

Philosophy 358 (A01): Theory of Perception
SPRING 2021 [22300]

Scheduled class times

Monday & Thursday, 10:00-12:20

Professor

Patrick Rysiew

Office Hours: TBA

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Course Format

This course combines synchronous and asynchronous elements. The lecture materials will be delivered asynchronously – posted at the start of a given week on the course web site, along with any other teaching materials. The scheduled *Thursday* course slot will be used for on-line discussion sessions, via Zoom, hosted by the instructor. (This is the synchronous element of the course.) Students will be divided into groups; those groups will rotate through the Thursday slot. Depending on the enrollment numbers, students can expect to be required to attend (virtually) approximately

Evaluation

Students' grades will be based on:

- a)! A take-home, open-book midterm exam. (30%)
- b)! A paper. 8-10 pages long. Some topics will be suggested. Students may write on a topic of their own design, but only if they obtain the instructor's permission in advance. (30%)
- c)! A take-home, open-book final exam. (30%)
- d)! Participation in Thursday discussion sessions, with an emphasis on attending (virtually) the minimum number of such sessions. Details to be announced at the start of term. (10%)

Expectations

Students are expected to do the readings for a given week ahead of time, to watch/read the posted lecture materials as they are made available, and to be prepared to talk and ask questions about the course material (either directly, or in the scheduled discussion sessions).

Three quick tips for doing well in the course

1. *Keep pace with the class materials.* Watch/read the posted lecture materials as they are made available.
2. *Do the readings ahead of time, and read 'actively'* – pay attention to what you're reading, ask yourself what point(s) the author(s) is trying to make, why this matters, what questions you'd like to ask the author, and so on.
3. If you're having difficulty with any of the course material (readings or lecture content), speak to the instructor – *take advantage of office hours (TBA) and discussion sessions.*

Beyond the student's having adequately addressed the topic question(s) on which he/she writes, evaluation of the short assignments and term paper will be based on: evidence of comprehension of the materials and issues addressed; evidence of original and critical thought with regard to that material; the extent to which the student stakes out a position and provides good reasons and arguments for it; the extent to which the student communicates his/her ideas clearly (using complete and grammatical sentences, correct terms, a clear essay structure, and so on). For the short assignments and term paper, *the use of outside materials (i.e., any readings not assigned for the course)*

