

## OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

**Note:** The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.

|   |           |   |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                    |           |   |  |
|---|-----------|---|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--------------------|-----------|---|--|
| <b>Course Code and Number:</b> PHIL 240   |           | <b>Number of Credits:</b> 3 <a href="#">Course credit policy (105)</a>  |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Course Full Title:</b> Philosophy of Religion<br><b>Course Short Title:</b> Philosophy of Religion   |           |   |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Faculty:</b> Faculty of Humanities   |           | <b>Department (or program if no department):</b> Philosophy   |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Calendar Description:</b><br>Examines central issues in the philosophy of religion from a multicultural perspective. Considers the challenge of religious diversity, arguments for and against the existence of God, the relationship between faith and reason, the possibility of an afterlife, and the relationship between morality and religion.   |           |   |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Prerequisites (or NONE):</b>   |           | 15 university-level credits.  |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):</b>   |           | None  |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):</b>   |           | None  |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Antirequisite Courses</b> <i>(Cannot be taken for additional credit.)</i><br>Former course code/number: <b>PHIL 140</b><br>Cross-listed with:<br>Equivalent course(s):<br><i>(If offered in the previous five years, antirequisite course(s) will be included in the calendar description as a note that students with credit for the antirequisite course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.)</i> |           | <b>Course Details</b><br>Special Topics course: <b>No</b><br><i>(If yes, the course will be offered under different letter designations representing different topics.)</i><br>Directed Study course: <b>No</b><br><i>(See <a href="#">policy 207</a> for more information.)</i><br>Grading System: <b>Letter grades</b><br>Delivery Mode: <b>May be offered in multiple delivery modes</b><br>Expected frequency: <b>Annually</b><br>Maximum enrolment (for information only): <b>28</b> |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Typical Structure of Instructional Hours</b> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Lecture/seminar</td> <td>45</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total hours</b></td> <td><b>45</b></td> </tr> </table>   |           | Lecture/seminar   | 45 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | <b>Total hours</b> | <b>45</b> | <b>Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)</b><br>PLAR is available for this course. |  |
| Lecture/seminar   | 45        |   |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                    |           |   |  |
|   |           |   |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                    |           |   |  |
|   |           |   |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                    |           |   |  |
|   |           |   |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                    |           |   |  |
|   |           |   |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Total hours</b>  | <b>45</b> |   |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Scheduled Laboratory Hours</b><br>Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes   |           | <b>Transfer Credit</b> <i>(See <a href="#">bctransferguide.ca</a>.)</i><br>Transfer credit already exists: <b>Yes</b><br>Submit outline for (re)articulation: <b>No</b><br><i>(If yes, fill in <a href="#">transfer credit form</a>.)</i>   |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Department approval</b>  |           | <b>Date of meeting:</b> November 11, 2022   |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Faculty Council approval</b>   |           | <b>Date of meeting:</b> December 9, 2022  |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval</b>   |           | <b>Date of meeting:</b> February 24, 2023   |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                    |           |   |  |

**Learning Outcomes** *(These should contribute to students' ability to meet program outcomes and thus Institutional Learning Outcomes.)*

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe major challenges to principal conceptions of ultimate reality, (including those in Western, Asian, and Indigenous cultures).
2. Assess the cogency of central arguments for and against the existence of God.
3. Evaluate principal responses to religious diversity, including exclusivism, inclusivism, and pluralism.
4. Provide a reasoned assessment of the legitimacy of religious faith without adequate evidence.
5. Assess the challenge of evil to reasonable religious belief.
6. Appraise personal beliefs about religion and spirituality in the light of current research.

**Recommended Evaluation Methods and Weighting** *(Evaluation should align to learning outcomes.)*

|             |     |                |     |              |     |
|-------------|-----|----------------|-----|--------------|-----|
| Final exam: | 20% | Quizzes/tests: | 20% | Assignments: | 60% |
|             | %   |                |     |              | %   |

**Details:**

Assignments may include:

- Two essay assignments (45%)
- In-class group work assignments (15%)

**NOTE: The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.**

**Texts and Resource Materials** *(Include online resources and Indigenous knowledge sources. [Open Educational Resources](#) (OER) should be included whenever possible. If more space is required, use the [Supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form](#).)*

| Type        | Author or description | Title and publication/access details                                | Year |
|-------------|-----------------------|---|------|
| 1. Textbook | Eshleman, Andrew      | Readings in the Philosophy of Religion: East Meets West (Broadview) | 2008 |
| 2. Textbook | Meister, Chad (ed)    | The Philosophy of Religion Reader (Routledge)                       | 2008 |
| 3. Textbook | Chan, Steven M (ed)   | Exploring Philosophy of Religion (OUP)                              | 2016 |
| 4.          |                       |   |      |
| 5.          |                       |   |      |

**Required Additional Supplies and Materials** *(Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing, etc.)***Course Content and Topics**

- Ultimate reality in major religions and spiritual traditions
- Ontological, cosmological, and moral arguments for theistic belief
- Arguments for non-theistic conceptions of ultimate reality
- The problem of evil in western religions
- The problem of suffering in non-western spiritual traditions
- Faith and the limits of reason
- Approaches to religious and spiritual diversity
- Feminist, Nietzschean, Freudian and Marxist challenges to religious belief