. 98-105) S: <b>Mini-Test #2</b>	<b>Mini-Test #2</b> <b>(Lectures #8-10)</b>
<b>Lecture #12</b> Nov 28 (Lecture) Nov 28 (Seminar)	<b>The Ethics of Sex Work</b> L: Taylor – Sex Work and Desexualization: Foucauldian Reflections on Sex Work (p. 125-134); Davidson – The Rights and Wrongs of Prostitution (p. 134-147) S: Taylor & Davidson	<b>Trigger Warning:</b> <b>Rape, Pedophilia</b> <b>(p. 132)</b>
<b>Lecture #13</b> Dec 5 (Lecture) Dec 5 (Seminar)	<b>Catch Up &amp; Final Exam Review</b>	

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced noticed is required. Deadlines scan be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html). <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
<p><b>(a) Seminar Participation</b>                      I want you to be engaged with the material and the class, so I'm rewarding you for providing me evidence that you are. This evidence can come in many forms, such as attending and participating in the seminar/class and its discussions, visiting me in office hours to discuss course material, or sending me an email with a good idea or question when one comes to you. <b>Doing the scheduled readings are essential preparation! NOTE: In addition to the seminar, you must attend the lecture to receive the seminar participation grades.</b></p>	<p><b>10% Total</b>                      10 at 1% each                      Graded as                      Pass/Fail</p>
<p><b>(b) Mini-Tests</b>                      There will be 2 mini-tests. The first mini-test will test you on the content for the first half of the course on the philosophy of love. The second mini-test will test you on the content for the first half of the course on the philosophy of sex. Further instructions TBA.  <b>1. Mini-Test #1 – October 3<sup>rd</sup> (During Seminar)</b>  <b>2. Mini-Test #2 – November 21<sup>st</sup> (During Seminar)</b></p>	<p><b>30% Total</b>                      (Each mini-test is worth 15% of your final grade.)</p>
<p><b>(c) Midterm – Oct 24<sup>th</sup></b>                      Further instructions TBA.</p>	<p><b>30% Total</b></p>
<p><b>(d) Final Exam – Scheduled by the college</b>                      Further instructions TBA.</p>	<p><b>30% Total</b></p>
<p><b>TOTAL</b></p>	<p><b>100%</b></p>

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf) policy for more information.  
<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

**(a) Trigger Warning & Appropriate Behaviour**

Due to the nature of this course, we will cover topics in lecture that could be distressing or triggering to some students. Students are free to leave the lecture at any time if they feel uncomfortable with the material being discussed, no questions asked.

Further, inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated. While humour is often a way of dealing with uncomfortable or embarrassing situations and topics; jokes, comments, etc., that are offensive, inappropriate, etc., will not be tolerated. It's important that students feel safe and comfortable in this class, and any student that compromises that will be asked to leave.

## (b) Missing Classes

If you miss a class due to illness or some other reason, it is not necessary to notify me, **unless** a test is missed. If classes are missed, it is the student's responsibility to find out from another student what was covered or check D2L and the course outline.

## (c) Missed Tests

Make up tests will be permitted only in cases of illness or personal crisis. A make up test will not be scheduled until proper medical documentation is provided.

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

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Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

## SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

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Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit <http://camosun.ca/students/>.

Academic Advising	<a href="http://camosun.ca/advising">http://camosun.ca/advising</a>
Accessible Learning	<a href="http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning">http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning</a>
Counselling	<a href="http://camosun.ca/counselling">http://camosun.ca/counselling</a>
Career Services	<a href="http://camosun.ca/coop">http://camosun.ca/coop</a>
Financial Aid and Awards	<a href="http://camosun.ca/financialaid">http://camosun.ca/financialaid</a>
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	<a href="http://camosun.ca/help-centres">http://camosun.ca/help-centres</a>
Indigenous Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/indigenous">http://camosun.ca/indigenous</a>
International Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/international/">http://camosun.ca/international/</a>
Learning Skills	<a href="http://camosun.ca/learningskills">http://camosun.ca/learningskills</a>
Library	<a href="http://camosun.ca/services/library/">http://camosun.ca/services/library/</a>
Office of Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/oss">http://camosun.ca/oss</a>
Ombudsperson	<a href="http://camosun.ca/ombuds">http://camosun.ca/ombuds</a>
Registration	<a href="http://camosun.ca/registration">http://camosun.ca/registration</a>
Technology Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/its">http://camosun.ca/its</a>
Writing Centre	<a href="http://camosun.ca/writing-centre">http://camosun.ca/writing-centre</a>

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

## COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

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### Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc). If you have a disability, the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started:

<http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/>

### Academic Integrity

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.13.pdf> for policy regarding academic expectations and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

### Academic Progress

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

### Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <http://camosun.ca/learn/fees/#deadlines>.

### Grading Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

### Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

### Mandatory Attendance for First Class Meeting of Each Course

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable reason in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student. For more information, please see the "Attendance" section under "Registration Policies and Procedures"

(<http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/procedures.html>) and the Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf>.

### Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal. Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.8.pdf> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

### Sexual Violence and Misconduct

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence or misconduct occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized Violence and Misconduct Policy: <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.9.pdf> and [camosun.ca/sexual-violence](http://camosun.ca/sexual-violence). To contact the Office of Student Support: [oss@camosun.ca](mailto:oss@camosun.ca) or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-3703841

### Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

**Changes to this syllabus:** Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.