

# **PHI3551-1123(26575) - Thought Experiments**

## **Course Description**

Thought experiments are the bread and butter of philosophy. In this course we will discuss a number of well-known examples, both for their intrinsic interest and as a way of drawing morals about a particular philosophical question and about the method itself.

## **Learning Objectives**

To make students familiar with several famous thought experiments and become skilled at close examination of hypothetical examples for the purpose of assessing their coherence and significance. They will also become acquainted with the contemporary debate about the propriety of appealing to thought experiments.

## **Textbooks**

Readings will be provided *via* e-mail

## **Grade Determination**

Students will be required to write three papers. The second may be a revision of the first in the light of the instructor's comments. If it is not, the third may be a revision of either of the first two. class participation can improve your final grade, but lack thereof cannot hurt it.

(Note that a grade of C- for the course is not a qualifying grade for major, minor, General Education or College Basic Distribution requirements. For further information on UF's Grading Policy, see: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>)

## **Academic Honesty**

Please note that all UF students are required to abide by the Student Honor Code. You can read the full honor code here: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/conductcode.php>. In particular, see chapter 4 of the general regulations that reviews the scope of the honor code and various possible violations: <http://regulations.ufl.edu/chapter4/4041.pdf>.

There will be zero-tolerance policy for academic dishonesty. Any such dishonesty found will result in a failing grade for the course. This includes not just plagiarism but any conduct constituting academic dishonesty as defined in the honor code, including prohibited collaboration, prohibited use of resources, etc.

## **Attendance and extensions**

Attendance is not required, but it is highly recommended as the sessions will not be recorded. You may attend by both audio and video or by audio only.

Extensions for the papers will be granted only for good cause and only if the student makes a serious attempt to contact the instructor before the due date.

## **Disability Accommodations**

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Contact the Disability Resources Center ([www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)) for information about available resources for students with disabilities.