

The Dialectic

Classics & Philosophy Newsletter
Volume 1, Issue 2

Philosophy & Humanities, UTA
Spring, 1999

Here is your official copy of the second issue of our wonderfully informative yet aesthetically pleasing newsletter, brought to philosophy and classics majors, minors and alumni from the hallowed corridors of the third floor, Carlisle Hall. Read on and become one of those who are “in the know” about all of the smashing events, upcoming courses, and dazzling trivia that make us the most popular, most well-liked, and generally best-looking guys and gals on campus! As always, if you have any questions or comments, you can e-mail me at the following address:



genn@ix.netcom.com

Thank you, and enjoy!

Travis Foster

Classics and Philosophy Announce Lectures

Two new lectures of interest to students of classics and/or philosophy have been announced for Spring, 1999.

The Classics Program will be welcoming Dr. Andrew Riggsby as their 1st Annual Carvey Lecturer on Thursday, February 25, 1999. His lecture is entitled, “Where Were the Gallic Wars? Place in Caesar’s *de Bello Gallico*.” The lecture is at 3:30 p.m. in the Concho Room of the Hereford University Center.

The Philosophy Club invites you to meet Ruth Garrett Millikan, professor of philosophy at the University of Connecticut, on March 11th. Professor Millikan does work in the philosophy of language as well as the philosophy of mind, and holds an evolutionary (teleological) theory of mental content. Her Philosophy Lecture Series lecture is entitled “The Language-Thought Partnership” and will be held in the Neches Room, located on the second floor of the University Center, at 3:30 p.m. Each lecture is free and open to the public.

Both lectures look to be very exciting and are great opportunities for both UTA students, and anyone interested in these areas of the liberal arts, to meet the people who are advancing the cutting-edge literature in their respective fields.

Philosophy Reading Group Continues BonJour, Announces Next Title

The Philosophy Reading Group continues to forge ahead in exploring the recesses of the rationalist mind. They begin Chapter Four of Laurence BonJour’s recent book, *In Defense of Pure Reason*, on Friday, February 26th.

The group still meets every Friday at 12:30 p.m. in the cozy atmosphere of 305 Carlisle Hall. From there they democratically decide on a suitable restaurant at which to ponder the problems posed to the philosophically inclined.

In keeping with the theme of exploring recent defenses of rationalism in the current philosophical literature, the group has announced its next adventure — they are going to be reading Jerrold Katz’s new book, *Realistic Rationalism*. This time, the focus will be more specifically on the philosophy of mathematics.

Those who wish to procure a copy of *Realistic Rationalism* (M.I.T. Press/Bradford Books, 1998) in time to begin reading with the group should contact their friendly neighborhood bookstore. Then, when the time comes, proceed directly to Carlisle Hall and get in on some of the hottest philosophical probing around!

Those who want to keep up with what the group is currently reading and planning to read can also subscribe to their e-mail discussion list, “philldr.” Subscribe by sending the one-line message, SUBSCRIBE PHILRDR, to listserv@uta.edu.

Exciting Fall ’99 Philosophy Line-up Announced!

Hold on to your hats, folks: The latest and greatest must-have additions to your undergraduate philosophical repertoire have already been announced!

Explore the amazing continuation and expansion of Platonic doctrine and its shockwave effects upon the Pre-Christian (and ultimately Christian) world in Dr. Mahoney’s Neo-Platonism course (PHIL 4388). Think critically about the legal concepts employed in natural law theory, legal positivism, pragmatism, critical legal studies, and feminist jurisprudence in Dr. Burgess-Jackson’s Philosophy of Law course (PHIL 3320). And take a close look at the philosophical problems concerning epistemology in Dr. Nussbaum’s Theory of Knowledge course (PHIL 4385).

Philosophy majors should also note that two other courses are being offered next semester that are

required for their degrees: Logic (PHIL 2311) and Renaissance and Early Modern Philosophy (PHIL 3303). Logic, apart from being terribly interesting and intellectually stimulating in its own right as a pure science, proves itself over and over again as a necessary tool in practical applications in everything from analyzing complex arguments to designing computer programs. Early Modern is a required course for majors in philosophy as part of the history-of-philosophy sequence. As this class rolls around only once every two years, it pays to plan ahead!



Speaking of planning ahead, Dr. Bradshaw is offering Intermediate Logic (PHIL 3317) in the Spring of 2000. As logic (PHIL 2311) is a *prerequisite* for this course, be sure to have that under your belt in time to explore the basic metalogical results leading up to a discussion of Gödel's first incompleteness theorem — a real treat for you lucky ducks taking Intermediate Logic!

Philosophy & Classics Spring Picnic — TBA!!!

It's that time of year again when the weather turns fair, the flowers peek up from the fertile soil to bask and bloom in the glory of the sun, and the thoughts of idle lovers turn towards one another. Most importantly, however, it's time for the annual Philosophy & Classics Spring Picnic!

Once again, dear friends and colleagues, Philosophy Club will be hosting a lovely picnic in a scenic park (to be announced) at that time of year when the aroma of char-broiled burgers and the competitive atmosphere of cut-throat frisbee is permeating the air.

Look for flyers to grace the halls of your favorite campus building revealing the early- to mid-April date that will be set very soon.

Those kind people willing to help out with the organization of the picnic should contact me ASAP at the e-mail address listed above. See you at the festivities!

New Feature Starting Next Year — Alumni News, Graduating Seniors!

Ever wonder what our former philosophy and classics majors are doing? Who's working in business or industry? Who's working in one of the other professions? Who's raising a family? Who's in grad school? Who's practicing law? Who's teaching? Makes you wonder, doesn't it?

Plans are already underway to include in next year's newsletters an "Alumni News" feature. So, alumni, you are encouraged to let us know what you are currently doing. Inquiring minds want to know!

Some of you already let us know what you were doing, when you returned the Alumni Information Form at the bottom of Issue 1 of this year's newsletter. In that case, we simply need you to update the information we have — if necessary — and to let us know that we have your permission to share this information with the rest of our newsletter readers.

Either write to us at the address listed below (and send in your completed Alumni Information Form, if you didn't do that last time) or send an e-mail message to the Department secretary, Billie Hughes, at bhughes@uta.edu.

But wait! There's more: *Graduating seniors* don't be left out!!! We will also be listing graduating seniors next year together with their plans after graduation. So, let us know your plans when you apply for graduation and we'll get your name in the following issue of the newsletter!



<i>ALUMNI INFORMATION FORM</i>	
NAME (PLEASE PRINT):	
Last: _____	First: _____ MI: ____ Class Year: ____ Major: _____
HOME ADDRESS:	
Street/Box: _____	City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____
Phone(s) Home: _____	Office: _____ E-mail address: _____
WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?	Job title: _____
COMMENTS?	
<div style="border-top: 1px solid black; margin-top: 10px;"></div>	
<i>Please return to Department of Philosophy & Humanities, Box 19527, UTA, Arlington, TX 76019.</i>	