

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY  
Undergraduate Course Outline 2016-2017**

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

**Fall Term 2017**

**T 1:30-2:30, Th 1:30-3:30**

**B&GS-1056**

**Office Hours: M 11:30-12:30, T 2:30-3:30**

**Instructor: Prof. Gillian Barker**

**Stevenson Hall 2136**

**661-2111 x87747**

**gbarker5@uwo.ca**

**DESCRIPTION**

This course is an introduction to epistemology or theory of knowledge. The course will focus on the core questions of epistemology: What is knowledge? What, if anything, do we know? How do we know it? More specific topics include the nature of knowledge, the structure of knowledge, and the limits of knowledge. The course will also explore the relationship between knowledge and action, and the role of knowledge in human life.

## **REQUIREMENTS**

The class format will consist of lecture and discussion. Discussion will be an important element of the course, so it is important that you stay on top of the reading and do some thinking about it before class. Course requirements include active participation, several short informal writing exercises, a short (4 page) paper, a longer (7 page) final paper, and a short-essay final exam. They are weighted as follows:

Participation.....	10%
Informal Writing.....	20%
Short Paper .....	20%
Exam.....	25%
Final Paper.....	25%

## **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://www.uwo.ca/philosophy/undergraduate/policies.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.

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

**Students are directed to view the Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness** (<https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>).

### **Policy on Academic Offences**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:  
[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf).”

### **Statement on Use of Plagiarism Software**

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and iVoko tvkoako tvkd 2ur1 TD [(ht)-4.6(t)-4.6(p)21 T2to\_2.9( )-(ht).