



PHIL*4820 Philosophy Research Presentation

Winter 2020

Section(s): C01

Department of Philosophy

Credit Weight: 0.50

Version 1.00 - January 04, 2020

1 Course Details

1.1 Calendar Description

The focus of this course is mastering the oral presentation of a philosophical argument, and engaging in respectful, intellectually honest discussion with one's audience. Students will develop and present a philosophical claim which they will explain and defend during a question period after the presentation. Students are expected to have topic for their presentation at the beginning of the course.

Pre-Requisites: 14.00 credits including 1.00 credits in Philosophy at the 3000-level

Restrictions: Restricted to students in Philosophy major.

1.2 Course Description

The central task of this course will be to develop an oral presentation of a philosophical argument. Part of this task involves developing a philosophical argument worth presenting. To that end, we will work the skills of doing effective research pertinent to your argument. This includes finding relevant, high-quality philosophical articles in peer reviewed journals. Second, we will work on philosophical writing, including structuring a philosophical argument with attention to its dialectical (back-and-forth) structure. Finally, we will practice the skills of effective oral presentation and responding to questions.

1.3 Timetable

Timetable is subject to change. Please see WebAdvisor for the latest information.

1.4 Final Exam

There is no final exam for this course.

2 Instructional Support

2.1 Instructional Support Team

Instructor:	John Hacker-Wright PhD
Email:	jhackerw@uoguelph.ca
Telephone:	+1-519-824-4120 x56765
Office:	MCKN 330
Office Hours:	Wednesdays 12:00-1:00

3 Learning Resources

There is no required text for the course, though there will be assigned readings, which will be found on our Courselink site.

4 Learning Outcomes

4.1 Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. *Orally Articulate and Defend* a position on a philosophical topic, either in class discussion or in a formal presentation, that is clear, accurate and well-reasoned.
 2. *Develop* research methods for gathering a wide range of primary and secondary source materials, and synthesize these materials and evaluate their credibility.
 3. *Demonstrate Independence* in articulating an original approach to a significant philosophical topic.
 4. *Write* clearly and cogently on complex problems in philosophy.
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5 Teaching and Learning Activities

Please see Schedule of Readings and Assignments on Courselink.

6 Assessments

6.1 Assessment Details

Paper Proposal (10%)
Date: Week 3

During meetings for week 3 students will present a short (10-minute) pitch of their idea for their research presentation, which will involve:

- A description of the topic of the paper you will present.
- An explanation of the debate to which it contributes
- A preliminary statement of the thesis

Annotated Bibliography (10%)

Date: Week 4

For this week you will submit and annotated bibliography of additional resources, we will look at those sources as a group and evaluate their relevance and the quality of the sources found.

The annotation will give a brief description of the content and describe briefly its relevance to the project. The bibliographical information should be presenting in Chicago style format.

Dialectical Outline (10%)

Date: Week 6

This will be an outline of the logic of your presentation. You will clearly state the claim that you will be supporting, mapping out any positions that you are arguing against or objections you will have to counter and the premises that you will use in doing so. We will go over these together and try to make constructive suggestions.

Responses (10%)

Date: Week 6

At this point, you will receive a mark for your responses to other students' work at the stages of proposal, bibliography, and dialectical outline. It is very important that these responses not be overly generous; critical feedback is essential in helping refine presentation skills. Having said that, criticism should be constructive and encouraging.

First run presentation (10%)

Date: Week 8

This will be your first run at your presentation. You will receive feedback from the class and integrate that feedback for the second run.

Second run presentation (10%)

Date: Week 12

Final Conference Presentation (30%)

Date: Week 13

This week we will host a conference during our Monday and Wednesday classes at which time each student will give their 20-minute presentation (i.e., the final and most refined version of their topic) and will handle questions from the audience. While all Philosophy Majors (and faculty and graduate students) will be invited to attend the conference, only

those students enrolled in courses will be required to attend.

Conference Q & A (5%)

Date: Week 13

You should pose a question to each presenter during the conference.

Attend Speaker Series event (5%)

At some point during the semester you should visit a Department of Philosophy speaker series event (schedule will be provided on Courselink) and present a short (200 word) write up commenting on the strengths and weaknesses of the presentation you observed.

7 University Statements

7.1 Email Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

7.2 When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. The grounds for Academic Consideration are detailed in the Undergraduate and Graduate Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Consideration and Appeals

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Grounds for Academic Consideration

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

Associate Diploma Calendar - Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/index.shtml>

7.3 Drop Date

Students will have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. The deadline to drop two-semester courses will be the last day of classes in the second semester. This applies to all students (undergraduate, graduate and diploma) except for Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Associate Diploma in Veterinary Technology (conventional and alternative delivery) students. The regulations and procedures for course registration are available in their respective Academic Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Dropping Courses

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Registration Changes

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/genreg-reg->

regchg.shtml

Associate Diploma Calendar - Dropping Courses

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

7.4 Copies of Out-of-class Assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

7.5 Accessibility

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required; however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability.

Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to book their exams at least 7 days in advance and not later than the 40th Class Day.

For Guelph students, information can be found on the SAS website

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/sas>

For Ridgetown students, information can be found on the Ridgetown SAS website

<https://www.ridgetownc.com/services/accessibilityservices.cfm>

7.6 Academic Integrity

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity, and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community—faculty, staff, and students—to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff, and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that encourages academic integrity. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

7.7 Recording of Materials

Presentations that are made in relation to course work - including lectures - cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a student, or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

7.8 Resources

The Academic Calendars are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies, and regulations that apply to undergraduate, graduate, and diploma programs.

Academic Calendars

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/academics/calendars>
