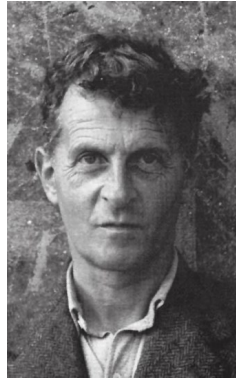


**PHIL/LING 145.001 | Wittgenstein on Language, Meaning,
& The Limits of Philosophy**

Summer II 2022, Mon. – Fri. 1:15 pm – 2:45 pm (EST)



Wittgenstein (1910's)



Wittgenstein (1947)

INSTRUCTOR: Philip Bold

Office: Meeting ID: 996 8696 8759

Office Hours: By appointment

Email: philbold@live.unc.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This is a course on the philosophy of Ludwig Wittgenstein. The first two weeks will focus on crucial background in the history of philosophy, including major ideas from Plato (& Socrates), René Descartes, David Hume, and John Locke, with emphasis placed on their (either explicit or assumed) views about the nature of language and meaning. Then we will shift to works by Wittgenstein which put these views into question. More specifically, we will examine Wittgenstein's views about language in his early and later life which purport to show that the work of his predecessors is meaningless – going beyond the bounds of what can be meaningfully expressed in language. Although we will primarily aim to understand Wittgenstein's views on these matters, a careful study of his views will give us many opportunities to address the following questions on their own terms: What is language? What makes an expression in language meaningful (or meaningless)? Given our answers to these questions, what kinds of restrictions does this place on what can be meaningfully discussed in philosophy?

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: Students in this course will learn to communicate and write effectively, as well as to engage in critical thinking about the nature and limits of language.

GRADING AND MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS

1. **Participation** (25%)
 - Class Performance
 - Regular Attendance

2. **Reading Quizzes** (20%)

3. **First Paper (1-2 pages)** (5%)
4. **Second Paper (2 pages)** (10%)
5. **Third Paper (2 pages)** (15%)
6. **Final Paper (5-6 pages)** (25%)

PARTICIPATION: You should come to *every class* prepared to talk about the assigned readings and the course topics. The participation component of your grade will be calculated based on your class performance as well as your attendance record. I will provide a mid-session participation estimate with comments and suggestions for improvement.

READING QUIZZES: Students will be required to complete a series of very brief reading quizzes on Sakai (most of which will be in a multiple-choice format). Questions on the reading quiz will be made available to students ahead of time (though the multiple choices will not). Students will be allowed 2 attempts on the quiz *before the deadline*, and their highest score will be recorded. Each student will be allowed to skip 1 of the reading quizzes.

PAPERS: There are four paper assignments. More detailed instructions will be provided in closer proximity to the deadlines. **Please note that the university requires each student to complete a minimum of 10 pages of writing *outside of class*.**

REQUIRED TECHNOLOGY: All students must be capable of using the Zoom application for class meetings. This will require, at the very least, (1) a reliable device that is compatible with Zoom (such as a laptop or tablet device – smartphones are *not* sufficient), (2) a stable internet connection, and (3) a quiet space that will allow you to focus on class meetings. If you do not have access to (1) – (3), it is very unlikely that you will be able to pass this course.

LATE WORK: Extensions *on paper assignments* are granted liberally as long as you have received permission from the instructor. Late papers submitted without a granted extension will be penalized 5% for every day past the official deadline. No extensions will be granted for quizzes except in cases of emergency.

Attendance Policy

University Policy: As stated in the University's [Class Attendance Policy](#), no right or privilege exists that permits a student to be absent from any class meetings, except for these University Approved Absences:

1. Authorized University activities
2. Disability/religious observance/pregnancy, as required by law and approved by [Accessibility Resources and Service](#) and/or the [Equal Opportunity and Compliance Office](#) (EOC)
3. Significant health condition and/or personal/family emergency as approved by the [Office of the Dean of Students](#), [Gender Violence Service Coordinators](#), and/or the [Equal Opportunity and Compliance Office](#) (EOC).

Class Policy: Instructors may work with students to meet attendance needs that do not fall within University approved absences. For situations when an absence is not University approved (e.g., a job interview or club activity), instructors determine their own approach to missed classes and make-up assessment and assignments.

University Approved Absence Office (UAAO): The [UAAO](#) website provides information and FAQs for students and faculty related to University Approved Absences.

Note: Instructors have the authority to make academic adjustments without official notice from the UAAO. In other words, it is not required for instructors to receive a University Approved Absence notification in order to work with a student. In fact, instructors are encouraged to work directly with students when possible.

Honor Code

All students are expected to follow the guidelines of the UNC Honor Code. In particular, students are expected to refrain from “lying, cheating, or stealing” in the academic context. If you are unsure about which actions violate the Honor Code, please see me or consult studentconduct.unc.edu.

Optional Mask Use Statement

UNC-Chapel Hill is committed to the well-being of our community – not just physically, but emotionally. The indoor mask requirement was lifted for most of campus on March 7, 2022. If you feel more comfortable wearing a mask, you are free to do so. There are many reasons why a person may decide to continue to wear a mask, and we respect that choice.

Acceptable Use Policy

By attending the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, you agree to abide by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill policies related to the acceptable use of IT systems and services. The Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) sets the expectation that you will use the University’s technology resources responsibly, consistent with the University’s mission. In the context of a class, it’s quite likely you will participate in online activities that could include personal information about you or your peers, and the AUP addresses your obligations to protect the privacy of class participants. In addition, the AUP addresses matters of others’ intellectual property, including copyright. These are only a couple of typical examples, so you should consult the full [Information Technology Acceptable Use Policy](#), which covers topics related to using digital resources, such as privacy, confidentiality, and intellectual property.

Additionally, consult the University website “[Safe Computing at UNC](#)” for information about the data security policies, updates, and tips on keeping your identity, information, and devices safe.

Accessibility Resources and Service

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill facilitates the implementation of reasonable accommodations, including resources and services, for students with disabilities, including mental health disorders, chronic medical conditions, a temporary

disability or pregnancy complications resulting in barriers to fully accessing University courses, programs and activities.

Accommodations are determined through the Office of Accessibility Resources and Service (ARS) for individuals with documented qualifying disabilities in accordance with applicable state and federal laws. See the ARS Website for contact information: <https://ars.unc.edu> or email ars@unc.edu.

Counseling and Psychological Services

UNC-Chapel Hill is strongly committed to addressing the mental health needs of a diverse student body. The [Heels Care Network](#) website is a place to access the many mental resources at Carolina. CAPS is the primary mental health provider for students, offering timely access to consultation and connection to clinically appropriate services. Go to their website <https://caps.unc.edu/> or visit their facilities on the third floor of the Campus Health building for an initial evaluation to learn more. Students can also call CAPS 24/7 at 919-966-3658 for immediate assistance.

Title IX Resources

Any student who is impacted by discrimination, harassment, interpersonal (relationship) violence, sexual violence, sexual exploitation, or stalking is encouraged to seek resources on campus or in the community. Reports can be made online to the EOC at <https://eoc.unc.edu/report-an-incident/>. Please contact the University's Title IX Coordinator (Elizabeth Hall, titleixcoordinator@unc.edu), Report and Response Coordinators in the Equal Opportunity and Compliance Office (reportandresponse@unc.edu), Counseling and Psychological Services (confidential), or the Gender Violence Services Coordinators (gvsc@unc.edu; confidential) to discuss your specific needs. Additional resources are available at safe.unc.edu.

Policy on Non-Discrimination

The University is committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our community and to ensuring that educational and employment decisions are based on individuals' abilities and qualifications. Consistent with this principle and applicable laws, the University's [Policy Statement on Non-Discrimination](#) offers access to its educational programs and activities as well as employment terms and conditions without respect to race, color, gender, national origin, age, religion, genetic information, disability, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. Such a policy ensures that only relevant factors are considered and that equitable and consistent standards of conduct and performance are applied.

If you are experiencing harassment or discrimination, you can seek assistance and file a report through the Report and Response Coordinators (see contact info at safe.unc.edu) or the [Equal Opportunity and Compliance Office](#), or online to the EOC at <https://eoc.unc.edu/report-an-incident/>.

Diversity Statement

I value the perspectives of individuals from all backgrounds reflecting the diversity of our students. I broadly define diversity to include race, gender identity, national origin, ethnicity, religion, social class, age, sexual orientation, political background, and physical

and learning ability. I strive to make this classroom an inclusive space for all students. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to improve. I appreciate suggestions.

Undergraduate Testing Center

The College of Arts and Sciences provides a secure, proctored environment in which exams can be taken. The center works with instructors to proctor exams for their undergraduate students who are not registered with ARS and who do not need testing accommodations as provided by ARS. In other words, the Center provides a proctored testing environment for students who are unable to take an exam at the normally scheduled time (with pre-arrangement by your instructor). For more information, visit <http://testingcenter.web.unc.edu/>.

Learning Center

Want to get the most out of this course or others this semester? Visit UNC's Learning Center at <http://learningcenter.unc.edu> to make an appointment or register for an event. Their free, popular programs will help you optimize your academic performance. Try academic coaching, peer tutoring, STEM support, ADHD/LD services, workshops and study camps, or review tips and tools available on the website.

Writing Center

For free feedback on any course writing projects, check out UNC's Writing Center. Writing Center coaches can assist with any writing project, including multimedia projects and application essays, at any stage of the writing process. You don't even need a draft to come visit. To schedule a 45-minute appointment, review quick tips, or request written feedback online, visit <http://writingcenter.unc.edu>.

Grade Appeal Process

If you feel you have been awarded an incorrect grade, please discuss with me. If we cannot resolve the issue, you may talk to our departmental director of undergraduate studies or appeal the grade through a formal university process based on arithmetic/clerical error, arbitrariness, discrimination, harassment, or personal malice. To learn more, go to the [Academic Advising Program](#) website.

Syllabus Changes Statement

The professor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus, including project due dates and test dates. These changes will be announced as early as possible.

READING ASSIGNMENTS

REQUIRED TEXTS: All readings for this course will be made available on Sakai.

PLEASE NOTE: More detailed instructions for daily assignments is included in the "Lessons" section on Sakai.

Week 1

Plato & Socrates on Definitions and Forms

Mon. June 20th Read the Syllabus & watch short video before class!

Tues. June 21st Plato, *Euthyphro*, Selection 1

Wed. June 22nd Plato, *Euthyphro*, Selection 2 (First Reading Quiz due by 3pm)

Thurs. June 23rd Plato Selection from *Meno* & Plato, “Allegory of the Cave”

Fri. June 24th First Paper Assignment (1-2 pages) Due Saturday June 25th by 11:55 pm

Week 2

Early Modern Philosophers on Ideas, Language, & Self

Mon. June 27th Descartes, Selection from *Meditations* (Second Reading Quiz due by 3pm)

Tues. June 28th David Hume, Selection from *An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding*

Wed. June 29th John Locke, “Of Words” (Third Reading Quiz due by 3pm)

Thurs. June 30th Wittgenstein, Selection 1 from *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*
& Klagge, *Tractatus*, Selection 1

Fri. July 1st Second Paper Assignment (2 pages) Due Saturday July 2nd by 11:55 pm

Week 3

Ludwig Wittgenstein: His Early Atomism & Introduction to his Later Thought

Mon. July 4th No Class, Holiday

Tues. July 5th Wittgenstein, Selection 2 from *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*
& Klagge, *Tractatus*, Selection 2

Wed. July 6th Wittgenstein, “Lecture on Ethics”
& Klagge, *Tractatus*, Selection 3 (Fourth Reading Quiz due by 3pm)

Thurs. July 7th Wittgenstein, *The Blue Book*, Selection 1

Fri. July 8th Wittgenstein, *The Blue Book*, Selection 2 (Fifth Reading Quiz due by 3pm)

Week 4

Wittgenstein’s Later Philosophy

Mon. July 11th Wittgenstein, Selection 1 from *Philosophical Investigations*
(Sixth Reading Quiz due by 3pm)

Tues. July 12th Wittgenstein, Selection 2 from *Philosophical Investigations*

Wed. July 13st Wittgenstein, Selection 3 from *Philosophical Investigations*
(Seventh Reading Quiz due by 3pm)

Thurs. July 14th Wittgenstein, Selection 4 from *Philosophical Investigations*

Fri. July 15th Second Paper Assignment (2 pages) **Due Saturday July 16th by 11:55 pm**

Week 5

Mon. July 18th Wittgenstein, Selection 5 from *Philosophical Investigations*
(Eighth Reading Quiz due by 3pm)

Tues. July 19th Wittgenstein, Selection 6 from *Philosophical Investigations*

Wed. July 20th Wittgenstein, Selection 7 from *Philosophical Investigations*
(Ninth Reading Quiz due by 3pm)

Thurs. July 21st Review for Final Paper & Exam

***FINAL PAPER* (5-6 pages): Due Monday July 25th no later than midnight.**