

**CAMOSUN COLLEGE
School of Arts & Science
Humanities Department**

**Phil 102-03, Introduction to Philosophy
Winter 2003**

COURSE OUTLINE

1. Instructor Information

Instructor: Sandy Bannikoff
Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 12:00-2:00 pm
Location: Ewing 250
Phone: 370-3508
e-mail: bannikof@camosun.bc.ca

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

This introduction to philosophy is focussed on the Twentieth Century. First, students will be introduced to the philosophy of science. We will consider the nature of scientific facts and theories and we will study the work of three prominent philosophers of science from the last century: Karl Popper, Thomas Kuhn and Imre Lakatos. Second, students will be introduced to some of the problems that were 'on the table' in analytic philosophy at the turn of the last century. Our text is Bertrand Russell's 1912 classic The Problems of Philosophy. The seminar portion of this course is devoted to intellectual exercise: grappling with philosophical puzzles and paradoxes.

3. Required Materials

Required Texts:

1. A.F. Chalmers, What is this thing called Science?
2. Bertrand Russell, The Problems of Philosophy

Optional Text: Robert Martin, There are Two Errors in The Title of This Book

4. Course Content and Schedule

A. Lecture Schedule

Week One

January 7: Administration and General Introduction
January 9: How to Study with the Study Questions

Week Two

January 14: The Facts

Reading: Chalmers, Chapter One (1-18)

January 16: Observation

Reading: Chalmers, Chapter Two (19-26)

Week Three

January 21: Experiment

Reading: Chalmers, Chapter Three (27-40)

January 23: Induction

Reading: Chalmers, Chapter Four (41-58)

Week Four

January 28: Popper and Falsification

Reading: Chalmers, Chapter Five (59-73)

January 30: Exam Preparation

Week Five**February 4: Exam One**

February 6: 'Limitations of Falsification' or 'Problems with Popper'

Reading: Chalmers, Chapter Seven (87-103)

Week Six

February 11: Kuhn's Paradigms

Reading: Chalmers, Chapter Eight (104-129)

February 13: Reading Break

Reading: In preparation for the next exam, which is in two weeks: re-read the chapter on Kuhn, and 'first-read' the chapter on Lakatos.

Week Seven

February 18: Kuhn's Paradigms

February 20: Lakatos' Research Programmes

Reading: Chalmers, Chapter Nine (130-148)

Week Eight

February 25: Lakatos and Exam preparation

February 27: Exam Two**Week Nine**

March 4: Introduction to Russell and Writing Philosophy Papers

March 6: Appearance and Reality

Reading: Russell, Chapter One (7-16)

Week Ten

March 11: The Existence of Matter

Reading: Russell, Chapter Two (17-26)

March 13: The Nature of Matter

Reading: Russell, Chapter Three (27-36)

Week Eleven

March 18: Idealism

Reading: Russell, Chapter Four (37-45)

March 20: Acquaintance and Description

Reading: Russell, Chapter Five (46-59)

Week Twelve

March 25: Induction

Reading: Russell, Chapter Six (60-69)

March 27: General Principles

Reading: Russell, Chapter Seven (70-81)

Week Thirteen

April 1: Universals

Reading: Russell, Chapter Nine (91-100)

April 3: Truth and Falsehood

Reading: Russell, Chapter Twelve (119-130)

Week Fourteen

April 8: The Value of Philosophy

Reading: Russell, Chapter Fifteen (153-161)

April 10: Due: Draft of Final Paper

You must bring a draft of your paper to exchange with another student. The work that you do for this class – the preparation of a final draft and editing – is worth 10% of your final grade.

Exam Period: Final Paper Due Thursday, April 17, 2003. 12:00- 2:00 p.m. at E250

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

A. Seminar: Group work and Participation	
	 20%
B. Exams 1. Exam One	 20%
2. Exam Two	 25%
C. Other 1. Final Draft and Editing	
	 10%
2. Final Paper	 25%

6. Grading System

The following percentage conversion to letter grade will be used:

A+ = 95–100%	B = 75-79%	D = 50-59%
A = 90-94%	B- = 70-74%	F = 0.0-49%
A- = 85-89%	C+ = 65-69%	
B+ = 80-84%	C = 60-64%	

7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed throughout the Course

- A. Study Questions:** Study questions will be distributed to students in class.
- B. On the 'Net:** The Stanford Encyclopaedia of Philosophy
The Internet Encyclopaedia of Philosophy

