



SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

**Philosophy Programme
Second Trimester, 2008**

PHIL 210 (CRN 11196) ART AND POPULAR CULTURE

Course Information

Philosophy Department: The Philosophy Department is located on the fifth, sixth, and seventh floors of the Murphy Building (abbreviated as MY). The School Office (MY518) has a direct line, (04) 463 5368. Alternatively, the office can be rung through the University switchboard on extension 5368.

The Course Instructor: The name and contact information of the instructor and coordinator is to be found below:

Name	Room	Phone	Office Hours	Email
Ismay Barwell	MY 713	ext 8653	Tue 3-5:00	ismay.barwell@vuw.ac.nz

Guest Lecturers: Rhydian Thomas and Bronwyn Polaschek

Lecture Times and Venue: Lectures are held in HMLT 206 from 12 noon -3pm on Tuesdays for the duration of the second trimester.

Additional Information: A copy of this course information sheet, overheads used in the class, course announcements, and all other relevant course information will be posted on blackboard.

Text: The *Philosophy 210/310 Coursebook* is available for purchase from the University's Class Notes Shop in the Student Union Building. It will cost approximately \$30.00

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered

to customers or they can be picked up from the shop the day after placing an order online.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays)

10.00 am – 1.00 pm Saturdays.

Phone: 463 5515

Aims and Objectives: The main aim is to provide an introduction to some central philosophical issues raised by popular culture. The student who passes this course will have acquired an adequate understanding of, and ability to evaluate, arguments and issues from this area. The course should provide a solid foundation for further work in the discipline, and help students think more carefully and critically about a wider range of issues.

Relationship between Assessment and Objectives: The long essay gives students an opportunity for an in-depth treatment of one of the issues covered in the course. The short essays are designed to test breadth of knowledge. The short answer quizzes are designed to test that the reading for the course is done.

Course Content: Detailed Course content with reading for each session is to be found in the PHIL 210/310 Syllabus posted in Blackboard under Course Information.

Expected Workload: In accordance with Faculty Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 15 hours per week to the course. This includes 3 hours of lectures and class discussion.

Mandatory course requirements: To gain a pass in this course each student must submit the written work specified for this course, on or by the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work)

Attendance Policy: Attendance is recommended but not required. It is the student's responsibility to catch up on missing material if they have missed a lecture.

Assessment: PHIL 210 is assessed on the basis of **two short essays**, the best **five** of eight **short answer quizzes** and **one long essay**. The two short essays must be written as in-class tests.

The in-class tests are each worth 20%

The five best short answer quizzes are worth 20% altogether

The long essay is worth 40%

In-class tests: Students are required to sit an in-class test during the usual class time on Tuesday, 12th August and Tuesday 7th October. The test will consist of one essay question. The essay should be about 1200 words—approximately what you would write in one hour under examination conditions.

Week Six : Tuesday 12th August

In-Class Test

Test Question

Explain and critically discuss the claims we have considered in class about the bad effects that popular entertainment has on the people who watch, read or listen to it.

Week Twelve: Tuesday 7th October

In-Class Test

Test Question

How can we enjoy representations of violence, misery, cruelty and oppression? Is the pleasure immoral?

If you miss the test, and you have a *legitimate* excuse, you will be given an opportunity to take a make up exam. Requests to do a make-up exam must be made to the course coordinator as soon as possible after the date of the test, and if the reason is medical, a doctor's certificate must accompany the request. An excuse will count as legitimate only if it can be demonstrated that you could not reasonably have been expected to make it to the exam given your circumstances. The course coordinator will decide what is reasonable in these circumstances.

The in-class tests are worth 20% of your overall grade.

Penalties: The penalty for cheating is a zero mark. Extreme cases may result in University academic disciplinary procedures being invoked

Essay: Students are required to write one long essay. You should aim at writing approximately 2000 words with no padding or waffle.

Essay questions and instructions will be given out in week three of the course. The due date for the essay is Tuesday 23rd, September.

Penalties: Late essays will be accepted until Tuesday 7th October. Late essays will receive no letter grade penalty, but will receive no comments.

The essay will account for 40% of your overall grade.

Short Answer Quizzes: Students will have the opportunity to do eight short answer quizzes on reading set for classes. The best five will count towards the final grade. The short answer quizzes are worth 4% each. The best five are worth 20% of the final grade.

Instructions for Submitting Essays

You are required to submit your essay to Blackboard and also to submit a hardcopy to Ismay in class or to her room during office hours

Please observe the following instructions for submitting your essays on Blackboard.

- (1) Click on the 'Assignments' icon in the course menu (to the left of the page),
- (2) Select 'Essay Topics'
- (3) Select 'View/Complete Assignment' (for the relevant assignment)
- (4) Click the 'Browse' icon and then select your essay. Make absolutely sure that you have saved your word document correctly, and are uploading the correct document - before submitting, please open it up on your computer to confirm it can be opened: if you cannot then we will not be able to either
- (5) Important: You must save your file as a Microsoft Word document. The title of your file should adhere to the following format: last name, underscore, first name, underscore, essay number [please consult essay assignment sheet], dot, doc (for example: barwell_ismay_2.doc). If you suspect you may have trouble submitting your paper in this way, be sure to see the course coordinator for assistance before the due date.

All essays will be submitted to and evaluated by turnitin.com, an online plagiarism detection service, before being graded <<http://www.turnitin.com>>.

Turnitin identifies material that may have been copied from other sources including the Internet, books, journals, periodicals or the work of other students. Turnitin is used to assist academic staff in detecting misreferencing, misquotation, and the inclusion of unattributed material, which may be forms of cheating or plagiarism. At the discretion of the head of School, handwritten work may be copy typed by the School and subject to checking by turnitin. You are strongly advised to check with your tutor or the course coordinator if you are uncertain about how to use and cite material from other sources. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted materials on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions will not be made available to any other party.

Academic integrity and plagiarism: Academic integrity is about honesty – put simply it means *no cheating*. All members of the University community are responsible for upholding academic integrity, which means staff and students are expected to behave honestly, fairly and with respect for others at all times.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating which undermines academic integrity. The University defines plagiarism as follows:

The presentation of the work of another person or other persons as if it were one's own, whether intended or not. This includes published or unpublished work, material on the Internet and the work of other students or staff.

It is still plagiarism even if you re-structure the material or present it in your own style or words.

Note: It is however, perfectly acceptable to include the work of others as long as that is acknowledged by appropriate referencing.

Plagiarism is prohibited at Victoria and is not worth the risk. Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct and may be penalized severely. Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include:

- an oral or written warning
- cancellation of your mark for an assessment or a fail grade for the course
- suspension from the course or the University.

Find out more about plagiarism, and how to avoid it, on the University's website:

www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx

General University Statutes and Policies: Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* available in hardcopy or under "about Victoria" on the Victoria homepage at:

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/calendar_intro.html

Information on the following topics is available electronically under "Course Outline General Information" at:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/newspubs/universitypubs.aspx#general>

- Student and Staff Conduct
- Academic Grievances
- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism
- Meeting the Needs of Students with Impairments
- Student Support

Course Evaluation: This course will be evaluated by students at the end of the course. Evaluations of VUW courses are carried out by the University Teaching Development Centre (UTDC). Students may negotiate with the course coordinators to have up to 6 items included in the course questionnaire, subject to editing by UTDC. Further information on procedures for this is available from the School of Education Studies office in Panckhurst Block, Karori campus.