

Philosophy 743: Ph.D. Research Seminar

The PhD research seminar, required of all PhD students and open only to them, is devoted to the development of the students' own ideas in the context of their current research. It has two goals. One is to provide a regular occasion for doctoral students to become acquainted with each other and with each other's work. The other is to acquaint doctoral students with professional standards in the preparation, presentation, and criticism of philosophical research. Each student will prepare one paper on a topic chosen by the student. The paper will not be read in the seminar, but will be circulated a week in advance. In the seminar an assigned commentator will introduce the paper and start the discussion. The remaining seminar participants will write (in advance) brief comments on the paper. The paper to be discussed will be announced to faculty and other graduate students, who are encouraged to attend and participate in the discussion. It is expected that supervisors will attend when their students' papers are under discussion.

The seminar will meet roughly fortnightly over both terms, at times, dates and places to be arranged. The final grade is pass/fail.

At the end of the second term, there will be an all-day conference at which seminar participants will present a 20-minute revised version of their papers, followed by a 10-minute commentary (by a new commentator) and discussion.

Please note that, although the course is offered over two terms, you only need to register for it once, putting it down as offered in "term 3" (i.e. terms 1 and 2 combined), but as a half-course.