UMBC UGC Change in Existing Course: PHIL 399: Topics in Philosophy

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Proposed Effective Date: immediately

	Name	Email	Phone	Dept
Dept Chair or UPD	Steve Yalowitz	yalowitz@umbc.edu	5-2108	Philosophy
Other Contact	Nafi Shahegh	shahegh@umbc.edu	5-2103	Philosophy

COURSE INFORMATION: (please provide all information in the "current" column, and only the information changing in the "proposed" column)

change		current	proposed
	Course Number(s)	399	
	Formal Title	Topics in Philosophy	
	Transcript Title (≤30c)		
	Recommended Course Preparation		
x□	Prerequisite NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, a prerequisite is assumed to be passed with a "D" or better.	You must have taken (1) PHIL course and received a grade of "C" or better before taking this course	One course in Philosophy with a grade of C or better
	Credits	3	
	Repeatable?	X□ Yes □ No	X□ Yes □ No
Χ□	Max. Total Credits		Max. Total Credits: This should be equal to the number of credits for courses that cannot be repeated for credit. For courses that may be repeated for credit, enter the maximum total number of credits a student can receive from this course. E.g., enter 6 credits for a 3 credit course that may be taken a second time for credit, but not for a third time. Please note that this does NOT refer to how many times a class may be retaken for a higher grade.
	Grading Method(s)	X Reg (A-F) X Audit X Pass-	Reg (A-F) Audit Pass-Fail

CURRENT CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

A philosophical examination of a concept playing a significant role in the history of ideas or contemporary culture. Recent topics included the philosophy of work, morality and the media, and creationism and evolution. This course is repeatable for credit.

PROPOSED CATALOG DESCRIPTION (no longer than 75 words): leave blank if no changes are being proposed to the catalog description. NOTE: information about prerequisites should NOT appear in the catalog description.)

An examination of a central topic, movement or figure in either the history of philosophy or contemporary philosophy. This course is repeatable for credit with different topics up to four times, totaling no more than 12 credits.

RATIONALE FOR CHANGE:

The proposed description is more accurate and appropriate for how the course is used. Since topics are included elsewhere in the catalog description, they are not needed in the course description. It also clarifies that the course is repeatable for credit four times, but only with different topics. The alteration in wording of prerequisite is for uniformity across all 300 level courses.