Haverford Philosophy Department 2017-18

The faculty, with teaching and research interests

Benjamin Berger: 19th century continental philosophy, philosophy of nature and environmental thought, metaphysics.

Ashok Gangadean: Logic and language; global ontology; Hindu, Buddhist, and Zen thought in a global context. NB: Courses in global philosophy do not count towards the major or minor in philosophy.

Danielle Macbeth: Metaphysics, philosophy of language, philosophy of mind, logic, philosophy of mathematics.

Jerry Miller: Ethics, post-structuralism, philosophy of race.

Brooks Sommerville: Ancient philosophy, Early Modern philosophy, moral psychology, philosophy of death.

Joel Yurdin (Chair): Ancient philosophy, philosophical psychology, epistemology, philosophy of perception.

Jill Stauffer (Affiliated): Political philosophy, human rights and international justice, philosophy of law.

Advice to First Year Students

Philosophy is unique in focusing on the overview of human experience, and cultivates critical skills and reflective habits of thought that interrogate fundamental precepts of reason and value. Our entry-level courses, all at the 100-level, introduce students to key figures and texts in philosophy and provide them analytical and interpretive tools for understanding all facets of intellectual history and the discourse of the liberal arts. They also help students to develop the skills peculiar to a philosophical perspective. All introductory courses provide a historical perspective on the evolution of philosophy, thereby providing students a broad orientation and background in the philosophical contributions to our intellectual heritage.

The philosophy department offers a range of one-semester introductory, 100-level courses, some (odd-numbered) in ethics, some (even-numbered) in metaphysics and epistemology, all of which are open to, and to some extent geared toward, first-year students. One course at this level is a prerequisite for all upper-level courses in philosophy (except Phil 260), and students may take only two 100-level courses—one even-numbered and one odd-numbered—for College credit. Eight entry-level courses are offered for 2017-2018.
Introductory Philosophy Courses Taught in the Fall

• Philosophy 102: Rational Animals (Sommerville). *Enrollment capped at 30.*
• Philosophy 106: Consciousness and the Problem of Embodiment (Berger). *Unlimited enrollment.*
• Philosophy 110: Mind and World (Macbeth) *Unlimited enrollment.*
• Philosophy 111: The Wicked and the Worthy (Miller) *Unlimited enrollment.*
• Philosophy 118: Life & Death (Sommerville) *Unlimited enrollment.*

Introductory Philosophy Courses Taught in the Spring

• Philosophy 102: Rational Animals (Sommerville). *Enrollment capped at 30.*
• Philosophy 106: Consciousness and the Problem of Embodiment (Berger). *Unlimited enrollment.*