<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Class code</strong></th>
<th>PHIL-UA9078001</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Instructor Details</strong></td>
<td>Daniele ‘Dan’ Labriola</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rm 303, 30 Russell Square; after class or by arrangement</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Class Details</strong></td>
<td>Metaphysics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 10AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Location to be confirmed.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Prerequisites</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Class Description</strong></td>
<td>Introduces students to the fundamental questions concerning the nature of reality and our grasp of it. What, if anything, do we know for certain? How does mind relate to matter? What is the nature of the self? Are human actions free? What is the nature of causality? What aspects of reality do we perceive? What is the nature of universals? How do we have knowledge of other minds? Informal lectures with discussion.</td>
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<td><strong>Desired Outcomes</strong></td>
<td>Through studying several of the main issues of metaphysics (in a broad sense), to have a better understanding of the nature of reality and our grasp of it, and the methods of philosophy in acquiring this understanding.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Assessment Components</strong></td>
<td>A midterm test (part of Session 6); an essay of about 1,500 words (to be submitted by Session 10); an essay of about 2,000 words (to be submitted by Session 15). The final grade will be determined by the midterm test (15%), the short essay (35%), and the longer essay (50%). Each student will get a grade no lower than that determined by these inputs and in this proportion; but in some cases a higher grade may be awarded to take into account such factors as improvement, contribution to class, and so on. Grades will be lowered by 3% in the case of each unexcused absence, and by 1.5 % for each late arrival after warning given. Failure to submit or fulfil any required course component results in failure of the class.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Assessment Expectations</strong></td>
<td>Grade A: Mastery of the issues and literature, and an ability to make some original contribution. Grade B: Good grasp of issues and literature, but little or no attempt at own contribution.</td>
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**Required Text(s)**

S. Guttenplan, J. Hornsby, C. Janaway (eds), *Reading Philosophy* (Blackwell, 2003) = RP below


**Supplemental Text(s) (not required to purchase as copies are in NYU-L Library)**

*Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (REP), frequently updated, available in Senate House Library (and accessible from outside using your library card).

References given below under topics.

Further readings to be suggested when the syllabus is handed out in Session 1.

**Internet Research Guidelines**

Very useful, and in perpetual development, is the online *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* ([http://plato.stanford.edu](http://plato.stanford.edu)).

Use index under authors or topics that interest you.

**Additional Required Equipment**

None

**Session 1**

Introductory

28th January 2014

**Session 2**

Knowledge & Doubt

4th February 2014

Reading: *RP* ch 1, Descartes

Supplementary: *REP* ‘Descartes’, §§ 4-5

**Session 3**

Mind & Self (1)

11th February 2014

Reading: *RP* ch 2, Descartes

Supplementary: *REP* ‘Descartes’, § 8

**Session 4**

Mind & Self (2)

18th February 2014

Reading: *RP* ch. 2, Strawson
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 5</th>
<th>Personal Identity (1)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; February 2014</td>
<td>Reading: <em>RP</em> ch 6, Locke</td>
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<td>Supplementary: <em>REP</em> § 8</td>
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<tr>
<th>Session 6</th>
<th>Personal Identity (2)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; March 2014</td>
<td>Reading: <em>RP</em> ch 6, Williams</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Supplementary: <em>REP</em> ‘Personal Identity’</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Midterm test</td>
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<tr>
<th>Session 7</th>
<th>Freedom and Action (1)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; March 2014</td>
<td>Reading: <em>RP</em> ch 7, Schopenhauer</td>
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<td>Supplementary: <em>REP</em> ‘Free Will’ §§ 3,6</td>
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<tr>
<th>Session 8</th>
<th>Freedom and Action (2)</th>
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<tr>
<td>18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; March 2014</td>
<td>Reading: <em>RP</em> ch 7, Strawson</td>
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<td>Supplementary: <em>REP</em> ‘Free Will’ § 1</td>
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<tr>
<th>Session 9</th>
<th>Causality (1)</th>
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<tr>
<td>25&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; March 2014</td>
<td>Reading: <em>RP</em> ch 8, Hume</td>
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<td>Supplementary: <em>REP</em> ‘Hume, David’ §§ 3-4</td>
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<tr>
<th>Session 10</th>
<th>Causality (2)</th>
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<tr>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; April 2014</td>
<td>Reading: <em>RP</em> ch 8, Anscombe</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; essay submission</td>
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<tr>
<th>Session 11</th>
<th>Primary &amp; Secondary Qualities (1)</th>
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<tr>
<td>8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April 2014</td>
<td>Reading: <em>RP</em> ch 9, Boyle &amp; Locke</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Supplementary: <em>REP</em> ‘Boyle, Robert’ § 4, ‘Primary-secondary distinction’ § 1</td>
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Session 12  
Primary & Secondary Qualities (2), & other questions  

29th April 2014  
Reading: RP ch 9, Berkeley  
Supplementary: REP ‘Primary-secondary distinction’ § 2, ‘Berkeley, George’ § 9

Session 13  
Other Minds  

6th May 2014  
Alec Hyslop in Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy  
Supplementary: REP ‘Other Minds’ (by same author)

Session 14  
Retrospect (1)  

13th May 2014  
Submission of draft of 2nd essay (optional)

Session 15  
Retrospect (2)  

20th May 2014  
2nd essay submission

Classroom Etiquette  
Toilet breaks should be taken before or after class or during class breaks.  
Food & drink, including gum, are not to be consumed in class.  
Mobile phones should be set on silent and should not be used in class except for emergencies.  
Laptops are only to be used with the express permission of the teacher.  
Please kindly dispose of rubbish in the bins provided.

Required Co-curricular Activities  
None

Suggested Co-curricular Activities  
London is rich in philosophical occasions; students will be informed of internet addresses that provide listings.

Your Instructor  
Dan Labriola is an associate lecturer at Birkbeck College, University of London. He specializes in Ancient Greek Philosophy, and has published on Plato. He recently completed his PhD in Philosophy at the
University of St Andrews. Prior to that, he obtained his BA in Philosophy at the University of California, Berkeley. Apart from his specialization, he is seriously interested in contemporary ethics and metaphysics.

See his webpage for more information: https://bbk.academia.edu/DanieleLabriola
NYU LONDON ACADEMIC POLICIES

Plagiarism Policy

Plagiarism: the presentation of another piece of work or words, ideas, judgments, images or data, in whole or in part, as though they were originally created by you for the assignment, whether intentionally or unintentionally, constitutes an act of plagiarism.

Please refer to the Student Handbook for full details of the plagiarism policy.

All students must submit an electronic copy of each piece of their written work to www.turnitin.com and hand in a printed copy with the digital receipt to their professor. Late submission of work rules apply to both the paper and electronic submission and failure to submit either copy of your work will result in automatic failure in the assignment and possible failure in the class.

Electronic Submission

The Turnitin database will be searched for the purpose of comparison with other students’ work or with other pre-existing writing or publications, and other academic institutions may also search it.

In order for you to be able to submit your work onto the Turnitin website, you will need to set up an account:

1) Go onto the Turnitin website http://www.turnitin.com
2) Click ‘Create Account’ in the top right hand corner
3) Select user type of ‘student’
4) Enter your class ID & Turnitin class enrolment password (these will be e-mailed to you after the drop/add period, or contact academics@nyu.ac.uk if you have misplaced these).
5) Follow the online instructions to create your profile.

To submit your work for class, you will then need to:

1) Log in to the Turnitin website
2) Enter your class by clicking on the class name
3) Next to the piece of work you are submitting (please confirm the due date), click on the ‘submit’ icon
4) Enter the title of your piece of work
5) Browse for the file to upload from wherever you have saved it (USB drive, etc.), please ensure your work is in Word or PDF format, and click ‘submit’
6) Click ‘yes, submit’ to confirm you have selected the correct paper (or ‘no, go back’ to retry)
7) You will then have submitted your essay onto the Turnitin website.
8) Please print your digital receipt and attach this to the hard copy of your paper before you submit it to your professor (this digital receipt appears on the web site, immediately after you submit your paper and is also sent to your e-mail address). Please also note that when a paper is submitted to Turnitin all formatting, images, graphics, graphs, charts, and drawings are removed from the paper so that the program can read it accurately. Please do not print the paper in this form to submit to your lecturers, as it is obviously pretty difficult to read! You can still access the exact file you uploaded by clicking on the ‘file’ icon in the ‘content’ column.

Please also see the Late Submission of Work policy, above.

Students must retain an electronic copy of their work for one month after their grades are posted online on Albert and must supply an electronic copy of their work if requested to do so by NYU in London. **Not submitting a copy of a piece of work upon request will result in automatic failure in the assignment and possible failure in the class.** NYU in London may submit in an electronic form the work of any student to a database for use in the detection of plagiarism, without further prior notification to the student. Penalties for confirmed cases of plagiarism are set out in the Student Handbook.
Late Submission of Work

Written work due in class must be submitted during the class time to the professor. Late work should be submitted in person to a member of NYU London staff in the Academic Office (Room 308, 6 Bedford Square) during office hours (Mon – Fri, 10:30 – 17:30). Please also send an electronic copy to academics@nyu.ac.uk for submission to Turnitin.

Work submitted within 5 weekdays after the submission time without an agreed extension receives a penalty of 10 points on the 100 point scale.

Written work submitted more than 5 weekdays after the submission date without an agreed extension fails and is given a zero.

Please note end of semester essays must be submitted on time.

Attendance Policy

NYUL has a strict policy about course attendance. No unexcused absences are permitted. While students should contact their class teachers to catch up on missed work, you should NOT approach them for excused absences.

Excused absences will usually only be considered for serious, unavoidable reasons such as personal ill-health or illness in the immediate family. Trivial or non-essential reasons for absence will not be considered.

Excused absences can only be considered if they are reported in accordance with guidelines which follow, and can only be obtained from the appropriate member of NYUL’s staff.

Please note that you will need to ensure that no make-up classes – or required excursions - have been organised before making any travel plans for the semester.

Absence reporting for an absence due to illness

1. On the first day of absence due to illness you should report the details of your symptoms by e-mailing absences@nyu.ac.uk including details of: class(es) missed; professor; class time; and whether any work was due including exams. Or call free (from landline) 0800 316 0469 (option 2) to report your absences on the phone.

2. Generally a doctor’s note will be required to ensure you have sought treatment for the illness. Contact the Gower Street Health Centre on 0207 636 7628 to make an appointment, or use HTH general practitioners if you cannot get an appointment expediently at Gower Street.

3. At the end of your period of absence, you will need to complete an absence form online at http://bit.ly/NuCl5K. You will need to log in to NYU Home to access the form.

4. Finally you must arrange an appointment to speak to Nigel Freeman or Donna Drummond-Smart on your first day back at class. You must have completed the absence form before making your appointment.

Supporting documentation relating to absences must be submitted within one week of your return to class.

Absence requests for non-illness reasons

Absence requests for non-illness reasons must be discussed with the Academic Office prior to the date(s) in question – no excused absences for reasons other than illness can be applied retrospectively. Please come in and see us in Room 308, 6 Bedford Square, or e-mail us at academics@nyu.ac.uk.

Further information regarding absences

Each unexcused absence will be penalized by deducting 3% from the student’s final course mark. Students are responsible for making up any work missed due to absence.

Unexcused absences from exams are not permitted and will result in failure of the exam. If you are granted an excused absence from an examination (with authorisation, as above), your lecturer will decide how you will make-up the assessment component, if at all (by make-up examination, extra coursework, viva voce (oral examination), or an increased weighting on an alternate assessment component, etc.).
NYUL also expects students to arrive to class promptly (both at the beginning and after any breaks) and to remain for the duration of the class. If timely attendance becomes a problem it is the prerogative of each instructor to deduct a mark or marks from the final grade of each late arrival and each early departure.

Please note that for classes involving a **field trip or other external visit**, transportation difficulties are never grounds for an excused absence. It is the student’s responsibility to arrive at an agreed meeting point in a punctual and timely fashion.

Please refer to the Student Handbook for full details of the policies relating to attendance. A copy is in your apartment and has been shared with you on Google Docs.

### Grade conversion

NYU in London uses the following scale of numerical equivalents to letter grades:

- A=94-100
- A- =90-93
- B+=87-89
- B=84-86
- B- =80-83
- C+=77-79
- C=74-76
- C- =70-73
- D+=67-69
- D=65-66
- F=below 65

Where no specific numerical equivalent is assigned to a letter grade by the class teacher, the mid point of the range will be used in calculating the final class grade (except in the A range, where 95.5 will be used).

### Grading Policy

NYU in London aims to have grading standards and results in all its courses similar to those that prevail at Washington Square.