



PHIL*2060 Philosophy of Feminism I

Winter 2021

Section(s): C01

Department of Philosophy

Credit Weight: 0.50

Version 1.00 - January 06, 2021

1 Course Details

1.1 Calendar Description

This course examines metaphysical, epistemological and ethical issues in feminist philosophy, including such topics as the nature and consequences of patriarchy, human nature, sexual divisions of labour, women's studies, rationalizations of inequalities and explorations into a contemporary feminist agenda for social, political and economic changes.

Pre-Requisites: 2.00 credits or (1 of PHIL*1000, PHIL*1010, PHIL*1050)

1.2 Course Description

This course provides an introduction to philosophical issues in feminism and feminist issues in philosophy. In the first part of the course, we look briefly at some philosophical issues in the history and development of feminist theory and movements. Following that, we look at second-wave feminist theory and philosophy, to understand the roots of contemporary feminist thought. In the last part of the course we examine issues of sex and gender.

1.3 Timetable

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:00-5:20 p.m.

Lectures will be synchronous. Normally, I will post the notes (the equivalent of slides) shortly before class. The lectures will not be taped.

1.4 Final Exam

The final exam will be a take-home essay exam. I will discuss the exam question in the last day of classes, Thursday, April 8, and post it on Courselink no later than midnight that night.

Due Thursday, April 22, no later than 11:59 p.m.

2 Instructional Support

2.1 Instructional Support Team

Instructor: Karen Wendling
Email: wendling@uoguelph.ca
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Wednesdays 2:30 - 3:15 p.m.
and by appointment.

2.2 Teaching Assistants

Teaching Assistant: Shannon Boss
Email: bosss@uoguelph.ca

3 Learning Resources

3.1 Required Resources

Required Text (Other)
All readings will be on Courselink.

4 Learning Outcomes

4.1 Course Learning Outcomes

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

1. *Identify and critically evaluate* the practical and cultural significance of central issues in feminism;
2. *Understand, explain and assess* the significance of key concepts, in philosophy and beyond, such as equality, privilege, and sex and gender;
3. *Identify and critically evaluate the* central philosophical claims made in the readings;
4. *Argue* successfully for your own view and be able to identify and critically evaluate patterns of argumentative reasoning in the work of others;
5. *Prepare* a piece of philosophical writing in which a position is supported by appropriate

and well thought-through reasons.

5 Teaching and Learning Activities

See the schedule posted on the Content page of CourseLink.

6 Assessments

You will be graded on the best **two of three term essays**.

Everyone must write the first essay. This guarantees that you get a grade before the 40th class day.

Everyone must write the final exam.

6.1 Marking Schemes & Distributions

Best 2 of 3 essays, 70%;

Final Exam, 30%.

6.2 Assessment Details

Essay 1 (35%)

Due: Tue, Feb 2, 4:00 PM

An essay on an assigned topic.

Essay 2 (35%)

Due: Tue, Mar 2, 4:00 PM

An essay on an assigned topic.

Essay 3 (35%)

Date: Tue, Mar 23, 4:00 PM

An essay on an assigned topic.

Final Exam (30%)

Due: Thu, Apr 22, 11:59 PM

A take-home final essay on an assigned topic.

Distributed in class Thursday, April 8; posted by midnight that night.

Due Thursday, April 22, no later than 11:59 p.m.

7 Course Statements

7.1 Academic Probation

If you are on Academic Probation, you have until **Friday, January 22** to tell me, so we can work together to help you do well in this course.

7.2 Email

I generally check my email once a day. You can expect 24-hour turnaround on emails sent during the week. I will not answer course-related emails on weekends except in an emergency; I will reply on the following Monday.

You can address me as Prof. or Dr. in emails. Do not call me by my first name.

7.3 Email is not a substitute for office hours

I have regular Zoom office hours, and I'm available for appointments if you cannot make the scheduled office hours. If you have questions, please come to my office hours. Many questions require back-and-forth dialogue that takes minutes over Zoom. I am a slow typist and I make a lot of mistakes, and the same question over email can take me half an hour or more. If you ask me a question via email that requires more than a sentence as a response, I will respond with the words "Office hours."

If you ask me a question that can be answered by reading the course outline or class schedule, I will respond with the word "Outline" or "Schedule."

7.4 Late penalties and assignment expectations: Essays

I give a two-day, no-questions-asked extension on the essays. Since it's no-questions-asked, please do not e-mail me if you decide to take the extension. For longer extensions, I will require a very good reason.

Essays that arrive at the beginning of class on the Tuesday that they are due will be returned in one week. Essays that arrive within the two-day, no-questions-asked extension will be returned in two weeks. Essays that arrive after the extension will be returned when we get to them.

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Late penalties on the essays are 2% per day, to a maximum of 15%. Saturday and Sunday count 2% each. Essays that come in after the on-time set has been returned (one week later) will be graded by higher standards.

My late penalties are minor, but my penalties for sloppy work are major. If you write your essay at the last minute, take an extra day or two to polish it. The 2-4% you lose will be substantially less than the 10% or more that you will lose if you turn in an essay that has not

been polished and proofread.

I will not accept late essays after Thursday, April 8.

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Course readings and discussions must be central to your analysis in your essay. I will not accept an essay in which the relevant course readings and discussions are not central to your analysis. Outside research is unnecessary, and may lower your grade.

I reserve the right to require an oral examination as part of any written piece of work. In that case, the oral examination counts for 75% of your grade on that assignment.

Your essay and your exam must be spell-checked. We will deduct 10% from your grade on the essay for the kinds of mistakes that spell-check would have caught.

7.5 Assignment expectations: Final Exam

There are no extensions on the final exam. If you do not submit your exam by **Thursday, April 22 no later than 11:59 p.m.**, you will have to go through Academic Review.

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Course readings and discussions must be central to your analysis in your final exam. I will not accept an exam in which the relevant course readings and discussions are not central to your analysis. Outside research is unnecessary, and may lower your grade.

I reserve the right to require an oral examination as part of any written piece of work. In that case, the oral examination counts for 75% of your grade on that assignment.

Your exam must be spell-checked. We will deduct 10% from your grade on the exam for the kinds of mistakes that spell-check would have caught.

8 University Statements

8.1 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.

8.2 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>

8.3 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>

8.4 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.

8.5 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>

8.6 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>

8.7 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.

8.8 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>

8.9 Disclaimer

Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of

course offerings and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class email. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website (<https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/>) and circulated by email.

8.10 Illness

The University will not normally require verification of illness (doctor's notes) for fall 2020 or winter 2021 semester courses. However, requests for Academic Consideration may still require medical documentation as appropriate.
