

PHIL 102 Place and Power

Syllabus W2 Spring 2023

This course takes place on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the x^wməkwəyəm (Musqueam) People.

All sections of PHIL 102 address basic problems and methods of philosophy. This section will cover topics in ethics, epistemology, metaphysics, political philosophy, and aesthetics relating to local Indigenous societies in the context of settler colonialism. The course will adopt a primary focus on Musqueam, then extend its view outwards to Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh, then to the rest of BC and beyond. Areas addressed may include:

- the philosophy of art and storytelling, with emphases on
 - relationships between art and power,
 - cultural appropriation,
 - stereotyping and reclamation,
 - the aesthetics of resistance, and
 - story-based knowledge.
- land-based approaches to epistemology and metaphysics;
- environmental ethics;
- philosophies of power and oppression, in particular as applied to
 - the marginalization of Indigenous peoples under Canadian colonialism,
 - anti-Indigenous structural racism in North American contexts, and
 - UBC's past and present position within the colonial power structure.

Materials

There is no textbook for this course. All of the required materials are available online. (UBC library login may be required.)

Instructor

Carrie Jenkins, carrie.jenkins@ubc.ca, she/they

Teaching Assistants

TBA

Email policy

Please put "PHIL 102" in the subject line. I aim to reply to student emails within two

working days (not including weekends and holidays) of receipt. Please note that emails sent outside of working hours (i.e. after 5pm or before 9am PST) aren't received until the next working day.

Office hours

Tuesday and Thursday 2-3pm in [Carrie's Zoom office](#)

If you can't make these times or prefer an in-person meeting, contact [Carrie](#) for an appointment

Canvas

<https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/109481>

Classes

In person, Mon & Wed 12-1pm, LSK 200

Plus one-hour discussion section, once per week

Assessment

- **Participation: 10%**
 - Participate regularly and thoughtfully in class activities and/or the Canvas discussions to earn this part of your grade
- **Short assignments: 30%**
 - Length: 200 words each
 - Submit via Canvas
- **Mid-term essay: 30%**
 - Rubric provided on Canvas
- **Exam: 30%**

If you can't do the work on time

I get it. I am happy to grant extensions where needed; just ask. However, work submitted late *without* an extension cannot be accepted, unless exceptional circumstances made it impossible to request an extension in advance of the deadline. This policy is in place to ensure that I can manage my workload and fairly grade everyone's work.

Note on academic integrity

Plagiarism, which is intellectual theft, occurs where an individual submits or presents the oral or written work of another person as his or her own. Scholarship quite properly rests upon examining and referring to the thoughts and writings of others. However, when another person's words (i.e. phrases, sentences, or paragraphs), ideas, or entire works are used, the author must be acknowledged in the text, in footnotes, in endnotes, or in another accepted form of academic citation. Where direct quotations are made,

they must be clearly delineated (for example, within quotation marks or separately indented). Failure to provide proper attribution is plagiarism because it represents someone else's work as one's own. Plagiarism should not occur in submitted drafts or final works. A student who seeks assistance from a tutor or other scholastic aids must ensure that the work submitted is the student's own. Students are responsible for ensuring that any work submitted does not constitute plagiarism. Students who are in any doubt as to what constitutes plagiarism should consult their instructor before handing in any assignments. A link about Academic misconduct is below:

<http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/Vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,54,111,959>

Mandatory syllabus statement about UBC's values and policies

UBC provides resources to support student learning and to maintain healthy lifestyles but recognizes that sometimes crises arise and so there are additional resources to access including those for survivors of sexual violence. UBC values respect for the person and ideas of all members of the academic community. Harassment and discrimination are not tolerated nor is suppression of academic freedom. UBC provides appropriate accommodation for students with disabilities and for religious and cultural observances. UBC values academic honesty and students are expected to acknowledge the ideas generated by others and to uphold the highest academic standards in all of their actions. Details of the policies and how to access support are available [here](#).

Note on atmosphere

The topics of this course will comprise sensitive material for many people. While we may be examining and questioning beliefs, including some deeply-held ones, everyone in the course—instructor and students—has a shared responsibility to ensure that we do so with care and respect, ensuring that our environment is supportive and conducive to learning. No offensive jokes or comments, or other harmful behaviors with respect to race, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, or anything else, will be acceptable. The aim of our discussions is not to “win” arguments or to prove how smart we are, but to learn collaboratively with others.

Schedule TBA

9 th and 11 th Jan	Introductions Positionality and de-colonial autobiography
16 th and 18 th Jan	
23 rd and 25 th Jan	
30 th Jan and 1 st Feb	
6 th and 8 th Feb	
13 th and 15 th Feb	
MID-TERM BREAK	
27 th Feb and 1 st Mar	
6 th and 8 th Mar	
13 th and 15 th Mar	
20 th and 22 nd Mar	
27 th and 29 th Mar	
3 rd and 5 th Apr	
10 th and 12 th Apr	