

**HURON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE**  
*Philosophy 3750: Embodiment*  
**Course Outline, Fall 2021 ~ J. Epp**

**Mon. 11:30-12:30 pm**  
**Wed. 11:30-1:30 pm**  
**Location: HC-A1**

**Instructor: Dr. Jennifer Epp**  
**Office: A304**  
**Office hours: Thurs. 1:00-2:00 pm on Zoom**  
**or by appt.**  
**Email: [jepp6@uwo.ca](mailto:jepp6@uwo.ca)**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

In this course, we will investigate the philosophical implications of corporeal existence. In the history of Philosophy, bodies have been conceptually separated from minds, rationality, and personhood. That separation has had profound social, political, ethical, and ecological effects. Making use of insights from Phenomenology; Feminist, Disability, and Critical Race Theory; and Cognitive Science, we will examine those effects and consider alternate theories of embodiment that avoid splitting the mental from the physical and the self from the body. Instead, these theories place people back into their bodies within sociomaterial, relational, and more-than-human worlds. But then, if we are not purely thinking things, who and how are we and what might that mean about how we should live?

Other questions may include: What does it mean to be embodied? Are bodies something that we have or something that we are? Ought or can they be transcended? How should we respond to vulnerability and interdependence? What does bodily difference have to do with being human, or a person, and how does that difference come to be and be interpreted? Are our bodies discrete? What and where is the mind? Should we pursue genetic or surgical bodily enhancement? Do we own our bodies? Can we sell them/ourselves or their/our parts? What can we learn from considering bodily experiences and capacities such as pregnancy, aging, menstruation, eating, etc.? How do bodies come to be racialized, gendered, or dis/abled? How have idealized images of the human affected political structures? Can you experience yourself as a subject and an object simultaneously? What do human bodies have to do with the more-than-human world? How do inter/subjectivity, selfhood, corporeality, and identity relate?

Please do add any questions of your own to our discussions. If there is a topic you would like to cover, or a question you would like to think about, raise it and we will see where it might fit in.

**COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

- 1) To develop student's abilities to identify, understand, construct and critique philosophical arguments. To meet this objective, students will enhance their oral and written communication skills, active listening skills, analytical ability, and potential for creative problem solving via written assignments, collaborative exercises in interpretation, and discussion.

- 2) To familiarize students with a central debate in metaphysics and to illuminate connections between metaphysics and social, moral, and political philosophy. To meet this objective, students will read relevant literature and engage in written exegesis, conceptual analysis, and respectful debate. Discussions will directly address connections between different areas of philosophical thought and touch on methodology.
- 3) To provide students with opportunities to connect theory with their lived experiences and to see how theory might matter in the world (pun intended). To meet this objective, students will participate in-class and at-home practical exercises based on the theme given in the readings for that week, and reflect on those exercises in a journal.

### **OFFICE HOURS**

Thursdays 1:00-2:00 pm EST by Zoom. **Meeting ID: 977 1420 5534** and **Passcode: 568844**. See full invitation below. Or by appointment. Do not hesitate to contact me at [jepp6@uwo.ca](mailto:jepp6@uwo.ca) to arrange a meeting.

### **CLASS METHODS**

This course consists of three hours of class per week **in-person, unless otherwise announced**. We may sometimes move outside after beginning indoors. Check the Announcements section on OWL and your Huron email regularly. The class will include lecture time, as well as time for group exercises and class discussion. Participation is highly encouraged and students are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the readings.

### **MASKS**

**Must be properly worn in class at all times.** Those not properly wearing masks will be asked to leave. **Please do not eat or drink in class.** We will take a **short break on Wednesdays** for that purpose. Social distance in class when possible.

### **TEXTS**

*50 Concepts for a Critical\* Phenomenology*, (2020). ed. Gail Weiss, Ann V. Murphy, and Gayle Salamon. Northwestern University Press. This text will be available at the Bookstore and is available on-line through UWO Libraries.

All other readings can be found either on the internet, via UWO Libraries, or in the Resources section of OWL. Addresses for web-based readings are given in the Syllabus/Reading list below.

### **REQUIRMENTS:**

<b>Participation</b>		<b>15%</b>
<b>Essay, due Nov. 20</b>		<b>25%</b>
<b>Journal Entry Exchange, due Sept. 25</b>		<b>10%</b>
<b>Journal, due Dec. 8</b>		<b>25%</b>
<b>Take Home Exam</b>		<b>25%</b>

## **ASSIGNMENTS:**

Submit all assignments, except the Journal Entry Exchange, to the **Assignments section of OWL**. If you have trouble submitting through OWL e-mail your assignment to [jepp6@uwo.ca](mailto:jepp6@uwo.ca) to prevent it from being counted as late. Submit the Journal Entry Exchange assignment on the **Forum section of OWL**.

**Details and evaluation criteria** for all assignments will also appear in the **Assignments** section.

## **ANONYMOUS GRADING:**

To avoid bias I grade most of your assignments and the exam **anonymously**.

- **Use student numbers, not names, on your essay, journal, and the exam.** The journal exchange is not anonymous.
- **Save documents** using your **student number, assignment name, and topic**. E.g. “250111111, Essay 1, Hobbes”
- Yes, you may still discuss your essays with me! Getting early feedback and assistance is more important than anonymity.

**OWL: check the Announcements section of OWL regularly.**

## **PLAIGIARISM:**

Work submitted to the Assignments section in OWL is automatically sent to Turnitin.com (a plagiarism checking service). Papers are not graded until they are submitted and checked there.

You may not submit assignments, or portions of assignments, that have been prepared for other courses. All instances of suspected plagiarism will be taken very seriously. Make sure to **cite all direct quotes, use quotation marks, cite all ideas that you got from somewhere else even if you are not using quotes, and include a bibliography or footnotes of any external resources that you use in anything submitted for this class.**

## **ACCESSIBILITY:**

Your success is important to me and there are many ways to learn. Feel free to discuss your learning needs with me during office hours or by e-mail. Together we will find ways to make the class accessible and productive for you.

Life can get in the way of school sometimes. If you run into difficulties and need assistance, please talk to me by email or during office hours (which will be private). I will do my best to support your success during the term. In addition to disability or wellness, I accommodate for employment and family responsibilities. For accommodations on assignments worth more than

10% please also (or instead if you prefer), speak with an academic counsellor. See Academic Advising at Huron: <https://huronatwestern.ca/academic-advising>.

If I have concerns about your academic performance or wellbeing, I may identify them through Early Alert. With Early Alert (HEART), faculty members can connect you with advisors and wellness staff who offer students support and assistance in getting back on track. Only members of HEART can access concerns and Early Alert does not affect your academic record.

For information about addressing mental or physical health concerns, including seeing a Huron Wellness counsellor, please visit <https://huronatwestern.ca/wellness-services>.

I encourage students with disabilities to use the Services for Students with Disabilities provided by the Student Development Centre at Western including the provision of note-takers, learning strategies assistance, assignment and exam accommodations, and sign-language interpreters. The Accessibility Services Office is located on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the Student Services Building, room 4111. See <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/> for more information or call (519) 661-2147.

**LATE POLICY:**

Late assignments are accepted with a penalty of 2% per day (weekends included), but are not accepted after the last day of class without accommodation from an academic counselor. Late Forum posts are not accepted.

**Reading List**

	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Article</b>	<b>Author</b>
<b>Sept. 8</b>	<b>Course Introduction &amp; Bodies in the History of Philosophy</b>	<b><i>Phaedo</i>, selected paragraphs.</b> Use Ctrl F (search) to find the following passage: Begin at “For the body is a source of endless trouble” and read until “and probably at the same time a lover of either money or power, or both?” <a href="http://classics.mit.edu/Plato/phaedo.html">http://classics.mit.edu/Plato/phaedo.html</a>  <b>Nichomachean Ethics, Book I, 13</b> <a href="http://classics.mit.edu/Aristotle/nicomachaen.1.i.html">http://classics.mit.edu/Aristotle/nicomachaen.1.i.html</a>	<b>Plato</b>   <b>Aristotle</b>
<b>Sept. 13 &amp; 15</b>	<b>Bodies in the History of Philosophy</b>	<b>“Meditation Six: Concerning the Existence of Material Things and the Real Distinction Between Mind and Body”</b> from <i>Meditations on First</i>	<b>Descartes</b>

		<i>Philosophy</i> <a href="https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/lib/west/detail.action?docID=601011">https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/lib/west/detail.action?docID=601011</a>  <b>“Where does your mind reside?”</b> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3SJROTXnmus">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3SJROTXnmus</a>	<b>Crash Course Philosophy</b>
<b>Sept. 20 &amp; 22</b>  <b>Journal Exchange due Sept. 25</b>	<b>Bodies in Phenomenology</b>	<b>“Critical Phenomenology”</b>  <b>“Intercorporeality”</b>  <b>“The habit body”</b>	<b>Lisa Guenther</b>  <b>Scott Marratto</b>  <b>Helen Fielding</b>
<b>Sept. 27 &amp; 29</b>	<b>Bodies in Phenomenology</b>	<b>“Multiple Moving Perceptions of the Real”</b>	<b>Helen Fielding</b>
<b>Oct. 4 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Bodies in Phenomenology</b>	<b>“Pregnant Embodiment”</b> <a href="https://oxford-universitypressscholarship-com.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/view/10.1093/0195161920.001.0001/acprof-9780195161922">https://oxford-universitypressscholarship-com.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/view/10.1093/0195161920.001.0001/acprof-9780195161922</a>	<b>Iris Young</b>
<b>Oct. 13</b>	<b>Touch</b>	<b>“Intentional Bodily Contact and the Construction of Subjectivity”</b> Class notes & lecture (no reading)	<b>Jennifer Epp</b>
<b>Oct. 18 &amp; 20</b>	<b>Skin</b>	<b>“A Skin of One’s Own”</b>	<b>Jay Prosser</b>
<b>Oct. 25 &amp; 27</b>	<b>Bodies in Disability Theory</b>	<b>Class Choice, one of:</b>  <b>“Dependency Relations”</b>  Selections from <b>“The Bioethics of Enhancement”</b>	<b>Shiloh Whitney</b>  <b>Melinda Hall</b>

		<p><b>“Misfits”</b></p> <p>Other topics: Normalization; Compulsory able-bodiedness; The right to maim; Books by Eli Clare (<i>Exile and Pride</i> and <i>Brilliant Imperfection</i>)</p>	Judith Garland-Thompson
Nov.1 & 3	Reading Week	...	...
Nov. 8 & 10	Bodies in Critical Race Theory	<p><b>“Confiscated Bodies”</b></p> <p><b>“The Sovereignty of Indigenous People’s Bodies”</b></p> <p><b>Recommended: “The Return of the Black Body”</b> (search the Phil Papers database and use UWO Libraries)</p> <p>Other topics: The racial epidermal schema; Brown jouissance; Surveillance; and World-travelling.</p>	<p>George Yancy</p> <p>Leanne Simpson</p> <p>George Yancy</p>
Nov. 15 & 17	In the More-Than-Human World	<b>“Species Trouble”</b>	James Stanescu
Nov. 22 & 24	In the More-Than-Human World	Selections from <i>The Spell of the Sensuous</i> or <i>Becoming Animal</i> TBA	David Abrams
Nov. 29 & Dec. 1	<b>Class Choice</b>	Topics: Eros; Yoga; Spinoza, Food.	TBA

<p><b>Dec. 6 &amp; 8</b></p> <p><b>Journal due Dec 8</b></p>	<p><b>Bodies in Cognitive Science: Embodied Cognition &amp; Extended Minds</b></p>	<p><a href="#">George Lakoff - How Does Philosophy Illuminate the Physical World?</a></p> <p><a href="#">Embodied Cognition Karl Friston</a></p> <p><a href="#">Andy Clark - What is the Mind-Body Problem?</a></p>	<p><b>Closer to Truth</b></p> <p><b>Serious Science</b></p> <p><b>Closer to Truth</b></p>
<p><b>Dec. 10-21</b></p>	<p><b>Exam Period</b></p>		

## OFFICE HOURS

Jennifer Epp is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Office Hours

Time: Sep 9, 2021 13:00 Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Thursday from Sept 9 until Dec 9, 2021, 14 occurrence(s)

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Weekly:

<https://westernuniversity.zoom.us/meeting/tJMqdu2qrj4vGdA8S6bBR10npXyrjChpRzfx/ics?icsToken=98tyKuCvqTouGNSQtRqDRowEB4j4LOrziCVYjad8xCyzAQJhblP4JtpbILhcGMji>

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://westernuniversity.zoom.us/j/97714205534>

**Meeting ID: 977 1420 5534**

**Passcode: 568844**

**One tap mobile**

+16475580588,,97714205534#,,, \*568844# Canada

**Dial by your location**

+1 647 558 0588 Canada

**Meeting ID: 977 1420 5534**

**Passcode: 568844**

Find your local number: <https://westernuniversity.zoom.us/u/abGCSEh2QF>

**Join by SIP**

97714205534@zoomcrc.com

**Join by H.323**

162.255.37.11 (US West)

162.255.36.11 (US East)

69.174.57.160 (Canada Toronto)

65.39.152.160 (Canada Vancouver)

**Meeting ID: 977 1420 5534****Passcode: 568844****Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations 2021 - 2022****Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information**

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

**Pandemic Contingency**

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, typically using a combination of synchronous instruction (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) and asynchronous material (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online at the discretion of the course instructor. In the unlikely event that changes to the grading scheme are necessary, these changes will be clearly communicated as soon as possible.

**Student Code of Conduct**

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf>.

**Attendance Regulations for Examinations**

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:



- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Review the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/exam/attendance.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/attendance.pdf).

### **Statement on Academic Offences**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf). The appeals process is also outlined in this policy as well as more generally at the following website:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf).

### **Turnitin.com**

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

### **Statement on Use of Electronic Devices**

It is not appropriate to use electronic devices (such as, but not limited to, laptops, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

### **Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)**

Personal Response Systems (“clickers”) may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else’s clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

### **Academic Consideration for Missed Work**

Students who are seeking academic consideration for missed work during the semester may submit a self-reported absence form online provided that the absence is **48 hours or less** and the other conditions specified in the Senate policy at

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_illness.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf) are met.

Students whose absences are expected to last **longer than 48 hours**, or where the other conditions detailed in the policy are not met (e.g., work is worth more than 30% of the final grade, the student has

already used 2 self-reported absences, the absence is during the final exam period), may receive academic consideration by submitting a Student Medical Certificate (for illness) or other appropriate documentation (for compassionate grounds). The Student Medical Certificate is available online at [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf).

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. **Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.**

Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine appropriate forms of accommodation. Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>.

### **Policy on Academic Consideration for a Medical/ Non-Medical Absence**

#### **(a) Consideration on Medical Grounds for assignments worth *less than 10%* of final grade: Consult Instructor Directly and Contact Academic Advising**

When seeking consideration on **medical grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of the final course grade, and if the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported absences, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. If documentation is requested, the student will need to complete and submit the [Student Medical Certificate](#). The instructor may **not** collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

#### **(b) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email [huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto:huronsss@uwo.ca).**

Students seeking academic consideration for a **non-medical** absence (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, or bereavement) will be required to provide appropriate documentation where the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence have not been met, including where the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported. All consideration requests must include a completed [Consideration Request Form](#). Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

Please review the full policy on Academic Consideration for medical and non-medical absence at: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_illness.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf). Consult [Huron Academic Advising](#) at [huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto:huronsss@uwo.ca) for any further questions or information.

### **Support Services**

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should email an Academic Advisor in Huron's Student Support Services at [huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto:huronsss@uwo.ca). An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>.

Department Chairs, Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about individual programs. Contact information can be found on the Huron website at:

<https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/faculty-staff-directory/>.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Advising website,

<https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/> or review the list of official

Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here:

<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm>.

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

Huron Student Support Services: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>

Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/>

Student Quick Reference Guide: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1>

Academic Support & Engagement: <http://academicssupport.uwo.ca/>

Huron University College Student Council: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyond-classroom/hucsc/>

Western USC: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices>

### **Mental Health & Wellness Support at Huron and Western**

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance.

Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. Please visit

<https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety> for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services: [huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca)

Community Safety Office: [safety@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:safety@huron.uwo.ca)

Chaplaincy: [gthorne@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:gthorne@huron.uwo.ca)

Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through,

<https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.