Department of Language, Linguistics & Philosophy

Address: room 25-26, Roy Augier Building
Faculty of Humanities & Education
University of the West Indies
14 Ring Road, Mona Campus, Kingston 7

E-mail: langlingphil@gmail.com, langlingphil@uwimona.edu.jm
Website: www.mona.uwi.edu/dllp

Head of Department:
Dr Silvia Kouwenberg, Professor of Linguistics
silvia.kouwenberg@uwimona.edu.jm

B.A PROGRAMMES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE, LINGUISTICS & PHILOSOPHY: MAJORS, MINORS AND ELECTIVES

The Department offers a major in Philosophy and a range of majors in Linguistics, concentrating on the study of language, communication, and education. It is also possible to take courses with us to enhance your English Language communicative competencies, and to take electives or declare a minor in any of our subject areas. Finally, the Department offers Diploma options in Caribbean Sign Language Interpreting and in Public Service Interpreting.

Elective courses in English Language

These courses are designed to critically assess the use of English in a variety of contexts, and to develop competence in the production of different kinds of written documents and oral presentations.

LANG2001 Language and Ethics
LANG3001 The Art of Public Speaking
LANG3003 Technical Writing
LANG3101 Business Communication

B.A Philosophy

No other programme allows for such sustained reflection on the ideas and issues which move individuals and groups of individuals in all human societies. Different courses address issues pertaining to ethics, human existence and experience, the value of cultural knowledge, the meaning of notions that we take for granted such as “truth,” “reason,” “beauty,” “right”, etc. Critical reflection is at the core of the programme, allowing students to graduate with the tools to excel in a wide range of professions which call for an investigative mind.

Core subjects include Ethics, Logic, Epistemology, Philosophy of the Mind, Metaphysics. Additionally, students will choose from a wide range of courses on topics such as Ancient and Modern Philosophy, Meaning of Life and Existence, Political Philosophy, Paradox Analysis, Philosophy of Religion, Philosophy of Law, Philosophy of Leadership, Philosophy of Sex and Love.

To qualify for a **Major in Philosophy**, students must complete a minimum of 36 credits in the discipline, 12 credits each at levels 1 and 2, 15 credits at level 3 of the programme. A student who completes an additional 18 credits at levels 2 and 3, for a total of 54 credits, qualifies for the **Special in Philosophy**.
### The Philosophy Major at a Glance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEVEL ONE</th>
<th>LEVEL TWO</th>
<th>LEVEL THREE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| PHIL1001 Introduction to Logic  
PHIL1002 Ethics and Applied Ethics  
PHIL1003 Introduction to Philosophy | PHIL2002 Theory of Knowledge  
PHIL2003 Philosophy of Mind  
PHIL2006 Metaphysics | PHIL3601 Recent Philosophy I  
PHIL3602 Recent Philosophy II  
PHIL3099 Research in Philosophy (year-long) (This course is a substitute for HUMN3099) |

At least one of:  
PHIL1004 History of Ancient Philosophy  
PHIL1006 The Meaning of Life and Existence  
GOVT1001 Introduction to Political Philosophy

At least one of:  
PHIL2001 Paradox and Analysis*  
PHIL2004 Philosophy of Science  
PHIL2005 Philosophy of Language*  
PHIL2601 African Philosophy I  
PHIL2602 African Philosophy II  
PHIL2701 Philosophy in Literature*  
PHIL2702 Introduction to Philosophy of Art  
PHIL3802 19th Century Continental Philosophy*  
PHIL3803 20th Century Continental Philosophy*  
PHIL2902 Modern Philosophy*  
GOVT2003 Theories of the State**  
GOVT2005 Caribbean Political Thought**

At least one of:  
PHIL3006 American Philosophy  
PHIL3012 Philosophy of Law  
PHIL3018 Philosophy of Religion  
PHIL3025 Caribbean Philosophy  
PHIL3510 Philosophy of Sex and Love  
PHIL3026 Philosophy of Islamic Law*  
PHIL3803 Continental Philosophy – 20th Century*

Faculty requirements:  
FOUN1001 English for Academic Purposes or FOUN1401 Writing in the Disciplines  
FOUN1002 Language – Argument  
Foreign language (minimum 3 credits, unless a foreign language was taken at CSEC)  

Faculty requirements:  
FOUN1201 Science, Medicine & Technology in Society  
FOUN1301 Law, Governance, Economy & Society  

Faculty requirements:  
No other requirements

9 credits in non-Major courses from within the Faculty of Humanities & Education, distributed over the three levels according to the requirements set out in the Faculty Handbook

*Not offered in 2012/2013

**Level-1 prerequisites in the relevant discipline may be applicable; students are advised to check with the department that offers the course.

### Minor in Philosophy

The Minor in Philosophy consists of PHIL1003 Introduction to Philosophy, and an additional 15 credits in philosophy courses across levels 2 and 3.
Our Linguistics programmes

At the core, all linguistics programmes are concerned with the place and utility of language in people’s daily lives. Informed by the study of language in different societies, our programmes develop a global perspective on language in Caribbean societies. Our graduates are expected to have a range of skills which allow them to be good communicators, and are found in professions which call for the ability to analyse and develop appropriate communication strategies, or to analyse and implement language-related policies and interventions. Such professions range from Public Relations, to English language curriculum development and teaching, to the hospitality industry, to the public media.

Some of our majors relate to more specific career objectives. This is true of the Double Major in Linguistics & Language Education, whose graduates are recognized by the Ministry of Education, opening up career options in the educational sector. The Major in Caribbean Sign Language Interpreting allows graduates to work in Deaf environments, and the Special in Language & Linguistics naturally prepares graduates for a career in foreign language environments.

(1) Language Communication & Society

This programme focuses on the social and communicative value of language, while also including courses which develop a deeper understanding of the organising principles behind the structure of language. Some signature courses in this major include Language Gender & Sex, Language of Negotiation, and Language Planning, alongside courses in Phonology, Syntax, the Structure of the English language, and the Sociology of Language.

The Major in Language, Communication & Society requires a minimum of 42 credits in Linguistics courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEVEL ONE</th>
<th>LEVEL TWO</th>
<th>LEVEL THREE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LING1401 Introduction to Language &amp; Linguistics</td>
<td>LING2001 Phonology</td>
<td>LING3201 Caribbean Dialectology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING1001 Introduction to Phonetics &amp; Phonology</td>
<td>LING2002 Syntax</td>
<td>LING3303 Discourse Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING1002 Introduction to Morphology &amp; Syntax</td>
<td>LING2301 The Sociology of Language</td>
<td>LING3304 Language of Negotiation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING2302 Sociolinguistics</td>
<td>LING2402 Structure of the English Language*</td>
<td>LING3399 Language Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING2501 Language, Gender &amp; Sex*</td>
<td></td>
<td>(This course is a substitute for HUMN3099)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Faculty requirements:

- FOUN1001 English for Academic Purposes or FOUN1401 Writing in the Disciplines
- FOUN1002 Language – Argument
- Foreign language (minimum 3 credits, unless a foreign language was taken at CSEC)

Faculty requirements:

- FOUN1201 Science, Medicine & Technology in Society
- FOUN1301 Law, Governance, Economy & Society

Faculty requirements:

- No other requirements

9 credits in non-Major courses from within the Faculty of Humanities & Education, distributed over the three levels according to the requirements set out in the Faculty Handbook

*To achieve a better distribution of courses over the three years, one of these courses can be taken in the final year of the programme.

(2) Linguistics

This programme focuses on the core subjects of the field, including language structure courses in Phonology and Syntax (which go up to the more advanced levels), in Sociolinguistics, and in the study of Creole languages. Students select additional courses according to their interests, which may include Language Acquisition, Applied Speech Production, courses in Haitian Creole, etc.
The Major in Linguistics requires a minimum of 39 credits in Linguistics. With an additional 15 credits, for a total of 54 credits in Linguistics courses, it becomes possible to declare a Special in Linguistics.

**The Linguistics Major at a Glance:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEVEL ONE</th>
<th>LEVEL TWO</th>
<th>LEVEL THREE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LING1401</td>
<td>LING2001 Phonology</td>
<td>LING3001 Advanced Phonology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING1001</td>
<td>LING2002 Syntax</td>
<td>LING3002 Advanced Syntax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING1002</td>
<td>LING2301 The Sociology of Language</td>
<td>LING3201 Caribbean Dialectology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LING2302 Sociolinguistics</td>
<td>LING3202 Creole Linguistics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At least six additional credits are required for the Linguistics major, from among the following level 2 and level 3 courses. For the Special in Linguistics, add a further 15 credits from among these courses:

- LING2004 Semantic Theory*
- LING2101 Language Acquisition
- LING2102 Language Learning and Teaching*
- LING2204 Deaf Language and Culture
- LING2402 Structure of the English Language
- LING2501 Language, Gender & Sex
- LING2701 Applied Speech Production
- LING2801, LING2802 Structure and Usage of French Lexicon Creole I, II
- LING2810 Introduction to the Structure and Usage of Jamaican Creole
- LING2811 Legal Terminology in Jamaican Creole*
- LING2819, LING2820 Structure and Usage of Caribbean Sign Language 1, 2
- LING2901 Computational Linguistics*
- LING2920 Introduction to the Theory and Practice of Translation**
- LING3001 Advanced Phonology
- LING3002 Advanced Syntax
- LING3201 Caribbean Dialectology
- LING3202 Creole Linguistics
- LING3303 Discourse Analysis
- LING3304 The Language of Negotiation
- LING3399 Language Planning
- LING3701 Field Methods in Linguistics (offered in Summer School only)
- LING3818 Advanced Caribbean Sign Language
- LING3909 The Profession of Interpreting**
- LING3910 The Practice of Sign Language Interpreting
- LING3912 Interpreting in Legal Settings*

Faculty requirements:
- FOUN1001 English for Academic Purposes or FOUN1401 Writing in the Disciplines
- FOUN1002 Language – Argument
- Foreign language (minimum 3 credits, unless a foreign language was taken at CSEC)

Faculty requirements:
- FOUN1201 Science, Medicine & Technology in Society
- FOUN1301 Law, Governance, Economy & Society

Faculty requirements:
- HUMN3099 A 3-credit Caribbean Research Project; LING3399 Language Planning can be taken as substitute for this requirement.

9 credits in non-Major courses from within the Faculty of Humanities & Education, distributed over the three levels according to the requirements set out in the Faculty Handbook

*Not offered in 2012/2013

**Offered in alternate years
(3) Double major in Linguistics & Language Education

This double major includes an equal number of courses in Linguistics and in Education. On the Linguistics side, students are introduced to language structure, sociolinguistics, language acquisition, and the place of language in Caribbean societies. The courses in this major which are offered by the School of Education focus on curriculum design, classroom management, and the structure and content of classes in English language and literature. Additionally, students in this major are required to take the introductions to poetry and prose taught in the Department of Literatures in English. The double major also includes school-based experience. Graduates from this programme are paid in the category ‘Trained Graduate’ by the Ministry of Education, Jamaica. This programme is not recommended for working students.

The Double Major in Linguistics & Language Education requires a total of 78 credits in Linguistics, Education and Literatures courses.

The Double Major in Linguistics & Language Education at a glance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEVEL ONE</th>
<th>LEVEL TWO</th>
<th>LEVEL THREE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>LING1401 Introduction to Language &amp; Linguistics</strong></td>
<td><strong>LING2001 Phonology</strong></td>
<td><strong>LING3201 Caribbean Dialectology</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LING1001 Introduction to Phonetics &amp; Phonology</strong></td>
<td><strong>LING2002 Syntax</strong></td>
<td><strong>LING3202 Creole Linguistics</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LING1002 Introduction to Morphology &amp; Syntax</strong></td>
<td><strong>LING2301 The Sociology of Language</strong></td>
<td><strong>LING3303 Discourse Analysis</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EDTL1010 Introduction to Teaching and Learning</strong></td>
<td><strong>EDCU2013 Introduction to Curriculum Studies</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EDPS1003 Psychological Issues in the Classroom</strong></td>
<td><strong>EDEC2021 School-based Experience I</strong></td>
<td><strong>EDLA31091 Teaching the Structure of English</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EDTL1003 Planning for Teaching</strong></td>
<td><strong>EDCE2025 Introduction to Computer Technology</strong></td>
<td><strong>EDTL30179 School Based Experience II</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LITS1001 An Introduction to Poetry</strong></td>
<td><strong>EDLA2106 The Language-use Content of the Teaching of English</strong></td>
<td><strong>EDLA3106 Content and Pedagogy for CXC English A</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LITS1002 An Introduction to Prose</strong></td>
<td><strong>EDLA2103 The Teaching of Literature</strong></td>
<td><strong>EDRS3019 Report</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Faculty requirements:
- **FOUN1001 English for Academic Purposes or FOUN1401 Writing in the Disciplines**
- **FOUN1002 Language – Argument**
- Foreign language (minimum 3 credits, unless a foreign language was taken at CSEC)

(4) Special in Language and Linguistics

Foreign language study is naturally allied to the field of Linguistics. In the Special in Language and Linguistics, the study of either French or Spanish is combined with Linguistics courses in the structure of language (Phonology and Syntax, to the advanced levels), and with courses in the structure of languages such as English, Haitian Creole, Jamaican Creole and/
or Caribbean Sign Language. This degree equips students for work in international organisations, especially where knowledge of a Caribbean vernacular language provides further advantage.

The **Special in Language and Linguistics** requires a minimum of 60 credits, of which 24 in Linguistics, 36 in Modern Languages.

**THE SPECIAL IN LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS AT A GLANCE:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEVEL ONE</th>
<th>LEVEL TWO</th>
<th>LEVEL THREE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>LING1401 Introduction to Language &amp; Linguistics</strong></td>
<td><strong>LING2001 Phonology</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>LING2002 Syntax</strong>&lt;br&gt;At least six credits selected from the following:&lt;br&gt;<strong>LING2402 Structure of the English Language</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>LING2801 and LING2802 Structure and Usage of French Lexicon Creole I, II</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>LING2810 Introduction to the Structure and Usage of Jamaican Creole</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>LING2819 and LING2820 Structure and Usage of Caribbean Sign Language 1, 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>LING3001 Advanced Phonology</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>LING3002 Advanced Syntax</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LING1402 Introduction to Language Structure</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12 credits in either Spanish or French:<br>**SPAN1001, SPAN1002 Spanish Language IA, IB**<br>**SPAN1401, 1402 Introduction to Spanish Peninsular Literature, to Spanish American Literature**<br>**FREN1001, 1002 French Language IA, IB**<br>**FREN1304, 1305 Introduction to Caribbean and African Literatures in French, to French Literature and Film**

At least six credits in either Spanish or French:<br>**SPAN2501 Spanish Language IIA**<br>**SPAN2502 Spanish Language IIB**<br>or:<br>**FREN2001 French Language IIA**<br>**FREN2002 French Language IIB**

At least six credits in either Spanish or French:<br>**SPAN3501 Spanish Language IIIA**<br>**SPAN3502 Spanish Language IIIAB**<br>**FREN3001 French Language IIIA**<br>**FREN 3002 French Language IIIB**

At least 12 additional credits in any of the Foreign Language courses offered in the Department of Modern Languages

**Faculty requirements:**<br>**FOUN1001 English for Academic Purposes or FOUN1401 Writing in the Disciplines**<br>**FOUN1002 Language – Argument**

**Faculty requirements:**<br>**FOUN1201 Science, Medicine & Technology in Society**<br>**FOUN1301 Law, Governance, Economy & Society**

**Faculty requirements:**<br>**HUMN3099 A 3-credit Caribbean Research Project. Any of the following can be taken as substitute for this requirement:**
- **LING3399 Language Planning**
- **FREN3507 or FREN3508 Francophone Caribbean Literature I, II**
- **SPAN3301 Issues in Contemporary Cuban Culture**
- **SPAN3703 The New Spanish American Novel**
- **SPAN3714 Latin American Cinema**
(5) Caribbean Sign Language Interpreting

This programme takes students through a course of study which allows them to develop fluency in a Caribbean Sign Language and expertise in Sign Language interpreting. The programme also allows students to develop an understanding of Deaf culture, and of the place of sign language in Caribbean societies. Graduates will therefore be equipped to serve the Caribbean and the rest of the world in this regard.

The Major in Caribbean Sign Language Interpreting requires a total of 39 credits.

THE MAJOR IN CARIBBEAN SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETING AT A GLANCE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEVEL ONE</th>
<th>LEVEL TWO*</th>
<th>LEVEL THREE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LING1401 Introduction to Language &amp; Linguistics</td>
<td>LING2202 Deaf Language and Culture</td>
<td>LING3818 Advanced Caribbean Sign Language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING1001 Introduction to Phonetics &amp; Phonology</td>
<td>LING2301 The Sociology of Language</td>
<td>LING3909 The Profession of Interpreting**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING1002 Introduction to Morphology &amp; Syntax</td>
<td>LING2302 Sociolinguistics</td>
<td>LING3910 The Practice of Sign Language Interpreting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING2819 Structure and Usage of Caribbean Sign Language 1</td>
<td>LING2819 Structure and Usage of Caribbean Sign Language 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING2820 Structure and Usage of Caribbean Sign Language 2</td>
<td>LING2820 Structure and Usage of Caribbean Sign Language 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING2810 Introduction to the Structure and Usage of Jamaican Creole</td>
<td>LING2810 Introduction to the Structure and Usage of Jamaican Creole</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING2920 Introduction to the Theory and Practice of Translation**</td>
<td>LING2920 Introduction to the Theory and Practice of Translation**</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Faculty requirements:
FOUN1001 English for Academic Purposes or FOUN1401 Writing in the Disciplines
FOUN1002 Language – Argument
Foreign language (minimum 3 credits, unless a foreign language was taken at CSEC)

Faculty requirements:
FOUN1201 Science, Medicine & Technology in Society
FOUN1301 Law, Governance, Economy & Society

Faculty requirements:
HUMN3099 A 3-credit Caribbean Research Project; LING3399 Language Planning can be taken as substitute for this requirement.

9 credits in non-Major courses from within the Faculty of Humanities & Education, distributed over the three levels according to the requirements set out in the Faculty Handbook

*To obtain a more even spread of courses across the three years of the programme, some of the level-two courses can be taken in final year. It is recommended that students make use of academic advising at the start of the year before taking a decision on this.

**Offered in alternate years

(6) Diploma in Caribbean Sign Language Interpreting

This is a non-degree programme. For the Diploma in Caribbean Sign Language Interpreting, students are required to complete 30 credits.
The Diploma in Caribbean Sign Language Interpreting at a Glance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level One</th>
<th>Level Two</th>
<th>Level Three</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LING1401 Introduction to Language &amp; Linguistics</td>
<td>LING2202 Deaf Language and Culture</td>
<td>LING3818 Advanced Caribbean Sign Language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING1402 Introduction to Language Structure</td>
<td>LING2819 Structure and Usage of Caribbean Sign Language 1</td>
<td>LING3909 The Profession of Interpreting*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LING2820 Structure and Usage of Caribbean Sign Language 2</td>
<td>LING3910 The Practice of Sign Language Interpreting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LING2810 Introduction to the Structure and Usage of Jamaican Creole</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LING2920 Introduction to the Theory and Practice of Translation*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Offered in alternate years

(7) Diploma in Public Service Interpreting

For the Diploma in Public Service Interpreting, students are required to complete 21 credits.

The Diploma in Public Service Interpreting at a Glance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level One</th>
<th>Level Two</th>
<th>Level Three</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LING1401 Introduction to Language &amp; Linguistics</td>
<td>LING2810 Introduction to the Structure and Usage of Jamaican Creole</td>
<td>LING3909 The Profession of Interpreting*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING1402 Introduction to Language Structure</td>
<td>LING2811 Legal Terminology in Jamaican Creole**</td>
<td>LING3912 Interpreting in a Legal Setting**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LING2920 Introduction to the Theory and Practice of Translation*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Offered in alternate years.

**Not offered in 2012/2013.

Minor in Linguistics

A minor in Linguistics requires fifteen credits in Linguistics courses, taken across levels 2 and 3. In order to complete those fifteen credits, a student will need the relevant prerequisites at level 1. The choice of level 2 and 3 courses for a Minor in Linguistics should be guided by the student’s interests. For instance:

- Interested in language & society?
  - LING2301 The Sociology of Language
  - LING2302 Sociolinguistics
  - LING2501 Language, Gender & Sex
  - LING3304 Language of Negotiation
  - LING3399 Language Planning (year-long) (This course is a substitute for HUMN3099)

This constitutes a total of 18 credits at levels 2 and 3. For this selection of courses for the Minor in Linguistics, a student is required to take at least LING1401 Introduction to Language & Linguistics at level 1.
• Interested in language & communication?
  o LING2302 Sociolinguistics
  o LING2402 Structure of the English Language
  o LING2501 Language, Gender & Sex
  o LING3303 Discourse Analysis
  o LING3304 Language of Negotiation

For this selection of courses for the Minor in Linguistics, a student needs to take at least the following courses at level 1:

  LING1401 Introduction to Language & Linguistics
  Either LING1402 Introduction to Language Structure, or: LING1002 Introduction to Morphology & Syntax

• Interested in language structure?
  o LING2001 Phonology
  o LING2002 Syntax
  o LING2101 Language Acquisition*
  o LING3001 Advanced Phonology
  o LING3002 Advanced Syntax
  o LING3202 Creole Linguistics*

*Select at least one of these two courses.

For this selection of courses for the Minor in Linguistics, a student needs to take at least the following courses at level 1:

  LING1402 Introduction to Language Structure, or both LING1001 Introduction to Phonetics & Phonology and LING1002 Introduction to Morphology & Syntax

• Interested in language and speech?
  o LING2001 Phonology
  o LING2302 Sociolinguistics
  o LING2701 Applied Speech Production
  o LING3001 Advanced Phonology
  o Any additional level 2 or level 3 course which matches the student’s interest

For this selection of courses for the Minor in Linguistics, a student needs to take at least LING1001 Introduction to Phonetics & Phonology at level 1.

**Minor in Caribbean Sign Language**

The Minor in Caribbean Sign Language Interpreting consists of the following compulsory courses:

  LING2202 Deaf Language and Culture
  LING2819 and LING2820 Structure and Usage of Caribbean Sign Language 1, 2
  LING2810 Introduction to the Structure and Usage of Jamaican Creole
  LING3818 Advanced Caribbean Sign Language
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

English Language courses

LANG2001 LANGUAGE AND ETHICS
Ethical issues are inherent in writing and speaking because what we write and say can influence others, either in a positive or negative way, and how we express ideas affects people’s perception of us and of the organization that we represent. This course introduces students to the ethical considerations which affect language use. It provides an overview of relevant theories of ethics, including personal and public ethics. It examines issues of ownership, plagiarism and copyright, especially as these relate to writing and research. Ethical and unethical arguments are also examined, and ethical considerations in the language of national and international politics and communication across cultures are addressed.

Prerequisites: FOUN1001 or FOUN1401 or FOUN1002 (minimum C grade)

LANG3001 THE ART OF PUBLIC SPEAKING
The purpose of this course is to provide students with skills in the preparation of oral presentations with an emphasis on the delivery—that is, the choice and use of appropriate language, the proper use of the voice (including elocution, pronunciation, and voice projection) and the employment of visual aids. Student will make frequent presentations, using a variety of discourses which demonstrate their ability to think critically, to operate within different contexts, to be sensitive to their audience, and to take into consideration ethical concerns when preparing and delivering speeches.

Prerequisites: FOUN1001 or FOUN1401 or FOUN1002 (minimum C grade)

LANG3003 TECHNICAL WRITING
This course is designed for students who wish to develop the ability to design, write and produce technical documents for different organizations, intended for different purposes – operations manuals, company ethics code, safety manuals, manufacturing guidelines, operating procedures, employees reports, product reports, etc., intended for communication within the organization, with other organizations and with the public. The course will address practical skills through its focus on research methods, working in a collaborative technical writing environment, and writing for different media. It will also include audience considerations, legal principles and cross-cultural issues.

Prerequisite: FOUN1001 or FOUN1401 or FOUN1002 (minimum C grade)

LANG3101 BUSINESS COMMUNICATION: PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE
This course is designed to promote students’ understanding and appreciation of the principles, processes and products of business communication; it will also develop students’ skills in transactional, informational and persuasive correspondence in a variety of business applications.

Prerequisites: FOUN1001 or FOUN1401 or FOUN1002 (minimum C grade)

Linguistics courses

LING1001 INTRODUCTION TO PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY
The first section of this course introduces the study of articulation (articulatory phonetics), including the details of the vocal apparatus and how it is used to produce speech. The course introduces the International Phonetic Alphabet and teaches how its symbols can be used to provide an accurate representation of the sounds of language. In the second section
of the course, we study how languages group sounds into categories called ‘phonemes’, and also discover how phonemes are combined to produce syllables, and how stress and tone may be used in languages.

Prerequisite: none

**LING1002 INTRODUCTION TO MORPHOLOGY AND SYNTAX**

The first section of this course introduces the study of morphemes, the smallest parts of words that contribute to meaning. Students learn how morphemes are combined to form words through processes such as inflection, compounding and reduplication. The second section of the course considers the rules of syntax: rules by which words are combined into phrases, forming the hierarchical structures which produce sentences. Students learn to apply tests such as replacement and movement, and to recognize the application of syntactic processes such as passivization and question formation.

Prerequisite: none

**LING1401 INTRODUCTION TO LANGUAGE & LINGUISTICS**

This introductory course will have students examine questions such as “what is language?” “what is human communication?” and “how is language used in society?” A glimpse into sentence structure will give a new perspective on ideas learnt in school about grammar. A study of the relationships between language and society will open students’ eyes to variation in language. Consideration of the utterances of infants will reveal how knowledge and use of language develops in children. The identification of areas of the brain controlling various functions of speech will provide an explanation of some of the ways in which individuals can suffer language deficiencies.

Prerequisite: none

**LING1402 INTRODUCTION TO LANGUAGE STRUCTURE**

This course provides an introduction to the study of language structure, and will help students see that variation in language is limited, despite differences between languages. It considers how the vocal apparatus are used to produce speech sounds and how individual languages use sounds to differentiate words. Students also learn how words can be analysed to consist of smaller meaningful parts called morphemes, how these can be classified by their function in language, and how words are formed through processes such as inflection, compounding, reduplication. Finally, the course considers how words are combined to form hierarchically structured phrases and sentences.

LING1402 compresses some of the subject matter of LING1001 and LING1002 in a single course. For a fuller understanding, it is recommended that those two courses are taken instead.

Prerequisite: none

**LING2001 PHONOLOGY**

This course, building on basic concepts introduced in LING1001 or LING1402, focuses in more detail both on articulatory phonetics and on the theories which seek to account for the phonological systems of human language. Using a Generative theoretical approach, it examines how we can understand phonological rules, the structure of syllables, and phenomena such as stress, tone and intonation in languages.

Prerequisite: LING1001 or LING1402

**LING2002 SYNTAX**

This course, building on basic concepts introduced in LING 1002 or LING1402, examines the principles which underlie syntactic structure, and develops a model which explains structural relations and syntactic processes. It explores constituency, X-bar theory, Binding, Case theory and Theta theory, to develop an understanding of the general principles applicable to any language in the analysis of its structure.

Prerequisite: LING1002 or LING1402
LING2004  SEMANTIC THEORY (not currently offered)
This course provides an introduction to the study of meaning in natural languages. It examines basic concepts such as sense and reference, meaning relations including polysemy and hyponymy, the relationship between meaning and structure and semantics versus pragmatics.
Prerequisite: LING2002

LING2101  LANGUAGE ACQUISITION
This course explores what linguists sometimes call ‘The Big Question’ – how it is that children are able to acquire a native language in just a few years’ time, and that they do so despite the errors and deficiencies in the speech they hear around them. Students learn some methods used in studying child language acquisition, and will look in some detail at the major milestones in the acquisition of phonology, morphology and syntax. The course also deals with the differences between first and second language acquisition, and with some of the neurolinguistic aspects of language acquisition.
Prerequisite: any level-1 Linguistics course (one of LING1001, LING1002, LING1401, LING1402)

LING2102  LANGUAGE LEARNING AND TEACHING (not currently offered)
This course explores approaches to the learning and teaching of second and foreign languages across the world, with special emphasis on the sociolinguistic context of the Caribbean. It also discusses developments in Applied Linguistics and their applicability to language teaching and testing in the Caribbean context.
Prerequisite: LING2101

LING2204  DEAF LANGUAGE AND CULTURE
Many persons assume that the social norms of the Deaf are the same as those of the hearing. As this is not so, students need to be aware of and be able to appreciate the cultural differences that exist. This course explores the cultural experiences and perspectives among persons who are Deaf. In addition, the course provides an overview of issues related to members of the Deaf community.
Prerequisite: None

LING2301  THE SOCIOLOGY OF LANGUAGE
This course covers the full range of types of language situations, including bilingual, multilingual, diglossic and Creole continuum. It looks at the range of functions that particular languages can perform in a speech community, for example, official, standard, private, public, etc. and examines, as well, how language attitudes are formed. The entire course is supported by references to case studies from language situations around the world.
Prerequisite: any level-1 Linguistics course (one of LING1001, LING1002, LING1401, LING1402)

LING2302  SOCIOLINGUISTICS
The course is fundamentally an exploration of the ways language can be studied as a social phenomenon, and focuses on developing an objective understanding of the links which speakers make between language and social groupings. The course will examine the connection between specific language features in speech communities such as the pronunciation of ‘r’ and the social background of the speaker who uses the feature. Other topics include sociological and social psychological explanations for language use, language change, language and gender, and language ideology. This course has a strong Caribbean focus.
Prerequisite: any level-1 Linguistics course (one of LING1001, LING1002, LING1401, LING1402)
LING2402    STRUCTURE OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE
This course reviews basic grammatical concepts and terminology in order to develop an understanding of the structure of English. The course will cover thematic variants of the kernel clause as well as clause/sentence type, among others. It investigates concepts of standardness and correctness, and aims to give students a solid understanding of English sentence structure.
Prerequisite: LING1402 or LING1002

LING2501    LANGUAGE, GENDER AND SEX
The course focuses on the relationship between language and sex as a biological category versus gender as a social phenomenon. It investigates the application to Caribbean language use of some of the theoretical frameworks through which this relationship has been studied. Also discussed are the ways children acquire gendered language identities and issues relating to sexism in language. Actual conversations are recorded and transcribed for analysis. This course has a strong Caribbean focus.
Prerequisite: any level-1 Linguistics course (one of LING1001, LING1002, LING1401, LING1402)

LING2701    APPLIED SPEECH PRODUCTION
This course investigates the language geography of the Caribbean in terms of speech forms and accents, and asks what makes persons from each territory sound different when speaking the same language. It looks at speech production, inclusive of elocution and accent production, and at the application of this knowledge to certain situations, such as making oneself understood around the region, providing consultation to movie production companies, and the like.
Prerequisite: None

LING2801    STRUCTURE AND USAGE OF FRENCH LEXICON CREOLE I
This course will focus on Haitian Creole, and combines the teaching of Haitian Creole with the study of the structure of the language. Students will be trained in oral and written expression and comprehension, and will become familiar with the basic elements and structures of the language such as word order, tense markers, pluralisation, question asking, and negation.
Prerequisite: None

LING2802    STRUCTURE AND USAGE OF FRENCH LEXICON CREOLE II
This course follows on LING2801, and continues the study of French-lexicon Creole through written texts and through exposure to the spoken language, aiming also to develop increased fluency in the use of the language by the students.
Prerequisite: LING2801

LING2807    INTRODUCTION TO GARIFUNA (not currently offered)
This is another in a series of courses offering students exposure to a living Caribbean language. This is an introduction to one of the few Arawakan languages still spoken in the Caribbean, Garifuna as spoken by the Garinagu or ‘Black Caribs’ of Belize. It will give students the ability to engage in conversational use of the language while exposing them to the structure of the language, including its similarities to other Arawakan languages. This will take place in a context where the student learns to appreciate the sociocultural norms associated with an indigenous Caribbean language.
Prerequisite: None
LING2810 INTRODUCTION TO THE STRUCTURE AND USAGE OF JAMAICAN CREOLE
This course gives insight into the history, linguistic structure and usage of Jamaican Creole, helping students to see it as a language in its own right. Orthography, literature and lexicon are some of the areas that will be covered. The course will also consider the strategies that need to be employed to take Jamaican Creole outside of its traditional domains of use, developing projects around its use for purposes such as news reading, the presentation of health care information, etc.
Prerequisite: None (competence in Jamaican Creole is expected)

LING2811 LEGAL TERMINOLOGY IN JAMAICAN CREOLE (not currently offered)
The background to any preparation of Jamaican language interpreters for the legal system requires familiarity with the appropriate technical legal terminology in Jamaican Creole. Building on the basis of the insights developed in LING2810, it is this need which this course seeks to fulfill.
Prerequisite: LING2810 (minimum Grade B)

LING2819 STRUCTURE AND USAGE OF CARIBBEAN SIGN LANGUAGE I
Every Caribbean territory has a Deaf community, which has a vernacular language. These Sign Languages represent important linguistic minorities in the Caribbean. This course is aimed at exposing students to the structure of a Caribbean Sign Language as a linguistic system and will introduce them to communication in a visual-gestural mode. Students will develop basic communicative skills in that language and gain exposure to the local Deaf culture.
Prerequisite: None

LING2820 STRUCTURE AND USAGE OF CARIBBEAN SIGN LANGUAGE II
This course is aimed at enhancing the receptive and expressive sign language skills of students, including the expression of abstract concepts in the sign language. It will also introduce them to more advanced aspects of the chaology, morphology and syntax, particularly nonmanual behaviours and classifiers of a Caribbean Sign Language.
Prerequisite: LING2819

LING2901 COMPUTATIONAL LINGUISTICS (not currently offered)
This course explores the objectives of and reasons for research in the area of computational linguistics. It introduces students to the difficulties and limitations of a computational approach to linguistic problems. It also addresses computational procedures and programming languages, from the perspective of the linguist. The highpoint of the course is the application of computational techniques to a problem in linguistics.
Pre/corequisites: LING2001 and LING2002

LING2920 INTRODUCTION TO THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF TRANSLATION (offered in alternate years)
This course presents the fundamental theories of translation as outlined by the various schools of thought on the subject. In seeking to broaden the knowledge base of the student of linguistics and foreign languages, it highlights that translation is far more than simply changing words in one language to words in another language. Students develop an awareness of what is required to effectively produce a new text which conveys the meanings contained in the original text.
Prerequisite: None
LING3001 ADVANCED PHONOLOGY

Offered in Semester 1 Credits: 3

This course is aimed at students interested in coming to grips with the theoretical details of the phonological systems of human languages. It covers the representation of segments and autosegments, phonological rule types, the representation of the syllable, metrical phonology, the interaction of phonology with morphology and syntax and markedness issues. It also introduces speech processing software, and shows how it can be used to develop a deeper understanding of the acoustic properties of speech.

Prerequisite: LING2001

LING3002 ADVANCED SYNTAX

This course continues the study of syntactic structure, progressing seamlessly from work covered in LING2002. The course investigates ways in which properties of human language are explained within a theoretical framework, and emphasizes that data are meaningless in the absence of a theory. Using a Transformational Generative model, the course investigates how to account for transformations such as head-to-head movement and phrasal movement, and crucially, the restrictions on movement. This is presented as a fairly complete and simple system, laying the theoretical foundation for further explorations.

Prerequisite: LING2002

LING3201 CARIBBEAN DIALECTOLOGY

This course takes an in-depth look at the sociohistorical background and development of Caribbean languages: indigenous languages of the Caribbean (in particular Arawakan and Cariban languages), the languages which were brought to the region under colonialism (European, African and Asian languages) and the Creole languages which arose in the plantation societies and maroon societies. In addition to a detailed analysis of the contemporary Caribbean language situation, the course also examines the extent of our knowledge of the grammars of these languages.

Prerequisite: any two level-2 linguistics courses

LING3202 CREOLE LINGUISTICS

This course examines the validity of the term ‘Creole,’ and looks at the world-wide distribution of Creole languages. It aims to familiarize students with the debates on Creole genesis and Creole typology that have dominated the study of these languages and to engage them in a critical evaluation of the positions held by different sides in these debates. It goes on to look at the phenomenon of decreolisation in the context of theories of language change.

Prerequisite: any TWO of LING2001, LING2002, LING2301, LING2302

LING3303 DISCOURSE ANALYSIS

This course introduces students to Discourse Analysis with a focus on conflict talk, both around the world and in Jamaican and Caribbean contexts. It explores theoretical approaches to the analysis of spoken discourse such as the inferential, interactional and code approaches, and has students apply them to the analysis of their real-life recordings. A key aspect of the course involves students collecting, transcribing and coding spoken discourse.

Prerequisite: LING2302 or LING2501 or LING3304

LING3304 THE LANGUAGE OF NEGOTIATION

This course focuses on the practical aspects of language use in negotiation. It examines the communication processes involved in negotiation and covers both the basic principles and the practice of negotiation. It analyses language use in negotiation through role play and simulation and uses these to examine models and methods of negotiation; persuasive strategies; negotiator characteristics and styles; power and gender issues and social and cultural issues in negotiation.

Prerequisite: LING2301 or LING2302 or LING2501
LING3399 LANGUAGE PLANNING (year long)

This course analyses the links between language and national identity, and also deals with the role of language in official communication networks. Against this background, it analyses the various kinds of efforts made to plan language and which consciously affect its use in human society, especially in relation to Caribbean Creole speech communities and the various current developments in language policy in Caribbean societies such as Haiti, Suriname, St. Lucia, Dominica, and Jamaica. Finally, this course aims at giving students practical experience related to Language Planning or the development of the resources of languages for official use. This will be done via small research projects, which students would select in consultation with the course lecturer.

Prerequisites: LING2301 or LING2302

LING3399 may be taken as a substitute for HUMN3099.

LING3701 FIELD METHODS IN LINGUISTICS (offered on demand in Summer School)

This course introduces the student to basic research methods in linguistics. Equipped with this knowledge, students are required to design their own programme of field research and go into the field, under supervision, to collect language data from informants. They are required to transcribe portions of this data and provide some preliminary analysis.

Prerequisites: LING2001, LING2002, LING2302

LING3818 ADVANCED CARIBBEAN SIGN LANGUAGE (offered in alternate years)

Building on the level-2 courses, this course is designed to help students expand vocabulary and develop language skills and conversational fluency. Specialised vocabularies for areas such as medicine, education and the law are covered. Through this course, students will be immersed in an environment simulated to match that of the sign community. All sessions will be conducted in sign language with very minimal use of voice.

Pre-requisite: LING2819 and LING2820

LING3820 SIGN LANGUAGE FOR MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY

This course is designed for students entering the Clinical Practice phase of their training in Dentistry or Medicine, and is intended to specifically address the management of Special Needs patients with auditory challenges. It provides an opportunity to learn signs and signed explanations specifically useful in the medical or dental profession, and to obtain fluency by practicing the use of sign language in immersion-type settings.

Prerequisite: LING2819

LING3909 THE PROFESSION OF INTERPRETING (offered in alternate years) This course examines the field of interpreting and the role of an interpreter. It considers how to define the communication process, and how to consider client(s) and do situational assessments. The interpreter role and ethics, the process of interpreting, settings and assignments are also examined.

Prerequisite: None

LING3910 THE PRACTICE OF SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETING (offered on demand)

The goal of this course is to produce persons who can perform professionally as Sign Language interpreters. Such persons have to be able to work from a source language to a target language. This means that visual memory, the ability to produce equivalent message content, knowledge of vocabulary and register, and ability to make cultural adaptations are essential. A practicum component involving supervised interpreting experience in different contexts (legal, educational, medical) ensures that students meet these criteria.

Pre/corequisites: LING3909, LING2819, LING2820
LING3912  INTERPRETING IN LEGAL SETTINGS (not currently offered)

Although students have been exposed to interpreting in a variety of settings, they need to develop specialised skills for interpreting in legal settings. Students need to be sensitised to issues specific to working in legal fields. This course will prepare students to work in all stages of the judiciary process – from law enforcement officials to court officials.

Prerequisite: LING3909

**Philosophy Courses**

**PHIL1001  INTRODUCTION TO LOGIC**

This course provides an introduction to essential principles of reasoning and critical thinking. It is designed to enhance students’ ability to evaluate various forms of reasoning and to examine critically beliefs, conventions and theories, and to develop sound arguments - good arguments, fair argumentation, and validity. Topics include fundamentals of logic and analysis, the concept of ‘definition,’ conceptual analysis, logical fallacies, deduction and induction, analytic and synthetic propositions, and scientific method and explanation.

Prerequisite: None

**PHIL1002  ETHICS AND APPLIED ETHICS**

This course introduces students to the theories of the nature and justification of ethical concepts and decision procedures. Issues include the relation between motivation and moral justification. It addresses the question whether morality is objective or subjective, relative or absolute, and whether moral knowledge is possible. It considers the relation between morality and phenomena such as legality, religion, politics, and conscience. The course also critically outlines some of the major theories of moral goodness and right action and their relationship with duty. Issues in applied ethics are explored to introduce students to burning contemporary moral issues.

Prerequisite: None

**PHIL1003  INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY**

This course introduces students with no prior knowledge of philosophy to the perennial issues in philosophy which arise out of the search for truth and meaning in life: good and evil, appearance and reality, the rational grounds for belief in God, scepticism and knowledge, social justice. We attempt to examine also basic issues of human existence such as conceptions of human nature, meaning of life, freedom, death and afterlife. The course emphasizes critical thinking and the value of understanding through the use of reasoning and reasoned argumentation.

Prerequisite: None

**PHIL1004  HISTORY OF ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY**

This course examines the historical development of critical, sustained and reflective thinking of humans in ancient and pre-Christian societies (African, Asian, Eastern, American, European to the time of Thales) with a view to understanding the antecedents of contemporary philosophy on the one hand, and the variations of themes and factors responsible for such variations in various societies and cultures. For the Caribbean, located in the gateway between the Americas, the investigation of the intellectual foundations of the ancestors of the peoples of the region is urgent and pressing. This course provides the opportunity for this investigation.

Prerequisite: None
PHIL1006 THE MEANING OF LIFE AND EXISTENCE

The course is a critical reflection on issues that relate to the question of life and human existence across diverse cultural settings. It explores the concept of life, its purpose, and the conditions for its fulfillment. It also examines the notion of the self, and its relation to the notion of the other within a social and political setting, and the notion of death and the question of life after death.

Prerequisite: None

PHIL2001 PARADOX ANALYSIS (not currently offered)

This is entirely a problem oriented course. We will consider a series of paradoxes, some of which are interrelated, some of which originate in the last couple of decades and some of which are of longer history - dating back to the Pre-Socratics. This approach will not only allow us to study a wide range of issues in such areas as philosophy of mind, epistemology and ethics, but more importantly, it will lead to an understanding of different contemporary analytic techniques for tackling philosophical problems which challenge our attempts to understand the world.

Prerequisite: PHIL1001

PHIL2002 THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE

This course is problem oriented, and critically explores contemporary answers to such questions as: What is knowledge? What are the limitations of knowledge? What is belief? The course also examines the status and extent of our knowledge of the world, of ourselves, and of others. Problems about the nature of knowledge, the justification of claims of knowledge, the relationship of knowledge to belief and truth, perception, and the viability of scepticism will be discussed.

Prerequisite: Any level-1 Philosophy course

PHIL2003 PHILOSOPHY OF MIND

This course offers an examination of major philosophic theories of the human mind. The traditional dualistic theory that the mind and body are distinctly different will be contrasted with contemporary logical behaviourism and with the modern materialist's theory that the mental can be explained in terms of brain states and brain functions. The course considers the relation between thoughts and sensations and neurological processes, between mental states and brain states. It also considers the existence of animal intelligence and of artificial intelligence.

Prerequisite: None

PHIL2004 PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

This course considers philosophical questions pertaining to the nature, extent and significance of scientific knowledge. Problems will be discussed about the nature of scientific theories and models, about scientific explanation and prediction, about scientific growth, and the relationship between science, religion and morality. It will address the nature of truth in science and justification in science will be discussed, and consider whether science is a product of interest or is universal.

Prerequisite: None

PHIL2005 PHILOSOPHY OF LANGUAGE (not currently offered)

This course provides the forum for the exploration of the issues which connect language, logic, communication, intention, representation, predication and understanding. It explores the intersection that these create in our determination of meaning and truth. Topics include the relation between thought and language, between language and the world, between linguistic meaning and other kinds of meaning.

Prerequisite: None
PHIL2006    METAPHYSICS
This course examines critically the definition, nature and subject matter of metaphysics and truth in metaphysics. It surveys the principal types of theories of reality that have been produced in western philosophy, e.g., materialism, idealism, dualism, monism, atomism, and investigates major problems and concepts in metaphysics, such as time, space, substance, essence, free will and determinism, causality, the nature of the self and the problem of universals.
Prerequisite: Any level-I philosophy course

PHIL2601    AFRICAN PHILOSOPHY I
This course explores in-depth the African foundation of Greek philosophy. It explores the nature of philosophical thought in pre-classical and classical worlds as found in Asia Minor and Africa. It discusses issues in such areas of philosophy as epistemology, metaphysics, axiology, logic, political philosophy and philosophies of religion from traditional and contemporary African philosophical perspectives. Critical attention will be paid to issues of analysis in philosophy and other forms of philosophical methods.
Prerequisite: None

PHIL2602    AFRICAN PHILOSOPHY II
This course explores the philosophical and meta-philosophical issues that have pervaded contemporary African philosophical terrain. These include the ontological question in African philosophy and tradition of thinking, peculiarities of philosophy in "oral" societies, the relation between myth, legend, history and religion in philosophy, the natural order of things, phases of discourse, Bantu philosophy and the Intellectualist Thesis.
Prerequisite: Any level-I philosophy course or PHIL2601

PHIL2701    PHILOSOPHY IN LITERATURE (not currently offered)
Works of literature are sometimes representations of philosophical problems as lived experiences and as such provide opportunities for discussion of philosophy and life. This course is an examination of a number of central philosophical issues as they are reflected in literary works. Among the issues examined are the question of God and the problem of evil, determinism, free will and fatalism, freedom and man's search for identity, the meaning of life and the obligation to obey the law.
Prerequisite: None

PHIL2702    INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY OF ART
Civilizations document their existence in three broad ways: their deeds, their works and their art. This course is devoted to an examination of the philosophical issues in art. It considers the question what is art, what is its value, what role does it play in society, and whether aesthetic experience is different from other kinds of experience. It also asks whether art should be judged on moral grounds, and whether art is universally intelligible. It extends these questions also to modern manifestations such as fashion shows, pageants, and designs.
Prerequisite: None

PHIL2902    MODERN PHILOSOPHY (not currently offered)
This course studies what has become known as the school of rationalism, in which three philosophers stand out: Descartes, Spinoza and Leibniz. The course then proceeds to study the school of empiricism, where the works of three figures loom large: Locke, Berkeley and Hume. Finally, Kant's philosophy is considered as a reaction to both rationalism and empiricism. The course covers a selection of topics drawn from the works of these philosophers with an emphasis on their metaphysical and epistemological aspects.
Prerequisite: None
PHIL3006 AMERICAN PHILOSOPHY

The twentieth century saw the spread of American influence in the world. This course is aimed at developing students’ understanding of the intellectual and cultural foundations of American society. It asks whether there is a distinct American philosophical tradition, and will be devoted to reflections on issues pertaining to the origins of American philosophy within the context of Puritanism; American intellectual attempts to deal with revolution, slavery and racism; and notions of globalization, democracy and regime change, and the War on Terror.

Prerequisite: None

PHIL3012 PHILOSOPHY OF LAW

This course provides a systematic consideration of the fundamental issues in the conception and practice of law, including the origin of law, issues pertaining to sovereignty and subject, legitimacy and autonomy, ethics and justice, democracy and the law, gender and the law, discrimination and reverse discrimination, war and laws, and sanctity of life and law – addressing suicide, capital punishment, cloning, organ transplantation, etc. It provides a forum for the discussion of such perennial themes in legal theory as the nature and function of law, its relation to morality, and its connection with social policy. We look at philosophical issues in crime, civil rights, punishment, and the legislation of morality.

Prerequisite: None

PHIL3018 PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

The basic question which this course tries to raise is whether human beings have the ability to explore, understand and communicate knowledge of an experience that is supernatural. The course will critically examine classical modern, and contemporary views about religious beliefs, claims and experiences. Various claims have often been made in religion – that God exists, that human beings have souls and that such souls are immortal, that miracles exist, that prayers are efficacious, etc. This course asks whether such claims can be rationally defended, given the fact that they pertain to matters which go beyond physical experience.

Prerequisite: None

PHIL3025 CARIBBEAN PHILOSOPHY

This course will deal with Caribbean attempts to understand, represent and interpret reality in all spheres of life, and and engage in critical reflection on the various beliefs and cultural practices of the Caribbean, such as Caribbean conceptions of being, knowledge, ethics, aesthetics, and sexuality. The course will address the question of the existence of a Caribbean philosophy, and the influences on it of Western and African philosophies. Attention will focus on such social and political traditions and issues as Garveyism, Rastafari, Carnival, religious diversities, sports, and sexuality. The course will also explore Marxist perspectives on Caribbean philosophy.

Prerequisite: None

PHIL3026 PHILOSOPHY OF ISLAMIC LAW (not currently offered)

The contemporary world finds ever increasing commerce between Western Societies, their appendages and the Islamic World. An understanding of the principles by which the Islamic world operates is important, therefore, from the point of view of comparative philosophy, comparative law, international relations and international trade, cooperation and business. This requires exposure to the Qur’an and the Hadith which are foundations on which Islamic Jurisprudence is based. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with and undertake an analysis of the origin, sources, and schools of Muslim Law and to gain an understanding of the important difference between Sunnis and Shi’ites schools of law.

Prerequisite: None
PHIL3099  RESEARCH IN PHILOSOPHY (year-long)

This year-long course begins with a consideration of different methods of philosophical research. It provides an avenue for critical readings in classical and non-classical works in philosophy, with the objective of developing an awareness of how different philosophers have dealt with issues in the past and in our contemporary time. The course will culminate in the selection and development of research topics and the production of a research essay.

Prerequisites: PHIL1001, PHIL1002, PHIL1003, PHIL2002, PHIL2003, and PHIL2006

This course is a substitute for HUMN3099.

PHIL3510  PHILOSOPHY OF SEX AND LOVE

This course investigates approaches to love, friendship, marriage, and eroticism in both classical and contemporary philosophy. It involves an investigation of the nature of sex and the nature of love and of the conceptual relationship between sexuality and love. It also explores the concepts of gender, gender roles and gender equality, and investigates social, ethical and legal controversies regarding sexual behaviour, marriage, and privacy. Metaphysical (e.g., what is sex?), epistemological (can a member of one sex really know what it is for someone of the opposite sex to experience sexual intercourse?) and ethical queries (is pre-marital sex moral or immoral?) are tackled in this course.

Prerequisite: None

PHIL3601  RECENT PHILOSOPHY I

This course introduces students to the philosophical theories, themes and perspectives of the twentieth century. These include existentialism, phenomenology, Marxism, utilitarianism, analytic philosophy, pragmatism, nihilism, pacifism, intuitionism, linguistic philosophy, positivism and phenomenalism. The course will attempt to underscore the multifaceted nature of the philosophical perspectives of the age.

Prerequisite: None

PHIL3602  RECENT PHILOSOPHY II

This course introduces students to the major issues which have arisen within contemporary philosophical debate toward the closing decades of the twentieth century. The course will present a survey of the major debates and attendant movements such as rationality, objectivity, universalism, ecosophy, racism, racialism, multiculturalism, liberalism, ethnicity, ethnocentrism, feminism, gender philosophy, and patriarchalism. The contributions of contemporary philosophical traditions of non-Western cultures to the formulation of issues and debates in recent philosophy will be seriously discussed.

Prerequisite: PHIL3601 or one level-I philosophy course

PHIL3802  19th CENTURY CONTINENTAL PHILOSOPHY (not currently offered)

Continental Philosophy is an umbrella term that conventionally refers to the philosophical work coming out of France, Germany, and elsewhere in continental Europe since the beginning of the nineteenth century. This course concentrates on the nineteenth century period of Continental Philosophy where three post-Kantian philosophers along with the originators of phenomenology occupy a central place: Hegel, Schopenhauer, Nietzsche, Brentano and Husserl. The course is designed to initiate students into the intricacies of their thoughts and their impact on the subsequent development of Continental Philosophy.

Prerequisite: None

PHIL3803  20th CENTURY CONTINENTAL PHILOSOPHY (not currently offered)

This course is intended to cover some of the major figures of twentieth century Continental Philosophy and their relevance to issues such as post-modernism and feminism. They include philosophers like Heidegger, Merleau-Ponty, Sartre, Foucault, Derrida and Rorty.

Prerequisite: None