Phil 184: Topics in Metaphysics
UCLA, Fall 2015
Course Information
MW 2-3:50
Public Affairs 1337

Instructor Information
Katie Elliott
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310.267.4847
Office hours: W 3-4

Required Text

(ii) All additional assigned readings are available on our course website:
https://ccle.ucla.edu/course/view/15F-PHILOS184-1

Evaluation

Paper: You will hand in one 6 to 7 page paper during the quarter. You will pick between paper topics that I provide. The exam is worth 45% of your total grade.

PLEASE NOTE: Late papers will be accepted, but you will lose 10% of your paper grade for every 24-hour period that the paper is late. (For example, if the paper is due Monday and you fail to hand it in, you have until 2 PM on Tuesday to turn it in for a loss of only 10% of your paper grade, until 2:00 PM on Wednesday for a loss of only 20%, and so on.) In very special circumstances, paper extensions will be granted, but you must notify me about your situation before the paper is due, as soon as it is practical to do so.

Final Exam: Your final will be a closed-note essay exam, which you will complete during the final exam period. Prior to the exam, you’ll be given a list of possible essay questions as a study guide. The exam is worth 45% of your grade.

Quiz: In order to encourage attendance and reading, I’ll give a short quiz once a week at the start of class. (10 times over the quarter.) The quiz will be designed so as to check for very basic comprehension of the day’s assigned reading. Your grades on those quizzes will determine 10% of your final grade. The quizzes are worth 10% of your final grade.

Please note: Class discussion will be essential to the success of this class. We’ll all learn more and have more fun if we talk to one another. If there is anything that I
can do to make you feel more comfortable interacting during class, please do not hesitate to let me know.

**Conduct Code:** In accord with the UCLA Student Conduct Code (available in full at [http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/Code_choice.php](http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/Code_choice.php)), take care to submit only work that is your own.

**Undergraduate Writing Center**

The Undergraduate Writing Center offers UCLA undergraduates one-on-one sessions on their writing. The Center is staffed by peer learning facilitators (PLFs), undergraduates who are trained to help at any stage in the writing process and with writing assignments from across the curriculum.

**Our Services**

**Scheduled appointments**
- 50-minute appointments in A61 Humanities
- 30-minute appointments in Reiber 115 (for dorm residents only)
- work in person with a Peer Learning Facilitator (PLF)

**Walk-in appointments**
- walk-in appointments available in A61 Humanities & Reiber 115
- first-come, first-served

**Online Writing Center (OWC):**
- 50-minute appointments
- submit your paper online, using Google Docs
- discuss your paper with a Peer Learning Facilitator, using Google Voice Chat

What you should bring to the Writing Center:
- A draft if you have one
- Preliminary notes or writing if you don’t have a draft
- A copy of the assignment
- Instructor or peer comments on your paper
- Copies of readings or research related to the assignment.

**Locations**

- A61 Humanities; Mon. – Thurs. 10AM – 6PM; Fri. 10AM – 3PM
- Reiber 115; Sun. – Thurs., 7 – 9 PM (for dorm residents only).

**Appointments**

Students can walk-in but appointments are preferred. Visit our website: www.wp.ucla.edu.

Click on “UCLA Writing Center/Make an Appointment.”

**Contact**

310-206-1320; wcenter@ucla.edu
Reading Schedule

While I will do my best to keep us on the following reading schedule, it is subject to change (with the following exceptions: due dates will never be earlier than the schedule indicates). Full citation information is provided on our course website.

Causation

Monday, September 28th:
Course Introduction

Wednesday, September 30th:
Causation: pg. 1-24

Monday, October 5th:
Causation: pg. 24-58

Wednesday, October 7th:
Causation: pg. 70-92 (up to section 3)

Monday, October 12th:
Causation: pg. 92-116 (up to section 4.2.8)

Wednesday, October 14th:
Causation: pg. 116-143

Monday, October 19th:
Causation: pg. 143-168

Wednesday, October 21st:
Causation: pg. 168-190

Monday, October 26th:
Causation: pg. 215-245

Wednesday, October 28th:
Causation: 245-THE END

Monday, November 2nd:

Paper Topics Assigned
Laws of Nature

**Monday, November 2nd:**

**Wednesday, November 4th:**

**Monday, November 9th:**
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**Monday, November 16th:**

**Papers Are Due Today: Monday November 16th**

**Wednesday, November 18th:**


**Monday, November 23rd:**

**Wednesday, November 25th:**

**Exam Questions Distributed Today: Wednesday, November 25th**

**Monday, November 30th:**
**Wednesday, December 2nd:**
  Wrap up and final review

**Monday December 7th:**
  - Final Exam: 8:00 AM-11:00 AM