

Brief Course Outline

Course Title: Philosophy of Risk

Course Number and Section: PHILOSOP 2263F 550

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Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

Drawing on probability and decision theory, ethics, and legal philosophy, the course will deal with personal choice and the perception of risk, the moral and social acceptability of risks, and the legal management of risk.

Learning Outcomes:

- 1. Describe philosophical theories concerning risk.
- 2. Apply these theories to concrete situations.
- 3. Discuss competing points of view on issues in philosophy of risk.
- 4. Evaluate conflicting philosophical arguments related to these issues.
- 5. Formulate well-reasoned solutions to practical dilemmas.
- 6. Persuade others of a well-reasoned stance or action.
- 7. Demonstrate skillful critical and reflective thinking.

Textbooks and Course Materials:

Risk: Philosophical Perspectives, Tim Lewens ed., Routledge (2007). Available through Western's bookstore

Laws of Fear: Beyond the Precautionary Principle, Sunstein, Carl, Cambridge (2005). Available through Western's bookstore.

Methods Of Evaluation:

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Attendance	12/06/24	10
Midterm Exam #1	10/05/24	30

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Midterm Exam #2	11/09/24	30
Final Exam	TBA	30

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.

Tuesday, August 20, 2024