

**Philosophy Proseminar
Fall 2016**

<https://sakai.rutgers.edu/portal>

Fall 2016, TTh 9:50-12:50

Instructors: Barry Loewer and Brian P. McLaughlin

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Office Hours: By appointment

Requirements: There will be 2 questions on the reading each week. The questions will be given at the end of class for the following week, and will be due on noon of the Wednesday before the class. Answers to the questions should be approximately 1 page single spaced for each question. There will be no questions for the first class. You must answer the questions for 10 of the remaining 13 weeks of class. Also, you must do a 20 minute presentation at the class conference at the end of the semester. Participation in class discussion is expected.

Sept. 8 McLaughlin: Thomas Nagel's "Pansychism"

15 Loewer: Nelson Goodman's *Fact Fiction and Forecast*, and Bayesian accounts of confirmation

22 McLaughlin: Bertrand Russell's "Vagueness;" Michael Tye's "Vagueness: Welcome to the Quick Sand"

29 Loewer: David Lewis "Counterfactual Dependence and Time's Arrow;" Loewer's "Counterfactuals and the Second Law"

Oct. 6 Loewer: Bertrand Russell's "On the Notion of Cause;" David Lewis's "Causation"

13 Guest Instructor: Alvin Goldman on reliabilism. Goldman's "What Is Justified Belief?"; Goldman and Beddor's "Reliabilist Epistemology;" Sosa's "Reliabilism and Intellectual Virtue"

20 Guest Instructor: Ernest Sosa on virtue epistemology. *Judgement and Agency*, pp.65-129.

27 Loewer: David Lewis's "Subjectivist's Guide to Objective Chance;" Loewer's "David Lewis Account of Objective chance"

Nov. 3 McLaughlin: Donald Davidson's "Actions, Reasons, and Causes"

10 Loewer: David Lewis's "New Work for a Theory of Universals;" Loewer "Laws and Properties"

17 McLaughlin: Ned Block and Robert Stalnaker's "Conceptual Analysis, Dualism and the Explanatory Gap;" David Chalmers and Frank Jackson's "Conceptual Analysis and Reductive Explanation"

22 McLaughlin: to be announced.

THANKSGIVING RECESS

Dec. 1 McLaughlin: “The Skewed View from Here: Normal Geometrical Misperception”

8 Loewer: Maudlin “Remarks on the Passing of Time,” Loewer “Two Accounts of Laws and Time”

Dec. 9 (Friday) One day conference. Each student will do a 20 minute presentation, on any topic covered in the course, followed by 20 minutes of discussion.

STUDENT-WELLNESS SERVICES:

Just In Case Web App

<http://codu.co/cee05e>

Access helpful mental health information and resources for yourself or a friend in a mental health crisis on your smartphone or tablet and easily contact CAPS or RUPD.

Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)

(848) 932-7884 / 17 Senior Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901/ rhscaps.rutgers.edu/

CAPS is a University mental health support service that includes counseling, alcohol and other drug assistance, and psychiatric services staffed by a team of professional within Rutgers Health services to support students’ efforts to succeed at Rutgers University. CAPS offers a variety of services that include: individual therapy, group therapy and workshops, crisis intervention, referral to specialists in the community and consultation and collaboration with campus partners.

Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA)

(848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 /vpva.rutgers.edu/

The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides confidential crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy for victims of sexual and relationship violence and stalking to students, staff and faculty. To reach staff during office hours when the university is open or to reach an advocate after hours, call 848-932-1181.

Disability Services

(848) 445-6800 / Lucy Stone Hall, Suite A145, Livingston Campus, 54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854 / <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>

The Office of Disability Services works with students with a documented disability to determine the eligibility of reasonable accommodations, facilitates and coordinates those accommodations when applicable, and lastly engages with the Rutgers community at large to provide and connect students to appropriate resources.

Scarlet Listeners

(732) 247-5555 / <http://www.scarletlisteners.com/>

Free and confidential peer counseling and referral hotline, providing a comforting and supportive safe space.