

PHIL 102

Place and Power

Draft Syllabus
S2 Summer 2023

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

All sections of PHIL 102 address basic problems and methods of philosophy. This section will cover topics in ethics, epistemology, political philosophy, and aesthetics relating to local Indigenous societies in the context of settler colonialism. The course will adopt a primary focus on Musqueam, extending its view outwards to Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh, 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, and
 - story-based knowledge.
- epistemologies of knowledge and ignorance;
- 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, they/she

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

Wednesday and Friday, 9-10am in [Carrie's Zoom office](#)

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

Canvas

TBA

Top Hat

Go to <https://tophat.com/>

Click on Login if you have an existing account or Sign-up > Student sign-up

Click on the Search by School link at the bottom

Enter the University of British Columbia

When you are met with the join code field, enter **CODE TBA**

Classes

In person, Tuesday and Thursday 10am-1pm, BUCH A203

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
 - Due by the start of class on Thursdays
- **Mid-term essay: 30%**
 - Rubric provided on Canvas
 - Due **TBA**
- **Exam: 30%**
 - Date and time **TBA**

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 (SUBJECT TO CHANGE UNTIL THE COURSE BEGINS)

Part 1	<p>Being here Short assignment 1: Decolonial autobiography</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Musqueam Through Time Part I - Musqueam Through Time Part II - Chapter 1 of <i>Indigenizing Philosophy through the Land</i> by Brian Burkhart (pdf on Canvas)
Part 2	<p>Origins and stories Short assignment 2: Art on campus</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Origin of the Name Musqueam - Coast Salish Design Elements by Qwalsius - Raven Tales episode 1 - Chapter 1 of <i>Tsawalk: A Nuu-chah-nulth Worldview</i> by Umeek E. Richard Atleo (pdf on Canvas)
Part 3	<p>Knowledge and power</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recognizing Settler Ignorance in the Canadian Truth and Reconciliation Commission by Anna Cook
Part 4	<p>Land, water, ethics, politics Short assignment 3: Summarizing exercise</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Braiding Kinship and Time: Indigenous Approaches to Environmental Justice by Kyle Whyte - Squamish and Tseil-Waututh - The Serviceberry by Robin Wall Kimmerer - The Sparrow Case
Part 5	<p>How to write a philosophy essay</p>	
Part 6	<p>Art and power 1 Short assignment 4: Essay warm-up</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ethics: From an Artist's Point of View by V. F. Cordova (pdf on Canvas) - An Indian Act: Shooting the Indian Act by Lawrence Paul Yuxweluptun Lets'lo:tsetun
Part 7	<p>Art and power 2: cultural appropriation Mid-term essay due</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Retitling, Cultural Appropriation, and Aboriginal Title by Michel-Antoine Xhignesse (pdf on Canvas)
Part 8	<p>Art and power 3 Short assignment 5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Gwaii Haanas Legacy Pole - What Made This Haida Clan Potlatch So Historic? - Ravens and Eagles Season 2, Episode 8: Athlii Gwaii: The Line at Lyell - The Construction of the Imaginary Indian by Marcia Crosby (pdf on Canvas) - C̓snaʔəm, The City Before the City

Part 9	Philosophical theories of race	- Indigeneity and US Settler Colonialism by Kyle Whyte, in <i>The Oxford Handbook of Philosophy and Race</i> (pdf on Canvas)
Part 10	Art and power 4 Short assignment 6	- The Wave by Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas (pdf on Canvas) - The Mountain of Sgaana
Part 11	Language and power	- Selected poetry by Jordan Abel (pdf on Canvas)
Part 12	Land and worldview	- Introduction to <i>Tsawalk: A Nuu-chah-nulth Worldview</i> by Umeek E. Richard Atleo (pdf on Canvas)
	Review	No new materials