



PHIL*6950 MA Seminar

Winter 2020

Section(s): C01

Department of Philosophy

Credit Weight: 0.50

Version 1.00 - December 16, 2019

1 Course Details

1.1 Calendar Description

A seminar course in which students work on developing a range of academic skills for doing professional philosophy. This course is pass/fail and is mandatory for all incoming MA students. Please refer to the Philosophy Department website for a comprehensive description of this course.

1.2 Course Description

PHIL*6950 (cross listed with PHIL*6960)

These two courses are mandatory for all MA and PhD students. The syllabus is the same for both, and any differences for the two groups are listed in "Topics." These two courses (hereafter referred to as "the course" or "the seminar") are year-long (F19 & W20), and are graded Pass/Fail. There are some necessary conditions to pass, listed below. It is important that you attend all sessions, and that you let me know if you cannot attend. There are four main topics covered: grant proposal writing, teaching, academic practice, non-academic careers. A thoughtful, encouraging, respectful demeanor is expected from all. On occasion, established graduate students, former graduates, faculty, and others from outside the Dept. will attend and contribute. The seminar is not intended as an extra academic course in which you are doing philosophy. It is more about the sorts of issues and concerns you have now or will have in your career as a graduate student, TA, academic, and all round excellent colleague!

1.3 Timetable

Tuesday 10-11:30. Rm. 308 MacKinnon Bldg.

1.4 Final Exam

There is no final exam.

2 Instructional Support

2.1 Instructional Support Team

Instructor:	Don Dedrick
Email:	ddedrick@uoguelph.ca
Telephone:	+1-519-824-4120 x53203
Office:	MCKN 329

3 Learning Resources

All materials necessary for completing this course will be provided by the instructor and made available on the courselink page for this course.

4 Learning Outcomes

4.1 Course Learning Outcomes

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

1. Understand how to apply for external funding for graduate school: have developed skills for successful grant and fellowship applications; SSHRC and OGS fellowships.
 2. Teach more effectively, developing skills for running effective tutorials and classes; fostering inclusive and respectful teaching environments.
 3. Have grasped some of the crucial aspects of academic professionalism: conference participation; research programs; journal publication; thesis proposals; thesis and MRP committees.
 4. Investigated non-academic career strategies: professional skills development for a non-academic context; MITACS awareness.
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5 Teaching and Learning Activities

In Term 2 of the Graduate seminar (W20) we will address the following topics:

- How to prepare an academic paper for a conference and for publication.
- How to maximize the value of the library, the philosophy librarian (yes, there is one!), and other research related topics.

- How to think about your skills and their value in non-academic contexts.
- The MITACS academic/industry partnership and its potential for philosophers.

We shall have a number of guest speakers. Details on weekly sessions available on courselink website for this course.

6 Assessments

6.1 Marking Schemes & Distributions

This course is full year, meeting once a week. It is graded Pass/Fail. There are necessary conditions for Pass:

Course Requirements (the necessary conditions)

1. Attendance: all sessions (please let me know if you must miss a session).
 2. Proposals: everyone must write and submit appropriate SSHRC and/or OGS external funding applications (exceptions are coursework MA students not intending to apply to graduate school for F20; If this is you, the proposal will focus on your MRP).
 3. Teaching: You need to present a mock teaching session to the group.
 4. Academic practice: you need to attend at least 3 of 5 talks in the Dept. Speaker Series F19 & F20. Attending at talk at CSWIP, in October (hosted by Guelph Philosophy) may count as 1 of 3 (Special props for attending the Shannon Boss talk!)
 5. Academic practice: [a] you need to establish an academic committee relevant to your program, in consultation with the instructor [b] before the end of class, meet with your academic supervisor and fill out an advisor/advisee "contract."
 6. Academic practice: write an abstract, backed up by a paper you have written, for an academic conference. (Props for submitting the abstract!)
 7. Non-academic careers: complete a skills self-evaluation.
 8. Non-academic careers: write a short 1-page MITACS proposal, and turn it into a 1 minute "elevator pitch."
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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>
