

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY**  
**Undergraduate Course Outline 2021-2022**

**Philosophy 2500G: Introduction to the Theory of Knowledge**

**Winter Term 2022**

**M 1:30-3:30; W 2:30-3:30**

**MC 105B**

**Instructor: Prof. Robert DiSalle**

**Office Hours: M 11:30-1:30**

**(and by appointment)**

**Stevenson Hall 4141**

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This course considers some of the most important problems in the theory of knowledge, from a selection of classical and contemporary viewpoints. In this way we will gain some insight into the origins, motivations, and evolution of these problems as well as their implications for contemporary thought. Topics will include the nature of perception, the relation between sense and reason, scepticism and certainty, knowledge of language, deductive and non-deductive inference, and the role of the a priori in our common sense and scientific knowledge. Although there are no formal prerequisites, some prior familiarity with philosophical texts will be assumed.

### **TEXTS**

Text: Huemer, ed. *Epistemology: Contemporary Readings* (Routledge, 2002)  
(available at the UWO Bookstore)

### **REQUIREMENTS**

2 short essays (each 25% of final mark)  
Final exam (40% of final mark)  
Regular participation in class discussion (10% of final mark)

### **AUDIT**

Students wishing to audit the course should consult with the instructor prior to or during the first week of classes.

The **Department of Philosophy Policies** which govern the conduct, standards, and expectations for student participation in Philosophy courses is available in the Undergraduate section of the Department of Philosophy website at <http://uwo.ca/philosophy/undergraduate/proceduresappeals.html>. It is your responsibility to understand the policies set out by the Senate and the Department of Philosophy, and thus ignorance of these policies cannot be used as grounds of appeal.