

Philosophy Department Newsletter



This is the December issue of the Philosophy Department Newsletter. We will be publishing periodically concerning items of interest to students of philosophy at Lakehead University.

Do You See What I See! Timetable Changes...

As we are about to begin the winter semester, the Department is pleased to be able to offer two newly scheduled evening courses.

Philosophy of the Occult and Paranormal will begin starting Tuesdays, January 5 through April 5, 2016 in the evenings. The course will be 3 hours and is sure to enlighten you!

Asian Philosophy will be 3 hours also, starting Wednesdays, January 6 through March 30, 2016. Dr. Blahuta will guide you in your studies understanding the history and the developing schools of Asian thought.



Image of star

Special points of interest:

- Winter 2016 - newly scheduled course offerings
- Dr. Richard Matthews
- Academic Counselling, are you Graduating in 2016?
- Party on! -- like it's 1967
- Spring and Summer Courses

Registration is open.



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Philosophy Celebration a Success!

The Department of Philosophy would like to extend thanks to all who attended our celebratory reunion on October 2.

'thinking'... and kudos to our amazing performance artists for the evening's close ... more on Page 2.

Special thanks to our guest speakers, who delivered on riveting topics that had everyone





Miranda Nittyinen event photo

Chris Wood, a PhD candidate at the University of Guelph presented a paper entitled “Nothing to Hide?: the Problem of Privacy in the New age of Surveillance.” Miranda Nittyinen, a PhD candidate in Women’s Studies at the University of Western Ontario presented a paper entitled “The Politics of Macabre Animal Art: Ontological Interruptions and Rogue Taxidermy.”

Another of our former students, Samantha Medendorp, teamed up with Andrea Novoa from the

World Dance Centre to demonstrate a variety of dancing styles following an introduction to the philosophy of dance by Dr. Clara Sacchetti-Dufresne, contract lecturer and Adjunct Professor to the Department of Philosophy.



World Dance Centre logo

Quotable Quotes the Department’s New Display

*Let us know
what inspires you!
If you have an
interesting philosophy
quote, send to
gail.fikis@lakeheadu.ca
... see Page 4.*

“The doctor sees all the weakness of mankind; the lawyer all the wickedness, the theologian all the stupidity.” - Arthur Schopenhauer

“There are no dangerous thoughts; thinking itself is dangerous.” - Hannah Arendt

“By and large, language is a tool for concealing the truth.” - George Carlin

“In individuals, insanity is rare; but in groups, parties, nations and epochs, it is the rule.” - Friedrich Nietzsche

If you have not dropped into the Department of Philosophy lately, you may have missed reading our cabinet of **Quotable Quotes** in the main hall, third floor of the Ryan Building.

Do you have a favourite philosophical quote? We would like to include what inspires you. The Department invites you to send in your quote for review and we will change it up ... come by and see if your quote is posted!



Meet Dr. Richard Matthews

Please meet Dr. Richard Matthews. As a new contract lecturer in the Department, he will be co-teaching an exciting course starting in January, *Philosophy 2715: Terrorism, Genocide and Human Rights*. Dr. Matthews also serves as current Bioethicist for the Centre for Health Care Ethics at Lakehead University.



Dr. Richard Matthews photo

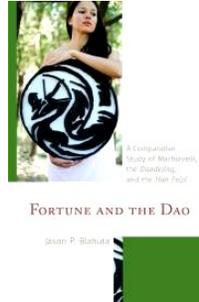
Congratulations to Dr. Jason Blahuta

The Department of Philosophy congratulates Dr. Blahuta on the publication of his new book:

"Fortune and the Dao: A Comparative Study of Machiavelli, the Daodejing, and the Han Feizi."

Here is a link to the book on Amazon:

http://www.amazon.com/Fortune-Dao-Comparative-Machiavelli-Philosophy/dp/1498500528/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1441900929&sr=8-2&keywords=blahuta%2C+Jason



"... an insightful and stimulating book. With a rare sensibility for the richness and subtleties of the images and concepts employed by Machiavelli, Laozi, and Hanfeizi, it explores their respective philosophical significance. It is not only scholarly convincing, but also a very well written exemplar of making comparative philosophy interesting and relevant." -- Hans-Georg Moeller, University of Macau

Academic Counselling

For those students currently enrolled in fourth year studies in Philosophy, now is the time for informal discussions with me on your academic plan.

If you are intending to graduate soon, a review of your academic standing is advised so you are not missing requirements in your program.

Starting in January, Dr. Blahuta will be contacting students to make time to meet for their review.

In the meantime, if you are a Philosophy major at any year level and would like to discuss your studies, feel free to contact him by email at:

jblahuta@lakeheadu.ca

For information on graduation and convocation at Lakehead University, please visit this webpage:

http://timetable.lakeheadu.ca/2016SS_UG_TBAY/phil.html



Words of Wisdom from the Chair of Philosophy

It will be a long wait for Lakehead University's Centennial Celebration but, rummaging through early editions of the University Calendar, we discovered that the Philosophy Department was actually founded in 1967, so we can have another 50th party of our own in **2017!**

Finally, as we approach the year's end, some words of wisdom:

"If you are young and you drink a great deal it will spoil your health, slow your mind, make your fat - in other words, turn you into an adult."
- P.J. Rourke



On behalf of everyone in the Department of Philosophy, have a safe and happy holiday.



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Dr. Maundrell is the Chair of the Department. His office is on the third floor of the Ryan Building, Office 3001. To meet with your Chair, please stop by the office or email rmaundre@lakeheadu.ca

What is Philosophy?
Philosophy is concerned with the most fundamental questions: "What is truth? What is knowledge? What is the good? What is justice? How should we live?" However, philosophy is not just a subject of study but a discipline involving the practical skills of thinking.

Philosophy will Include:
*study of assumptions and concepts in science and society
examination and criticism of fundamental ideas
critical and practical thinking*

If you have news or information that you would like us to share in the newsletter or on our website, forward to rmaundre@lakeheadu.ca

Visit our website
<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/academics/departments/philosophy>



Spring and Summer Courses are Posted -

http://timetable.lakeheadu.ca/2016SS_UG_TBAY/phil.html



Introduction to Philosophy: Origins

Introduction to Philosophy: Modern Developments

Critical Thinking

Philosophy and Gender



Ryan Building Third Floor - Quotable Quotes Cabinet photo