

# THIRD YEAR PHILOSOPHY UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK

2020-2021



**The Department of Philosophy is located at:**

2-4 Elderwood,  
College Road, U.C.C.  
T12 AW89  
Tel: 021-4902588



<https://twitter.com/uccphilosophy>



<https://www.facebook.com/PhilosophyDepartmentUcc/>

**Your Third Year Co-ordinator:**

Dr. Vittorio Bufacchi (3 Elderwood, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor)  
[v.bufacchi@ucc.ie](mailto:v.bufacchi@ucc.ie)

# COVID-19

We are living through unprecedented challenging times. Our first priority is the safety and well-being of all our students, our teaching and non-teaching staff, and their families.

As we start the 2020-21 academic year it is imperative that all students make themselves familiar with the Covid-19 university guidelines on returning to college.

For up-to-date information on UCC's response to Covid-19, including Remote Learning, Health Advice, and Returning to Campus, please read the following guidelines:

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/emt/covid19/>

For Covid-19 Student FAQ, please see here:

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/emt/covid19/student-faq/>

Please remember that we are still all in this together. With your help we hope everyone will have a successful and safe return to college.

# People

[Colette Connolly](#) – Senior Administrator. [dept.phil@ucc.ie](mailto:dept.phil@ucc.ie)

[Bengt Autzen](#) - Philosophy of science, particularly the philosophy of biology and the philosophy of medicine; formal epistemology. [bengt.autzen@ucc.ie](mailto:bengt.autzen@ucc.ie)

[Vittorio Bufacchi](#)- Political philosophy, especially human rights, social justice, theories of violence, applied ethics. [v.bufacchi@ucc.ie](mailto:v.bufacchi@ucc.ie)

[Jason Dockstader](#)- History of philosophy; comparative philosophy; metaethics; moral psychology. [J.Dockstader@ucc.ie](mailto:J.Dockstader@ucc.ie)

[Adam Loughnane](#)- Intercultural philosophy, Asian philosophy, continental philosophy, philosophy of art. [adam.loughnane@ucc.ie](mailto:adam.loughnane@ucc.ie)

[Kian Mintz-Woo](#) – Climate change, applied ethics, climate economics, metaethics, political philosophy. [kian.mintz-woo@ucc.ie](mailto:kian.mintz-woo@ucc.ie)

[Cara Nine](#)– Political philosophy, especially global justice, territorial rights, borders, political obligation and resource rights; applied philosophy. [c.nine@ucc.ie](mailto:c.nine@ucc.ie)

[Don Ross](#) (Head of Department) – Philosophy of economics; economic experiments; risk; addiction; scientific metaphysics. [don.ross931@ucc.ie](mailto:don.ross931@ucc.ie)

[Alessandro Salice](#)– Philosophy of mind, phenomenology, collective intentionality, emotion theory, psychopathology, social cognition. [alessandro.salice@ucc.ie](mailto:alessandro.salice@ucc.ie)

[Margaret Steele](#) – Feminist philosophy, applied ethics, continental philosophy. [margaret.steele@ucc.ie](mailto:margaret.steele@ucc.ie)

[Joel Walmsley](#)- Philosophy of artificial intelligence, philosophy of science, philosophy of mind. [j.walmsley@ucc.ie](mailto:j.walmsley@ucc.ie)

## THIRD ARTS PHILOSOPHY TIMETABLE 2020-2021

### SEMESTERS 1 AND 2

MODULE CODE	MODULE TITLE	TEACHING METHODS	LECTURER'S NAME
PH0090	Personal Development and Review	To be decided by supervisors	Various Staff

### SEMESTER 1

*PH3002	Research Essay	To be decided by supervisors	Various Staff
PH3025	Political Philosophy in Theory and Practice	Online only. Tuesdays 4-5pm & Thursdays 1-2pm	Dr. Bufacchi
PH3036	Moral Psychology 1	Online only. Mon 12 noon - 1pm; Thurs 11-12 noon	Dr. Dockstader & Dr. Salice
PH3042	Professional Ethics	Online only. Mon 2-3pm; Weds 11am-12 noon	Dr. Mintz-Woo
PH3044	Construction of Social Reality	Online only. Tuesdays 1-2pm; Thursdays 3-4pm	Dr. Salice
PH3046	Philosophy of Biology	Blended. Mon 10-11am; Weds 1-2pm	Dr. Autzen
PH3047	Evidence	Blended. Tuesdays 11am-12 noon; Wednesdays 4-5pm.	Dr. Autzen
AS3009 (10 credits)	Religious and Philosophical Traditions of Korea	TBD (please contact Dr.Cawley). Mon 3-5pm; Weds 11am-12 noon	Dr. Cawley (Dept. of Asian Studies) <a href="mailto:K.Cawley@ucc.ie">mailto:K.Cawley@ucc.ie</a>

### SEMESTER 2

*PH3031	Research Essay 2	To be decided by staff	Various Staff
PH3035	Mind and Machine	Face-to-face classroom delivery if the public health situation permits; otherwise online or blended, to be determined.  Mondays 12 noon – 1pm Western Tuesdays 2-3pm	Dr. Walmsley
PH3039	Japanese Philosophy	Face-to-face classroom delivery if the public health situation permits; otherwise online or blended, to be determined.	Dr. Loughnane

		Mondays 10-11am; Wednesdays 9-10am	
PH3041	Moral Psychology 2	Face-to-face classroom delivery if the public health situation permits; otherwise online or blended, to be determined.  Weds 1-2pm; Thurs 10-11am	Dr. Salice
PH3045	Home, Identity and Displacement	Face-to-face classroom delivery if the public health situation permits; otherwise online or blended, to be determined.  Weds 12 noon-1pm; Thurs 1-2pm	Dr. Nine
PH3048	Moral Philosophy in Theory and Practice	Face-to-face classroom delivery if the public health situation permits; otherwise online or blended, to be determined.  Wednesdays 10-11am; Thursdays 3-4pm	Dr. Mintz-Woo
PH3110	Human Nature and Free Will	Face-to-face classroom delivery if the public health situation permits; otherwise online or blended, to be determined.  Mon 4-5pm; Tues 12 noon -1pm	Dr. Walmsley
PH3111	Philosophy of Language	Face-to-face classroom delivery if the public health situation permits; otherwise online or blended, to be determined.  Tues 4-5pm; Thurs 11am-12 noon	Dr. Salice

**\*Students who take PH3002 in semester 1 cannot take PH3031 in semester 2.**

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

If you are taking 40 or 50 Credits of Philosophy, you **MUST** take at least 10 credits from each of Group 1, Group 2 and Group 3. If you are taking 30 credits of Philosophy, you **MUST** take at least 5 credits from each of Group 1, Group 2 and Group 3. If you are taking 10 or 20 Credits of Philosophy, then you may take any combination of modules. Group 4 modules are optional.

- **Group 1 (Value Theory):** PH3025, PH3041, PH3042, PH3045, PH3112, PH3048 (5 credits each)
- **Group 2 (Metaphysics and Mind):** PH3029, PH3035, PH3046, PH3110, PH3044, PH3047 (5 credits each)
- **Group 3 (History of Philosophy):** AS3009 (10 credits), PH3036, PH3038<sup>1</sup>, PH3039, PH3111 (5 credits each)
- **Group 4 (Optional):** PH3002 or PH3031 (students cannot register for both), PH0090 (5 credits each)

<sup>1</sup> Students who took PH2023 in second year cannot register for PH3038

### NB FOR HONOURS STUDENTS:

The marks assigned at the Second Year examination are carried forward to Third Year and constitute one third of a student's final B.A. marks.

### NOTE:

The full regulations governing the selection of courses and the number of modules required are to be found in the College Calendar <https://www.ucc.ie/calendar/>. Information on modules can be found here <https://www.ucc.ie/admin/registrar/modules/?prefix=PH>

### TIMETABLE CLASHES

Due to restrictions in teaching spaces clashes in your timetable will unfortunately be unavoidable. If you have a clash, you cannot take both modules. You must choose between the modules that clash since you are categorically forbidden to register for modules that clash in your timetable with other modules, in Philosophy or in any other department across UCC.

## **MODULE OPTIONS IN SEMESTER ONE AND TWO**

### **PH0090 PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW (5 credit, year-long module)**

The aim of the module is to encourage extra-curricular activity amongst students during their time of study in UCC and award credit within their programme of study where the student has demonstrated that they have engaged in reflective learning arising from their participation in those activities

To register for this course, students **must** first contact a member of staff, and obtain their agreement to act as the student's supervisor. This contact must be made within the first two weeks of Semester 1. Staff may choose to take on up to two students at a time, so it is important to contact staff early. A staff member will agree to supervise a student **if and only if** it is clear that the student is willing and capable to perform productive, independent activities.

Students will meet with lecturing staff at the beginning of the year in order to discuss and agree on the specifics of their project. In the past, students have undertaken a variety of projects, including acting as a research assistant, conference planning, work in a philosophical society, proof-reading and bibliographic research and other activities relevant to academic Philosophy.

## **MODULE OPTIONS IN SEMESTER ONE**

### **PH3002 – RESEARCH ESSAY (5 credits) Staff listed below**

- **Course outline:** This course requires students to submit an essay of 5,000 words, typed, in duplicate, to the Department on a date to be announced. The essay is written under the supervision of one of the lecturers listed; each lecturer will arrange introductory seminars to guide students in locating relevant material for the essay; they will also provide guidance in how to compose the essay and on other relevant details about style, format, etc.
- Staff offering supervision are: Dr. Bengt Autzen, Dr. Vittorio Bufacchi, Dr. Jason Dockstader, Dr. Adam Loughnane, Dr. Kian Mintz-Woo, Dr. Cara Nine, Prof. Don Ross, Dr. Joel Walmsley.
- Places for this course are restricted to a maximum of three students per lecturer and are available on a first-come/first-served basis. If you are interested in doing a research essay, speak to a supervisor of your choice asap in order to discuss a possible project. If you register for this course, you have to have signed up with a supervisor and provided a working essay title by the end of the second week of term.
- Students who choose PH3002 in Semester 1 cannot take PH3031 in Semester 2.
- N.B. Late essays are not accepted, and the deadline for submission cannot be extended.

### **PH3025: POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY IN THEORY AND PRACTICE (5 credits) Dr. Vittorio Bufacchi**

- **Course Outline:** This year the focus will be on human rights. We will explore the idea of human rights, its philosophical foundations, and the relationship between human rights and social injustice.
- **Readings:** Readings will be available on Canvas
- **Assessment:** Total marks 100: 1 x in class test 50 marks; 1 x 2,500 words essay 50 marks.
- **Teaching Method:** Online only.

### **PH3036 – MORAL PSYCHOLOGY 1 (5 credits) Dr. Jason Dockstader & Dr. Alessandro Salice**

- **Course Outline:** What makes an action moral? This course approaches this question by exploring the spectrum of possible answers to it that have been provided in philosophy. On one extreme end of the spectrum, we find moral or axiological realism: according to this position, values are what make an action moral and values are mind-independent properties. The first part of the course introduces this position by investigating the moral theory of phenomenologist Max Scheler. After contextualising Scheler's thought within contemporary

debates on meta-ethics, the second part of the course will focus on the other possible answers to that question, including Nietzsche's moral anti-realism. Moral anti-realism occupies the opposite end of the spectrum. According to this view, there is nothing that makes an action moral: morally, all actions are on a par because there are no values.

- **Readings:** Readings will be available on Canvas.
- **Assessment:** Total marks 100 - 1 x in-class test 50 marks; 1 x 2,500 words essay 50 marks.
- **Teaching method:** Online only.

#### **PH3042: PROFESSIONAL ETHICS (5 credits) Dr. Kian Mintz-Woo**

- **Course Description:** What is a professional code of ethics? How should we choose our jobs in a moral way? Is profit the only rule in business? How far should business go to protect and preserve the environment? What does it mean to be a moral expert? Do businesses have obligations only to share-holders or also to future generations? What duties do different works have in the context of COVID-19? These are some of the many questions that will be discussed in this course. Some of the following topics will come under closer scrutiny: whistleblowing and professional responsibility; harassment in the work place; executive pay; truth and deception in advertising; and the moral status of corporations.
- **Readings:** Readings will be available on Canvas.
- **Assessment:** Total Marks 100: Continuous Assessment 100 marks (2 x 2,000 words essays each with 10 marks for each draft version and 40 marks for each final draft).
- **Teaching method:** Online only.

#### **PH3044: CONSTRUCTION OF REALITY (5 credits) Dr. Alessandro Salice**

- **Course Description:** Philosophical arguments and empirical evidence support the idea that the capacity to engage in collective intentionality is a key aspect of human sociality. This unique form of intentionality enables humans to constitute forms of social reality far exceeding anything that can be achieved, for example, by non-human primates. Consider the €10 bill in your wallet: it seems that an explanation of what makes this piece of paper a banknote would have to include the fact that individuals collectively accept – and act upon – the institution of money and the social norms and conventions related to that institution. But, then, what is it to collectively accept something or to act upon a shared intention? What is the nature of the “we”? Is the “we” a super-individual agent? Is it a matter of interpersonal relations? What is the nature of these relations? Are they psychological or normative? The course will approach these questions by introducing – and critically evaluating – prominent authors in the debate about collective intentionality.
- **Readings:** Readings will be available on Canvas.
- **Assessment:** Total Marks 100: Continuous Assessment 100 marks (1 x in class test 50 marks; 1 x 2,500 words essay 50 marks).
- **Teaching Method:** Online only.

#### **PH3046: PHILOSOPHY OF BIOLOGY (5 credits) Dr. Bengt Autzen**

- **Course Description:** The philosophy of biology has become one of the central areas of inquiry in the philosophy of science. This should not come as a surprise given the exciting insights into the living world generated by evolutionary biologists, molecular biologists and geneticists. The aim of the course is to provide an introduction to contemporary debates in the philosophy of biology. Topics to be covered include Darwin's theory of natural selection, genes and species, function and teleology, immunology and individuality, evolutionary psychology and the relationship between biology and the social sciences
- **Readings:** Readings will be available on Canvas.
- **Assessment:** Total marks 100: 1 x online test 50 marks; 1 x 2500 word essay 50 marks
- **Teaching method:** Blended (Pre-recorded lectures available on Canvas and joint discussion of study questions via MS Teams/Zoom or outdoors, if weather permitting. For students with health vulnerabilities, online substitutes will be sought).



### PH3047 – EVIDENCE (5 credits) Dr. Bengt Autzen

- **Course Outline:** Shall we wear face masks in public spaces? Is coronavirus airborne? Are children as contagious as adults when it comes to SARS-CoV-2? The COVID-19 pandemic has made it obvious that rational decision making requires an assessment of the best available scientific evidence. But what do we mean when we say that we have good evidence for a claim? The aim of the course is to provide an introduction to contemporary debates in the philosophical study of evidence. The notion of evidence is central to both epistemology and the philosophy of science. In more traditional epistemology it is seen as relevant for justified belief which in turn is typically seen as necessary, but not sufficient, for knowledge. In the philosophy of science, talk about evidence is associated with topics such as observation, experiment, induction and confirmation. Its close relationship with central terms in epistemology and philosophy of science rightly suggests that philosophical debates about evidence can be traced back to the beginning of Western philosophy. That said, philosophic scrutinizing of scientific concepts, such as evidence and confirmation, reached new levels of systematicity and rigor during the positivist era. Moreover, the notion of evidence has received heightened interest in recent decades due to the questions raised by developments such as evidence-based medicine or evidence-based policy.
- **Readings:** Elliott Sober *Evidence and Evolution* (2008, Cambridge University Press). All readings available on Canvas.
- **Assessment:** Total marks 100: 1 x online test 50 marks; 1 x 2500 word essay 50 marks
- **Teaching method:** Blended (Pre-recorded lectures available on Canvas and joint discussion of study questions via MS Teams/Zoom or outdoors, if weather permitting. For students with health vulnerabilities, online substitutes will be sought.)

### AS3009: RELIGIOUS AND PHILOSOPHICAL TRADITIONS OF KOREA (10 credits) Dr. Kevin Cawley (Dept. of Asian Studies)

- **Course Description:** This module will introduce students to one of the most intellectually diverse countries in Asia, Korea. It will examine the different religious and philosophical traditions of Korea - influenced by Chinese thought, which in turn influenced Japanese ideas, also discussed in the course. It will also assess the relevance and practices related to these intellectual traditions in the twenty-first century: including Confucianism, Neo-Confucianism, Shamanism, Buddhisms, Christianities, New Religious Movements, as well as Juche thought from North Korea.
- **Readings:** All readings will be available online via the course handbook which will be on Canvas.
- **Assessment:** Total marks 200: Continuous Assessment 200 marks (1 x 3,000 words (max) essay - 100 marks. 1 x 1,500 words (max) essay - 60 marks. 1 x Class Presentation - 40 marks).
- **Teaching method:** Please contact Dr. Cawley, [K.Cawley@ucc.ie](mailto:K.Cawley@ucc.ie)

## MODULE OPTIONS IN SEMESTER TWO

### **PH3031 –RESEARCH ESSAY 2 (5 credits) Staff listed below**

- **Course description:** this course requires students to submit an essay of 5,000 words, typed, in duplicate, to the Department on a date to be announced. The essay is written under the supervision of one of the lecturers listed; each lecturer will arrange introductory seminars to guide students in locating relevant material for the essay; they will also provide guidance in how to compose the essay and on other relevant details about style, format, etc.
- Staff offering supervision are: Dr. Bengt Autzen, Dr. Vittorio Bufacchi, Dr. Jason Dockstader, Dr. Adam Loughnane, Dr. Kian Mintz-Woo, Dr. Cara Nine, Prof. Don Ross, Dr. Joel Walmsley.
- Places for this course are restricted to a maximum of three students per lecturer and are available on a first-come/first-served basis. If you are interested in doing a research essay, speak to a supervisor of your choice asap in order to discuss a possible project. If you register for this course, you have to have signed up with a supervisor and provided a working essay title by the end of the second week of term.
- **IMPORTANT:** Students who choose PH3002 in Semester 1 **cannot** take PH3031 in Semester 2.
- **N.B.** Late essays are not accepted, and the deadline for submission cannot be extended.

### **PH3035: MIND AND MACHINE (5 credits) Dr. Joel Walmsley**

- **Course Outline:** “Within a few years, if there remain any philosophers who are not familiar with some of the main developments in artificial intelligence, it will be fair to accuse them of professional incompetence.” (Aaron Sloman (1978) *The Computer Revolution in Philosophy*).  
Whilst Sloman has perhaps overstated his case, there are nonetheless many aspects of artificial intelligence which are of philosophical importance. This course will examine and evaluate the attempts of artificial intelligence workers, especially philosophers, to answer the question, “Could a machine think?” We will cover the philosophical foundations of AI theory, as well as specific topics in symbolic, connectionist and dynamical AI such as the Turing test, The Chinese Room argument, Gödelian arguments against AI, eliminativism, the language of thought, embodied/extended cognition, and the possibility of human/machine hybrids. Although the primary focus of the module will be on the relationship between AI and cognitive science, if time permits in the latter part of the course, we may also consider some of the practical, ethical and social consequences of AI.
- **Readings:**
  - a) Textbook: J. Walmsley (2012) *Mind and Machine* (Palgrave-Macmillan): available via the UCC Book shop.
  - b) Various other readings to be made available electronically via Canvas.
- **Assessment** Total marks 100 - 1 x 2,500-word essay 50 marks. Topics TBA; 1 x in class test 50 marks.
- **Teaching Method:** Face-to-face classroom delivery if the public health situation permits; otherwise online or blended, to be determined.

### **PH3039 JAPANESE PHILOSOPHY (5 credits) Dr. Adam Loughnane**

- **Course Outline:** This module introduces concepts and themes in Japanese philosophy through an exploration of three major figures of the ‘Kyoto School’ (Nishida Kitarō, Nishitani Keiji, Ueda Shizuteru). We begin by tracing the genesis of Japanese Philosophy in Taoist, Shintō, and Buddhist religion-philosophy, focusing on ideas of *nothingness*, *emptiness*, *contradiction*, and *non-duality* in the writings of Laozi, Dōgen, Hakuin, Kukai and others. We then explore the evolution of Japanese Philosophy within the works of the three Kyoto school thinkers, considering concepts of “pure experience,” “self-overcoming of nihilism,” “transpersonal field,” and the “invisible two-foldness” of existence. We finish the module by considering various art forms (dry landscape garden, calligraphy, film, painting, poetry) to situate the concepts of Japanese Philosophy in relation to how they are embodied in Japanese aesthetic practice.
- **Readings:** To be announced.

- **Assessment:** Total marks 100: 1 x 2,500 word essay 40 marks; 1 x in-class test 40 marks; participation 20 marks.
- **Teaching Method:** Face-to-face classroom delivery if the public health situation permits; otherwise online or blended, to be determined.

### PH3041 MORAL PSYCHOLOGY 2 (5 credits) Dr. Alessandro Salice

- **Course Description:** Moral Psychology investigates phenomena which are both psychological and ethical in nature, and therefore lies at the interface of philosophy and psychology. Some of the phenomena with which moral psychology is concerned include: altruism and egoism, moral judgment, praise and blame, moral responsibility, practical deliberation, intentional action, obligations, virtue and vice, character, moral development, and so on. To explain these phenomena, the moral psychologist must answer a number of questions about the nature of our actions and the way we do and should evaluate them. This course will focus on the role that affective phenomena, especially emotions, play in Moral Psychology. Given the privileged connection between affect and value, emotions seem to have an important role to play in how we judge individuals (both ourselves and others) and their actions morally. Furthermore, given their motivational force, affective phenomena are also importantly involved in moral behaviour and moral deliberation. This course presents the main theories of emotion to explain their centrality in our moral psychology and explores in detail several emotions and their moral underpinnings.
- **Readings:** Readings will be made available on Canvas.
- **Assessment:** Total Marks 100: 1 x in-class test 50 marks; 1 x essay 50 marks.
- **Teaching Method:** Face-to-face classroom delivery if the public health situation permits; otherwise online or blended, to be determined.

### PH3045 HOME, IDENTITY AND DISPLACEMENT (5 credits) Dr. Cara Nine

- **Course Description:** This course will look at the philosophical concepts of home. This involves asking some foundational philosophical questions: How is a home different from a hotel room? How is identity connected to the home? We will also explore themes of the home as a 'homeland', homelessness, and the human right against displacement
- **Readings:** All available on Canvas
- **Assessment:** Total Marks 100: 2 on-line tests; 1 x 2,500 word essay
- **Teaching Method:** Face-to-face classroom delivery if the public health situation permits; otherwise online or blended, to be determined.

### PH3048: MORAL PHILOSOPHY IN THEORY AND PRACTICE (5 credits) Dr. Kian Mintz-Woo

- **Course Description:** How do moral theories apply to contemporary moral questions? In this module, you will learn about common moral theories and how they are relevant to contemporary challenges. Theories like deontology, consequentialism, and virtue ethics will be used to guide responses to contemporary challenges like COVID-19, climate change, choosing a profession, donating to charity, considering animal lives, and whether to take down public monuments, the last of which we will discuss with a guest lecturer Prof Travis Timmerman.
- **Readings:** Readings will be made available on Canvas.
- **Assessment:** Total Marks 100: Continuous Assessment 100 marks (2 x 2,000 word essay—10 marks for each draft version and 40 marks for each final version).
- **Teaching Method:** Face-to-face classroom delivery if the public health situation permits; otherwise online or blended, to be determined.

### PH3110: HUMAN NATURE AND FREE WILL (5 credits) Dr. Joel Walmsley

- **Course Description:** Are persons determined by the laws of physics, like sophisticated ping-pong balls? Could

our actions be predicted by those who know our psychology? Are we determined to be the kinds of persons we are by genetics, heredity, environment and upbringing? Can we be blamed for anything if we couldn't do otherwise? These are just some of the questions that are asked at the intersection of discussions about free will and human nature.

This course will examine some prominent theories in the free will debate (such as, compatibilism, incompatibilism, libertarianism and determinism) and how they relate to some different ways of theorising human nature (such as, dualism, behaviourism, psychoanalysis, Buddhism, neuroscience and AI.)

- **Readings**

- a) Essential: Kane, R. (2005) *A Contemporary Introduction to Free Will* (Oxford: OUP)
- b) Recommended: Beebe, H. (2013) *Free Will: An Introduction* (Palgrave-Macmillan): available via the UCC Lowercase book service.
- c) Other readings, including some from Descartes, Freud, Skinner, Libet, Dennett, Frankfurt etc. Available electronically via Canvas

- **Assessment:** Total marks 100 – 1 x 2,500-word essay 50 marks; 1 x in class test 50 marks.

- **Teaching Method:** Face-to-face classroom delivery if the public health situation permits; otherwise online or blended, to be determined.

### **PH3111 – PHILOSOPHY OF LANGUAGE (5 credits) Dr. Alessandro Salice**

- **Course Description:** Sometimes, words and sentences are employed to describe facts and objects in the world. If one utters the sentence 'grass is green,' one describes the fact that grass is green. But words and sentences can have many other uses as well. For instance, one can literally generate facts and objects in the world: by uttering the adequate words in the adequate contexts, people can make promises, give orders, marry, adjourn meetings, consecrate churches, declare wars, etc. But then, what kinds of acts do sentences like 'I promise you that...' or 'I order you to...' express? What are promises, orders, requests, etc.? This module will explore the notion of 'speech acts' by investigating the contributions that phenomenology and the so-called "ordinary language philosophy" delivered on this topic in the first half of last century. More specifically, the module will (i) illuminate how, historically, speech acts have been 'discovered;' (ii) reconstruct the main positions about speech acts in the debate; (iii) highlight their importance for our understanding of social reality.

- **Readings:** To be announced.

- **Assessment:** Total marks 100: 1 x in-class test 50 marks; 1 x 2,500 word essay 50 marks.

- **Teaching Method:** Face-to-face classroom delivery if the public health situation permits; otherwise online or blended, to be determined.

### THIRD YEAR CO-ORDINATOR:

Your third year co-ordinator is Dr. Vittorio Bufacchi – [v.bufacchi@ucc.ie](mailto:v.bufacchi@ucc.ie)

Dr. Bufacchi may be contacted about any practical queries, problems etc. that arise in connection with your study of Philosophy in third year.

### PASTORAL CARE

We appreciate that students experience unforeseen, and sometimes ongoing, personal difficulties during their time with us. Covid-19 is also making things more difficult. We in the department of Philosophy want to ensure you of our support during these times and encourage you to leave us know of any difficulties as soon as you feel comfortable to. We will respect your privacy and assure confidentiality. If you wish to talk to someone in the department about academic or personal issues, please contact Prof. Don Ross ([don.ross931@gmail.com](mailto:don.ross931@gmail.com); [don.ross@ucc.ie](mailto:don.ross@ucc.ie)) or another member of staff you feel comfortable with. For personal or medical issues, you may also wish to contact the office of Student Counselling and Development, who will offer free, confidential advice on any personal issues affecting your work or well-being:

- By Phone: (021) 490 3565
- By Email: [counselling@ucc.ie](mailto:counselling@ucc.ie)
- Call In To Reception: Room 6, Ardpatrick House, College Road, Cork. (Next to College Car Park)
  - Reception Opening Hours: Monday-Friday: 9.30-10.30am, 11.00am to 1.00pm, 2.15pm-4.15pm.

### AUTUMN SUPPLEMENTAL EXAMINATIONS

Modules failed in second year must be repeated in a supplemental (repeat) examination, in August. Please note, Autumn Repeat Exams are capped at 40% (see “Mitigation” below).

### MITIGATION

If you have experienced personal or medical difficulties that you feel contributed to you failing or to not sitting your exams, you can make an application for “Mitigation”. A successful mitigation application will waive the capping of the 40% mark for the Autumn Supplemental Examination. Further details and application form on the mitigation process are available by following this link:

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/media/support/recordsandexaminations/documents/MitigationApplicationForm-WaiverofCapping-1.docx>

### MEDICAL CERTS

If a student misses a required element for medical reasons, s/he must submit a medical certificate to verify the reason for the absence on that date. Students are required to submit medical certificates within two weeks of their absence. Medical certificates submitted after more than two weeks of the absence from a required element may not be accepted by the department.

### PLAGIARISM

**Plagiarism** is the copying or misappropriation of ideas (or their expression), text or data without permission and due acknowledgement. It is the presentation of another person’s ideas or words as though they were the student’s own. All work submitted as part of the requirement for any examination in the Philosophy Department must be expressed in the student’s own words and incorporate his/her own ideas and judgments. Direct quotations from the published or unpublished work of another must always be clearly identified as such by being placed in quotation marks, and a full reference to their source must be provided in the proper form.

A single unacknowledged long quotation from a single source, or a series of short quotations from several different sources, if not clearly identified as such, constitute plagiarism. Furthermore, if another person’s ideas or judgments are summarized, the student must refer to that person in his/her text, and include the work to which reference is made in the bibliography.

Plagiarism is a serious offence for which there is a range of serious penalties.

---