

School of Arts & Science SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT

Phil 215-001
Philosophy of Science
2008W

COURSE OUTLINE

The Approved Course Description is available on the web @

 Ω Please note: this outline will be electronically stored for five (5) years only. It is strongly recommended students keep this outline for your records.

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Sandy Bannikoff	
(b)	Office Hours:	Monday and Wednesday, 2-3; Tuesday and Thursday, 1-2	
(c)	Location:	Young 320	
(d)	Phone:	370-3508	Alternative Phone:
(e)	Email:	bannikof@camosun.bc.ca	
(f)	Website:		

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

The focus is on major issues that occupy philosophers of science: science vs. pseudo-science; scientific progress; social influences on scientific discovery; and problems of ethical and religious value. Students will study the work of the leading philosophers of science of the 20th Century and publications of leading contemporary philosophers.

3. Required Materials

Phil 215 Course Pack: in Bookstore, Lansdowne Campus

4. Course Content and Schedule

Caveat: This schedule is subject to change at the instructor's discretion.

The lecture schedule will generally follow this pattern: on Thursdays, the lecture will introduce the paper that is assigned reading for the weekend; on Tuesdays, the lecture will focus on the content of the paper and assume that it has been **studied** by everyone. Each seminar group will spend one seminar discussion on each topic. The discussion will take place in the seminar that follows the second lecture on the topic. So typically both seminars will discuss the subject of Tuesday's lecture.

Week One

Tuesday: General Introduction Thursday: Introduction to Salmon

*Reading: "An Encounter with David Hume"

by Wesley Salmon

* This reading is on reserve in the library.

Week Two

Tuesday: Lecture

Thursday: Introduction to Peirce

Reading "The Fixation of Belief" by Charles

Saunders Peirce

Week Three

Tuesday: Lecture

Thursday: Introduction to Hempel

Reading: "Scientific Inquiry: Invention and

Test" by Carl Hempel

Week Four

Tuesday: Lecture

Thursday: Introduction to Popper

Reading: "Survey of Some Fundamental

Problems" by Karl Popper

Week Five

Tuesday: Lecture Thursday: Lecture

Week Six

Tuesday: First Mid-term Exam Thursday: Introduction to Kuhn

Readings: "Introduction" by Ian Hacking, and * "The Structure of Scientific Revolutions" by Thomas Kuhn, excerpts Ed. Jack Bowen * This reading is on reserve in the library.

Week Seven

Tuesday: Lecture

Thursday: Introduction to Lakatos

Reading: "Why Did Oxygen Supplant Phlogiston?" by Alan Musgrave

Week Eight

Tuesday: Lecture

Thursday: Introduction to Feyerabend

Reading: "How to Defend Society Against

Scientists" by Paul Feyerabend

Week Nine

Tuesday: Lecture

Thursday: Introduction to Kipphardt

Reading: In The Matter of Robert J.
Oppenheimer, a play by Heinar Kipphardt

Week Ten

Tuesday: Lecture

Thursday: Second Mid-term Exam

Week Eleven

Tuesday: Lecture/Introduction to Stengers

Thursday: Lecture

Reading: "Another Look: Relearning to

Laugh" by Isabella Stengers

Week Twelve

Tuesday: Lecture

Thursday: Introduction to Logino

Reading: "Does *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions* Permit a Feminist Revolution in

Science?" by Helen Logino

Week Thirteen

Tuesday: Lecture

Thursday: Introduction to Kitcher

Reading: "Born-Again Creationists" by Philip

Kitcher

Week Fourteen

Tuesday: Lecture Thursday: Movie

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

1.	Seminar	15%
2.	First Mid-term	20%
3.	Second Mid-term	25%
4.	Final Exam	40%

Students are required to submit up to one typed page of questions and/or comments at each seminar. These comments will be marked and the average of the best 8 will constitute 10% of the seminar grade. Participation in the seminar will constitute 5% of the seminar grade, and is required for the submission to count. Needless to say, this entails that no late comments will be accepted.

The exams are cumulative.

6. Grading System Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	Α		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	В		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	С		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at **camosun.ca** for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
ı	<i>Incomplete</i> : A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	In progress: A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. (For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3 rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)
cw	Compulsory Withdrawal: A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

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

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services or the College web site at camosun.ca.

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services and on the College web site in the Policy Section.