

Philosophy, Cosmology, and Consciousness Course Schedule
Fall Semester 2018

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Special Courses
11:45am - 2:45pm	11:45am - 2:45pm	11:45am - 2:45pm	11:45am - 2:45pm	11:45am - 2:45pm	
PAR 6292 Next of Kin: Perspectives on Animal Ethics and Biodiversity Elizabeth Allison <p style="text-align: right;">3 units Room 311</p>	PAR 6078 Theory and Method in the Integrative Study of Religion and Ecology Elizabeth Allison <p style="text-align: right;">3 units Room 307</p>	PARP 6439 A Brief History of Western Thought Jacob Sherman <p style="text-align: right;">3 units Room 307</p>		PARP 6153 Philosophy and the Novel Brian Swimme and Carolyn Cooke <p style="text-align: right;">3 units Room 303</p>	PARP 6506 The Great Turning Sean Kelly <p style="text-align: right;">2 units Room 565</p> Saturday and Sunday, 9/8 and 9/9 10am to 5:30pm Monday, 9/17 3-6pm Saturday and Sunday, 9/22 and 9/23 10am to 5:30pm PARP 6743 Hill of the Hawk Elizabeth Allison <p style="text-align: right;">1 unit Offsite</p> Two days, one night Dates and location TBA
3:00pm - 6:00pm	3:00pm - 6:00pm	3:00pm - 6:00pm	3:00pm - 6:00pm	3:00pm - 6:00pm	
	PARP 6060 Introduction to PCC Sean Kelly <p style="text-align: right;">3 units Room 307</p>	PARA 6478 Spiritual Transformation: Western and Buddhist Approaches Steven Goodman <p style="text-align: right;">3 units Room 303</p>			
6:15 - 9:15pm	6:15 - 9:15pm	6:15 - 9:15pm	6:15 - 9:15pm	6:15 - 9:15pm	
PARA 7340 The Poetics of Enlightenment Steven Goodman <p style="text-align: right;">3 units Room 303</p>					

Philosophy, Cosmology, and Consciousness Online Course Schedule

Instructor	Title	Units
PCC Faculty	PCC Online MA Residential Intensive in San Francisco, 9/23/18 - 9/26/18	0
Sean Kelly	PARP 6060 -02 Introduction to PCC	3

This course is the required introduction for all master's and doctoral PCC students in their first year of coursework. It has three goals: First, it allows students to become familiar with the scholarly work and world views of the several core PCC faculty, each of whom presents the key ideas and insights that teacher most wishes to emphasize as his or her contribution to the academic content and larger vision of the PCC program. Second, students meet each other at the start of their journey in the program and gain a sense of their cohort and the PCC community. Third, the course includes an introduction to essential skills in research, writing, and strategies for enhancing their learning experience throughout the course of the program.

Matt Segall	PARP 6393 -01 Mind and Nature in German Idealism	3
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The German Idealist movement, beginning with the publication of Kant's Critique of Pure Reason in 1781 and climaxing with Hegel's Phenomenology of Spirit in 1806, is considered by many to be the most inspired period of philosophical activity since Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle. Indeed, this period has been referred to simply as "the twenty five years of philosophy" by one recent commentator, as it was Kant who claimed that real philosophy had not even begun until his discovery of the transcendental method, and Hegel who, perfecting this method, claimed to have brought philosophy to its end. This course re-evaluates aspects of this standard narrative by highlighting the contributions and critiques offered by other major figures of the time, most notably Schelling and Goethe, both of whom sought to bring balance to the heights claimed by idealist rationality by pointing to Reason's utter dependence upon and emergence out of the unfathomable depths of Nature.

Jacob Sherman	PARP 6439 -02 A Brief History of Western Thought	3
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This course presents a brief introductory survey of the evolution of the Western worldview, beginning with its roots in Greco-Roman culture and the Judeo-Christian religious traditions. Following its development through the medieval period to the Renaissance, the Reformation, and the Scientific Revolution, the course explores the gradual transformation of the modern worldview, established during the Enlightenment and counterbalanced by Romanticism, into the radically plurastic postmodern sensibility and increasingly global civilization of the present period. Familiarity with the grand lines of Western intellectual and spiritual history was long considered the mark of an educated person in the West, and to a crucial extent this is still the case. Such knowledge is a necessary part of what we require to comprehend the larger context of our own critical moment in history, which has been fundamentally shaped, for better and for worse, by the powerfully dynamic character of the Western mind and its evolution.

Recommended online courses outside PCC:

Instructor	Title	Units
Alka Arora	PARW 6073 -01 Animal Ethics: Spiritual, Ecological, and Philosophical Perspectives	2

Ancient spiritual wisdom and contemporary scientific findings both refute Descartes' assertion that nonhuman animals are automatons devoid of consciousness or feeling. Nonetheless, the view of animals as machines undergirds many of our modern practices, such as factory farming and animal experimentation. How have Western philosophical trajectories, economic systems, and linguistic practices led to our ethical myopia concerning animals? What is the relationship between sexism, racism, and "speciesism"? How can we better align our spiritual, philosophical, and ecological wisdom with our actual practices toward our fellow species?

Leslie Combs	TSD 6316 Consciousness and the Brain: An Integral Study of the Brain and the Mind	3
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This course offers an introduction to the larger issues concerning the nature of consciousness and the brain. It will survey the most prominent theories of how the brain and consciousness are related and how they interact. It will also explore current topics such as consciousness in the left and right hemispheres, mirror neurons and the social brain, and the nature of emotion, thought, memory, and perception, much of this through fascinating case studies such as those by Oliver Sacks, Vilaynaur Subramanian, and Michael S. Gazzaniga. The course will use a variety of readings, including Alan Comb's book in preparation, the *The Protean Brain: A Metaphoric Tour of the Multifaceted Machinery of Thought, Reason, and Feeling*. No experience in the study of the brain is required, but it is recommended that students have some background or comfort with biological ideas.

Intensive-format courses in the residential PCC program:

Instructor	Title	Units
Elizabeth Allison	PARP 6743 Hill of the Hawk	1

Schedule:

This will be a two day, one night course.

Dates will be announced ASAP.

What does it mean to participate as conscious, responsible, ethical human beings in food production and consumption, individually and collectively? What is our responsibility, as citizens of planet Earth, to beings who give their lives for our nourishment? How do we ethically, philosophically understand the intimate relationships that we enter into when we consume food? This course does not suggest that there is a single correct answer but proposes that it behooves each of us, as citizens of Earth, to consider this question. Experiencing the land for a weekend at Hill of the Hawk Farm, an inspiring family farm in Big Sur, will allow us to participate in the agro-ecological rhythms of rural farm life during the harvest season. During the weekend, hands-on farm work and food preparation; instruction in Spatial Dynamics (R); and reading and reflection on texts by leading thinkers on food and farming will allow us to consider, in practice and theory, our roles in the larger Bay/Delta bioregion as consumers and, to a lesser and individual degree, producers of food.

Sean Kelly	PARP 6506 The Great Turning	2
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Schedule:

Saturday and Sunday, 9/8 and 9/9

10am to 5:30pm

Thursday, 9/17

3-6pm

Saturday and Sunday, 9/22 and 9/23

10am to 5:30pm

We live in a time of radical transformation, where the fate not only of humanity but of the biosphere itself lies in question. It is a time of “great unraveling” of the structures of modern civilization and of the very fabric of life upon which civilization depends. At the same time, however, millions of people across the planet are actively engaged in a more hopeful, though still uncertain, “Great Turning” devoted to the creation of life-sustaining societies and cultures in harmony with the long-term interests of the wider Earth community. Lectures and dialogue consider the relation of the Great Turning to the wider field of the evolution of consciousness and to the creative synergy that can emerge in the dialogue between traditional religious, spiritual, and leading-edge scientific views of self, the cosmos, and our collective history. Experiential exercises allow for greater insight into, and embodied participation in, the singular character of our current planetary moment; stimulate moral and intellectual competencies for serving life in a time of social and ecological breakdown; and help cultivate an expanded and vitalized sense of the present and a creative relationship to ancestors and future beings.