

COURSE OUTLINE			
TERM: Spring 2024		COURSE NO: PHIL 302	
INSTRUCTOR:		COURSE TITLE: <i>Knowledge and Truth</i>	
OFFICE:	LOCAL:	SECTION NO(S):	CREDITS: 3.0
E-MAIL:	@capilanou.ca		
OFFICE HOURS:			
COURSE WEBSITE:			

Capilano University acknowledges with respect the Líl'wat7úl (Lil'wat), xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), shíshálh (Sechelt), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) people on whose territories our campuses are located.

COURSE FORMAT

Three hours of class time, plus an additional hour delivered through on-line or other activities for a 15-week semester, which includes two weeks for final exams.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

45 credits of 100-level or higher coursework

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course deals with a core area of philosophy—the theory of knowledge: epistemology. Epistemology deals with knowledge in its most general terms - its nature, scope, and limits. Central questions addressed include: What is knowledge? What does it take for a belief to be justified? Does justification depend on providing some reason supporting the belief, or can we know something without knowing that (or how) we know it? This course will examine these and related questions through a selection of papers and articles from many of the key figures in epistemology, focusing primarily on the arguments of epistemologists in contemporary debate.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND/OR RESOURCES

Course materials may vary by instructor. Readings will be made available on eLearn or through the Library.

COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:

- An ability to accurately and clearly explain the key concepts of epistemology

- An advanced understanding of the major epistemological theories and the positions covered in the course.
- An ability to thoughtfully and critically discuss abstract questions relating to knowledge and truth.
- An appreciation of the complexities underlying the general project of enquiry, and consequent to that, an enhanced sense of humility in the face of those complexities.
- An enhanced confidence and ability at critically challenging often uncritically accepted assumptions, including their own assumptions or beliefs.
- An ability to apply their understanding of epistemology to a variety of diverse fields of enquiry.
- An enhanced general ability to understand and critically examine complex lines of reasoning.
- An enhanced general ability to construct and express, verbally and in writing, complex lines of reasoning.

COURSE CONTENT

Note: Course content may vary by instructor.

Week	Topic
Week 1	Introduction and the Definition of Knowledge
Week 2	What is Knowledge? Addressing Gettier
Week 3	Skepticism about the External World
Week 4	Skepticism and its Limits
Week 5	<i>A Priori</i> Knowledge
Week 6	Skepticism about Induction
Week 7	Foundationalism and Coherentism
Week 8	Foundationalism and Coherentism
Week 9	Contextualism
Week 10	Internalism and Externalism
Week 11	Internalism and Externalism
Week 12	Internalism and Externalism
Week 13	Some Radical Challenges to Epistemology
Weeks 14-15	Final Exam Period

EVALUATION PROFILE

Attendance and Participation* – 10%

Online activities – 20%

Essay 1 – 20%

Essay 2 – 20%

Final Exam – 30%

Total = 100%

* Class participation requires, minimally, attending to what is going on in the class and participating in group discussions or other in-class activities

GRADING PROFILE

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D = 50-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	F = 0-49
A- = 80-84	B- = 70-72	C- = 60-62	

Incomplete Grades

Grades of Incomplete “I” are assigned only in exceptional circumstances when a student requests extra time to complete their coursework. Such agreements are made only at the request of the student, who is responsible to determine from the instructor the outstanding requirements of the course.

Late Assignments

Assignments are due at the beginning of the class on the due date listed. Late assignments may be accepted at the instructor’s discretion.

Missed Exams/Quizzes/Labs, etc.

Make-up exams, quizzes and/or tests are given at the discretion of the instructor. They are generally given only in medical emergencies, due to severe personal crises, or to honour community needs and traditional practices (arranged ahead of time where possible). Some missed activities may not be able to be accommodated. Please consult with your instructor.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes and associated activities.

English Usage

Students are expected to proofread all written work for any grammatical, spelling, and stylistic errors. Instructors may deduct marks for incorrect grammar and spelling in written assignments.

Electronic Devices

Students may use electronic devices during class for note taking only.

On-line Communication

Outside of the classroom, instructors will (if necessary) communicate with students using either their official Capilano University email or eLearn; please check both regularly. Official communication between Capilano University and students is delivered to students' Capilano University email addresses only.

UNIVERSITY OPERATIONAL DETAILS**Tools for Success**

Many services are available to support student success for Capilano University students. A central navigation point for all services can be found at: <https://www.capilanou.ca/student-services/>

Capilano University Security: download the [CapU Mobile Safety App](#)

Policy Statement (S2009-06)

Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grade), Student Conduct, Academic Integrity, Academic Probation and other educational issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.

Academic Integrity (S2017-05)

Any instance of academic dishonesty or breach of the standards of academic integrity is serious and students will be held accountable for their actions, whether acting alone or in a group. See policy and procedures S2017-05 Academic Integrity for more information: <https://www.capilanou.ca/about-capu/governance/policies/>

Violations of academic integrity, including dishonesty in assignments, examinations, or other academic performances, are prohibited and will be handled in accordance with the Student Academic Integrity Procedures.

Academic dishonesty is any act that breaches one or more of the principles of academic integrity. Acts of academic dishonesty may include but are not limited to the following types:

Cheating: Using or providing unauthorized aids, assistance or materials while preparing or completing assessments, or when completing practical work (in clinical, practicum, or lab settings), including but not limited to the following:

- Copying or attempting to copy the work of another during an assessment;
- Communicating work to another student during an examination;
- Using unauthorized aids, notes, or electronic devices or means during an examination;
- Unauthorized possession of an assessment or answer key; and/or,
- Submitting of a substantially similar assessment by two or more students, except in the case where such submission is specifically authorized by the instructor.

Fraud: Creation or use of falsified documents.

Misuse or misrepresentation of sources: Presenting source material in such a way as to distort its original purpose or implication(s); misattributing words, ideas, etc. to someone other than the original source; misrepresenting or manipulating research findings or data; and/or suppressing aspects of findings or data in order to present conclusions in a light other than the research, taken as a whole, would support.

Plagiarism: Presenting or submitting, as one's own work, the research, words, ideas, artistic imagery, arguments, calculations, illustrations, or diagrams of another person or persons without explicit or accurate citation or credit.

Self-Plagiarism: Submitting one's own work for credit in more than one course without the permission of the instructors, or re-submitting work, in whole or in part, for which credit has already been granted without permission of the instructors.

Prohibited Conduct: The following are examples of other conduct specifically prohibited:

- Taking unauthorized possession of the work of another student (for example, intercepting and removing such work from a photocopier or printer, or collecting the graded work of another student from a stack of papers);
- Falsifying one's own and/or other students' attendance in a course;
- Impersonating or allowing the impersonation of an individual;
- Modifying a graded assessment then submitting it for re-grading; or,
- Assisting or attempting to assist another person to commit any breach of academic integrity.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

All Members of the University Community have the right to work, teach and study in an environment that is free from all forms of sexual violence and misconduct. Policy B401 defines sexual assault as follows:

Sexual assault is any form of sexual contact that occurs without ongoing and freely given consent, including the threat of sexual contact without consent. Sexual assault can be committed by a stranger, someone known to the survivor or an intimate partner.

Safety and security at the University are a priority and any form of sexual violence and misconduct will not be tolerated or condoned. The University expects all Students and Members of the University Community to abide by all laws and University policies, including B.401 Sexual Violence and Misconduct Policy and B.401.1 Sexual Violence and Misconduct Procedure (found on Policy page <https://www.capilanou.ca/about-capu/governance/policies/>)

Emergencies: Students are expected to familiarise themselves with the emergency policies where appropriate and the emergency procedures posted on the wall of the classroom.