DEFINITION AND ESSENCE

Many of philosophy's big questions ask for the definition or essence of something (justice, goodness, knowledge, truth, the self, cause). This seminar focuses on what definition and essence are.

PREREQUISITES	PHIL352, or permission.
PLACE/TIME	CLE B315, Mon 3:30pm-6:20pm
INSTRUCTOR	DR Mike Raven (✉ mike@mikeraven.net • 🖥 mikeraven.net)
	OFFICE HOURS • CLE B323 Mon/Thu 11:30am—12:30pm, or appointment.
WEBSITE	🖥 coursespaces.uvic.ca/course/view.php?id=51693
	The website's content (including this syllabus) is "live" and will be updated. Consult the website for the most up to date, official course information.
TEXTS	Available digitally (use the links below).

EVALUATION

GRADES	The grade you earn is determined by the quality of your work in this course. The university's scale is used: **A+** $_{>90}$ **A** $_{89-85}$ **A−** $_{84-80}$ **B+** $_{79-77}$ **B** $_{76-73}$ **B−** $_{72-70}$ **C+** $_{69-65}$ **C** $_{64-60}$ **D** $_{59-50}$ **F** $_{<50}$

WORK	Term paper (70%):	• Due (*tentative*): Monday April 8
	Participation (30%):	• Engagement with the course, including: contributions to class and online forum, communication with the instructor, and class presentations/discussion leading.

RUBRIC	Work is evaluated for craftsmanship, in accordance with the guidelines in:
	🖥 mikeraven.net/teaching/[Raven] Philosophy Rubric.pdf
GRACE POINTS	A **grace point** can be used to delay a due date by 1 day. Each student begins with 5 grace points. Points can be used in any combination at the students' discretion (no justification needed). But points cannot be reused, traded, or earned.
	• To use, write at the beginning of your paper 'Using # grace points' (replace # with the number of grace points). *This is the only way to use grace points.*
LATENESS	Unexcused late work is penalized 5% per day late and is not entitled to feedback.

POLICIES

CONDUCT	Enrolling binds you to a social contract with your instructor and classmates:
	• **Be prepared**. Read the syllabus. Do the reading before class. Attend class.
	• **Be respectful**. In class, don't bully or distract. In work, follow **RUBRIC** §3.4.
	• **Be professional**. Check sources first (don't expect replies to questions answered by the syllabus). Follow etiquette. Allow time for replies.
ACCESSIBILITY	Arrange accommodations with CAL. Other accommodation requests (e.g. extra credit, extensions, alternate/make-up work) will *not* be considered, except under extraordinary circumstances (instructor's discretion) and when both the request and suitable documentation are received no more than 3 days after the due date.
PRIVACY	Course documents are the instructor's intellectual property. Do not distribute. Recordings permitted only with instructor's prior consent. Do not distribute.
GUESTS	Guests permitted only with instructor's prior consent.
INTEGRITY	Plagiarism and cheating are not tolerated. Ignorance is no excuse. Read:
	🖥 web.uvic.ca/calendar2019-01/undergrad/info/regulations/academic-integrity.html

This schedule is *tentative*: see website for updates and updated links to readings.

Come to each class (*including the first* on January 7) having read all the assigned readings. Be prepared to discuss the readings.

JAN 7
- Sullivan, "Are There Essential Properties? No"
- McDaniel and Steward, "Are There Essential Properties? Yes"

14
- Kripke, *Naming and Necessity*   (selections)
- Lewis, *On the Plurality of Worlds*   (selections)

21
- Fine, "Essence and Modality"
- Fine, "Senses of Essence"

28
- Almog, "The What and the How"
- Almog, "Nature Without Essence"

FEB 4
- Gupta, "Definitions"
- Frege, *The Foundations of Arithmetic*   (selections)
- Quine, "Two Dogmas of Analyticity"

25
- Rosen, "Metaphysical Dependence: Grounding and Reduction"
- Rosen, "Real Definition"

MAR 4
- Fine, "Identity Criteria and Ground"
- Fine, "Unified Foundations for Essence and Ground"

7
- Correia and Skiles, "Grounding, Essence, and Identity"
- Correia, "Real Definitions"
- Rayo, "Essence Without Fundamentality"

11
- Glazier, "Essentialist Explanation"
- Raven, "Explaining Essences"

18
- Fine, "Necessity and Non-existence"
- Raven, "Is Logic Out of this World?"

25
- Sveinsdóttir, "Essentiality Conferred"
- Raven, "A Puzzle for Constructed Essences"

APR1
APR #?

Term Paper Workshop

(This class will need to be rescheduled to some other date.)