

CSB/SJU PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

THE GADFLY

Ex Nihilo Nihil Fit

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PRE-ENROLL IN SPRING PHILOSOPHY CLASSES!!!

To maximize the seats our majors and minors can enjoy in our Philosophy classes, you can pre-enroll in these courses. E-mail Tony Cunningham (tcunningham@csbsju.edu or "Anthony Cunningham" on Outlook) by noon on October 28th. Write "Philosophy Registration" in the subject line and list the courses you want, along with your name. You'll be enrolled in the course before registration starts. If you have doubts (say, your final schedule may depend upon the other courses you need), you can pre-enroll and then switch as needed. Once this deadline passes, you'll have to try your luck with general registration. The upper-level lineup for the spring is as follows (below). The courses with "ES" satisfy the Ethics Common Seminar requirement for juniors and seniors.

PHIL 326 Political (ES) (Wright) 11:20, 246

PHIL 331 Ancient (Robinson) 9:40, 135

PHIL 337 Analytic (Esch) Monday, 6-9 P.M.

PHIL 339 Chinese Philosophy (ES) (Wright) 8:00, 135

PHIL 358 Philosophy of Law (ES) (Farnham) 2:40, 135 & M, 6-9

PHIL 365 Metaphysics (McGraw) 1:00, 135

PHIL 388 Philosophy Capstone (Wagner) 9:40, 135

Steve Wagner is doing an Honors section of Moral Philosophy (ES) at 9:40 on Days 246, so this is another course to consider. Tim Robinson (1:00, 135) and Tony Cunningham (9:40 & 11:20, 246) are doing Ethics 390 courses and these classes can be counted toward the Philosophy major or minor.



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PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT TO MIMIC RAPHAEL'S *SCHOOL OF ATHENS*

The Philosophy Department plans on mimicking Raphael's *School of Athens* in the near future. Once upon a time, way back in the 19th century, people used to get together to recreate scenes from famous paintings. We'll try our hand at this classic one with all sorts of intellectual heavy-hitters: Plato, Aristotle, Diogenes, Plotinus, Ptolemy, Euclid, Heraclitus, Parmenides, Hypatia, and Pythagoras (along with others). Be on the lookout for the announcement of the time and place. What's in it for you if you volunteer to be somebody? Well, you can really *be somebody*. Tim Robinson and Dennis Beach have already been cast in the title rolls as Plato and Aristotle, respectively. MaryAnn Baenninger has dibs on Hypatia. The rest of the roles are open at this point. Picture-taking will most likely take place in the CSB Monastery Gathering Place. If you volunteer, you can go down in history, immortalized in an award-winning photograph that brings the School of Athens into the 21st century and central Minnesota. All you need is some willingness to have some fun, and if possible, a sheet or two for the makings of a costume. If you have long hair or a beard, then you are really hot stuff for this spectacular event. Wahoo!

PHILOSOPHY FILM SERIES: BRUCE WILLIS HITS CAMPUS

Come see Bruce at 7:00 on October 25th in Quad 346, the Little Theater. “In the not-so-distant future, where people experience life through perfect surrogates controlled from the safety of their own homes, murder is a thing of the past. But when a college student linked to the creator of these replicants is killed, one FBI agent must re-enter reality and risk his life to unravel the mystery.” Sounds pretty good, huh? Come see for yourself and stay for some philosophical discussion.



**REVOLUTION
CYCLE and SKI**



160 29th Avenue South, St. Cloud—320-251-BIKE

FARNHAM GOOD & HAPPY IN THE PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

Dan Farnham is good and happy these days in the CSB/SJU Philosophy Department. He’s doing two sections of “Happiness & Morality” (thus the “good and happy”) and a section of Human Nature. He will be teaching two sections of Philosophy of Law in the spring, a course the department has not staffed for a spell. These two sections not only carry upper-level Philosophy credit, but also satisfy the Ethics Common Seminar requirement for juniors and seniors. What a deal!



Ed was beginning to be irritated by his new "The Road Less Travelled" Global Positioning System...

DIDJAKNOW?

The next time you drive by Caribou or Starbucks and think about having a cup of coffee to start (or revive) your day, think about the French writer and philosopher, Voltaire. Supposedly, Voltaire had somewhere in the neighborhood of 50 cups of coffee per day, usually at the Café de Procope in Paris. Of course, cups were smaller back then, but any way you slice it, that’s a whole lot o’ joe a day.

GOOD LIBRARY BOOKS CORNER

Kwame Anthony Appiah, *Experiments in Ethics* (Alcuin Library, BJ37. A67 2008)
This engaging book surveys influential recent attempts to bring empirical studies to bear specifically on moral philosophy, in a style that is accessible to non-specialists yet philosophically nuanced. Professor Appiah is sympathetic to the idea that moral philosophy has a good deal to learn from experimental work, but skeptical of the suggestion that this approach constitutes a radical departure from the philosophical tradition. He begins with a fascinating and erudite characterization of philosophy as a discipline that only "calved off" from psychology around the beginning of the twentieth century. Until then, experimental works and empirical investigation ("natural philosophy") were interwoven with metaphysical theorizing and deductive argumentation, and psychology was only just becoming a distinct academic discipline in its own right. Trying to distinguish metaphysical from psychological elements in the work of such canonical figures of European philosophy as Plato and Aristotle, René Descartes, John Locke, David Hume and J. S. Mill, Appiah claims, is like "trying to peel a raspberry."
--Justin D'Arms (*Times Literary Supplement*)

NOTES FROM DE HIGH CHAIR



Need a recommendation? If you don't right now, you will at some point. Here are some pointers. Give your professor plenty of time. Four weeks is preferable, and at least two weeks is in order. Fill out all the paperwork, including the form and the envelope. Put the proper postage on the envelope. A week or so before the recommendation is due, send an e-mail thank you/reminder to the professor. And when all is said and done, let the prof know how things turned out and express your thanks again. If you follow these simple rules, people won't run the other way when they see you coming.

PHILOSOPHY & LAW: GOOD PHILOSOPHERS/GOOD LAWYERS?

Thinking about law school? Emily Esch will host an event on Tuesday, November 2nd at 6 o'clock in Quad 264 where recent Philosophy alums will discuss the value of their philosophical training for their law careers. Philosophers tend to make great lawyers and refreshments will also be served, so you have every reason in the word to come, listen, and fire away with your questions.