A selection of 1st Semester 2013-2014 Philosophy Electives

**Ph 144/212 – PHILOSOPHY OF SOCIETY**
DE CHARETENYEY, PIERRE, SJ
Tu 1500-1800
At each step of the development of the Social Doctrine of the church, the urgency of a social problem has pushed the church to work and find an ethical approach corresponding to Gospel values. An attempt will be made to see how various organizations (such as International Union of Christian Executives, or Uniapac) apply the social doctrine of the Church. Other applications could be attempted through various studies made of concrete situations in the Phil.

**Ph 151/223 – RICOEUR**
GARCIA, LEONINO
Tu 1800-2100
As “the philosopher of all dialogues,” Paul Ricoeur helped make the term “hermeneutics” a household word. On the occasion of the centenary of his birth, this course will deal not only on his Hermeneutics but on his Philosophy of the Will and his Social-Political Philosophy.

**Ph 133/252 – PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE**
MARIANO, MICHAEL NER
TTh 1330-1500
What makes science science? What is the relationship between science and reality? Is there objectivity in science? Is science essential to becoming human? Let us explore these and other questions about the nature of science along with thinkers such as Popper, Kuhn, Latatros, Feyerabend, Quine, Salmon, van Fraassen, and others. [Prerequisites: Non science majors should have taken Sci 10.]

**Ph 201 – ADVANCED REFLEXIVE METAPHYSICS**
ROSARIO, TOMAS
TTh 1800-1930
With the guidance of noted Thomist scholars, the teacher and the students of the course would attempt to determine St. Thomas’s conception of being and, in particular, whether his conception could buttress the claim that his metaphysics is a philosophy of existence. In view of the abovementioned goal, primary texts from the De ente et essentia and from the Summa theologica will be examined with the help of established Thomists like Baez, Gilson, Kockelmans, and Kenny.

**Ph 157.4/227.4 – COSMOLOGY (PHILOSOPHY OF NATURE)**
DE SCHRIJVER, GEORGES, SJ
Th-Fr 1800-2100, from July 18 - Sept. 5
A chronological survey of the theories on the origin and structure of the universe starting from Plato’s Timaeus up to the most current writings on string theory. The course examines the relationship of these theories to belief in God.

**Ph 251/320.17 – WITTGENSTEIN**
LEE, ZOSIMO
Fr 1700-2000

**Ph 209/303 – CONTEMPORARY ETHICAL PROBLEMS / ADVANCED THEORIES IN ETHICS**
CLEOFAS, JACKLYN
Sat 0900-1200
Virtue and Situationalism
Numerous experiments in social psychology demonstrate that variables such as loud noises, ambient temperature, very slight elevations in good mood, being in a hurry, and many others decisively influence subjects’ behavior in a way that negatively impacts their helping behavior. Because there are literally hundreds of experiments like these philosophical situationists argue that virtue or character in general and compassion in particular are untenable ethical concepts. This course will focus on understanding the situationist challenge to virtue with a view towards making an effective reply to it by developing an empirically adequate understanding of character.

**Ph 272/320.15 – NIETZSCHE and FREUD**
TAN, JEAN
Th 1630-1930
The seminar will explore the similarities in their thoughts, focusing on such ideas as instinct/drives, the unconscious, repression, sublimation, temporality, and culture, while situating these topics within the larger context of each thinker’s corpus, thus inquiring into the differences in their approaches to the broad questions regarding the relation between force and meaning, between the physical and the psychological, between psychology and philosophy.

The seminar will have three parts: first, reading a selection of Nietzsche’s works (such as Beyond Good and Evil, Genealogy of Morals, Gay Science); second, reading a selection of Freud’s theoretical writings (such as sections of Interpretation of Dreams, metapsychological papers, Beyond the Pleasure Principle, The Ego and the Id, Civilization and its Discontents); third, reading Paul Laurence Assouline’s comparative study of the two thinkers.

**Ph 340.5 – PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION**
DE LA TOUR, MARINE
Mo 1800-2100
“Thou shalt do all that which was commanded thee.” Despite repeated attempts of refutation, the so-called “ontological argument” has remained a powerful idea throughout the history of Philosophy. This course studies Anselm’s text and some of the most significant interpretations of the argument. It discusses the epistemological and metaphysical issues at stake, and explores the constitutive relation of the human mind to the absolute to which the argument points.