# Physics and Astronomy — Descriptions of Courses

#### 436. Philosophical Logic

Winter. 4(4-0) May reenroll for a maximum of 8 credits if different topic is taken. PHL 337 or approval of department.

Such topics as metatheory, model theory, artificial intelligence and deviant logics, e.g., logic of existence, intuitionist logic, many valued logic.

#### 440. Epistemology

Fall of even-numbered years. 4(4-0) Three credits in philosophy at 300 level or higher or 9 credits in philosophy or approval of department.

Study of evidence, grounds of assent, conviction, belief, and certainty.

## 445. Metaphysics

Fall of odd-numbered years. 4(4-0) Three credits in philosophy at 300 level or higher or 9 credits in philosophy or approval of department.

Fundamental concepts and categories in metaphysics: substance, process, cause, universal, particular, space, time, endurance, eternity, change, and value.

# 447. Philosophy of Mind

Winter, Spring. 4(4-0) Three credits in philosophy at 300 level or higher or 9 credits in philosophy or approval of department.

Examines classical and contemporary treatments of such concepts as "mind", "self", "intentionality", "mental act", and associated problems (the body-mind relation, "thinking" machines, the connection of thought with action, etc.).

#### 460. Moral and Political Issues

Fall, Spring. 4(4-0) Three credits in philosophy at 300 level or higher or 9 credits in philosophy, or approval of department.

Philosophical aspects of such issues as freedom of speech and action, civil disobedience, violence, war, justice and equality, human rights and punishment.

## 480. The Nature of Scientific Theory and Explanation

Winter. 4(4-0) PHL 337 or approval of department.

Topics such as: the logical structure of scientific theories, empirical meaningfulness and testability, deductive and probabilistic explanation, prediction.

## 481. Foundations of Scientific Inference Spring. 4(4-0) PHL 337 or approval of

department.

Topics such as: discovery vs. validation of theories, probability, induction and confirmation theory.

# 484. Philosophy of Biological Sciences

Spring. 4(4-0) Nine credits in science or approval of department. Interdepartmental with and administered by Lyman Briggs School. Methodological notions and problems of the biological sciences such as: observation and measurement, classification, teleological and functional explanation, teleological systems, emergentism, vitalism, value neutrality.

## 485. Philosophy of the Social Sciences

Spring. 4(4-0) Three credits in philosophy at 300 level or higher or 9 credits in philosophy or 9 credits, other than basics, in social science or approval of department.

Selected problems in the methodology of the behavioral sciences, including such topics as: concept formation and theory construction, explanation and insight, subjectivity and value judgements, emergence and teleology, historicism, reductionism, measurement, and statistical inference.

#### 490. Individual Reading

Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer. 1 to 4 credits. May reenroll for a maximum of 12 credits. Approval of department.

Supervised reading on a particular author or topic.

#### 494. Special Topics (MTC)

Fall, Winter, Spring. 2(2-0) to 6(6-0) May reenroll for a maximum of 12 credits if different topics are taken. Approval of department. Intensive study of some particular problem or author in philosophy.

## 495. Proseminar

Winter, Spring. 1 credit. May reenroll for a maximum of 4 credits. Juniors. Fifteen credits in philosophy or approval of instructor. Each section will examine a particular topic or author. Emphasis on discussion of student papers.

## 805. Business Ethics

Spring. 4(4-0) Graduate student in the College of Business or approval of instructor. Interdepartmental with General Business— Business Law Programs.

Ethical dimensions of such topics as corporate responsibility, preferential hiring, profit and taxation, deception and bribery, self-regulation versus government regulation, "whistleblowing", and advertising. Readings from philosophical and business sources.

#### 825. Seminar in the History of Philosophy

Fall, Winter, Spring. 2 to 4 credits. May reenroll for a maximum of 12 credits. Approval of department.

#### 830. Seminar in Ethics

Winter, Spring. 2 to 4 credits. May reenroll for a maximum of 12 credits. Approval of department.

# 837. Seminar in Logic

Fall. 2 to 4 credits. May reenroll for a maximum of 12 credits. Approval of department.

#### 841. Seminar in Epistemology

Fall, Winter, Spring. 2 to 4 credits. May reenroll for a maximum of 12 credits. Approval of department.

## 845. Seminar in Metaphysics

Fall, Winter, Spring. 2 to 4 credits. May reenroll for a maximum of 12 credits. Approval of department.

# 860. Seminar in Social Philosophy

Spring. 2 to 4 credits. May reentroll for a maximum of 12 credits. Approval of department.

Philosophy of law and of the state.

### 870. Seminar in the Philosophy of Language

Fall. 2 to 4 credits. May reenroll for a maximum of 12 credits. Approval of department.

Concrete bases of language and nature of meaning.

#### 880. Seminar in Philosophy of Science

Fall, Winter. 2 to 4 credits. May reenroll for a maximum of 12 credits. Approval of department.

### 890. Graduate Reading Course

Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer. 1 to 10 credits. May reenroll for credit. Approval of department.

Supervised reading course for advanced graduate students for more thorough investigation of special fields.

#### 899. Master's Thesis Research

Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer. Variable credit. Approval of department.

# 999. Doctoral Dissertation Research

Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer. Varible credit. Approval of department.

# PHYSICAL SCIENCE PHS

# **College of Natural Science**

The content of 405, as well as the problems course, 890, may vary from term to term. Brochures giving detailed information about individual courses are available in the College of Natural Science and the Office of the Assistant Dean for Lifelong Education. These courses are primarily designed for in-service teachers and interested adults and are offered in off-campus locations.

## 203. Foundations of Physical Sciences

Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer. 4(3-3) 12 credits of Natural Science.

An introduction to physical science for non-science majors. Emphasis on basic concepts relating to human interaction with the physical environment. Topics selected from physics, chemistry, and the earth and space sciences.

# 405. Topics in Physical Science

Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer. 1 to 3 credits. May reenroll for a maximum of 6 credits if different topic is taken. Approval of department.

Presentation of single topics from the physical sciences by senior faculty and guest lecturers. Topics are selected to facilitate development of strong physical science programs in schools.

# 890. Problems in Physical Science

Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer. 1 to 12 credits. May reenroll for a maximum of 15 credits. Bachelor's degree in a physical science.

# PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY

#### **College of Natural Science**

## Physics

PHY

Introductory physics courses are offered in both the lecture-recitation and the Competency-Based-Instructional (CBI) format. In the latter format the students are carefully guided through each course via written materials with ample consulting time available. Both content and pace of course are flexible to suit student's needs and interests, final grades being based on total amount of material for which student's mastery is certified. The introductory courses may be grouped by the application of two criteria: The interests of the students the courses are designed to serve and the method of instruction employed.