

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

Date Submitted: 10/12/15

Proposed Effective Date: immediately

	Name	Email	Phone	Dept
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**COURSE INFORMATION:** (please provide all information in the “current” column, and only the information changing in the “proposed” column)

change		current	proposed
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Course Number(s)	399b	398
<input type="checkbox"/>	Formal Title	Topics in Philosophy	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transcript Title (≤30c)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Recommended Course Preparation		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Prerequisite <b>NOTE:</b> 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 or permission of the instructor
<input type="checkbox"/>	Credits	3	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repeatable?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	Max. Total Credits		<b>Max. Total Credits:</b> 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.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Grading Method(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reg (A-F) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail	<input type="checkbox"/> Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail

**CURRENT CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

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.

**RATIONALE FOR CHANGE:**

The current description has no real content. We also prefer that our second 300 level Topics in Philosophy (we also offer PHIL 399 as Topics in Philosophy) not have such an awkward (“b”) course number as 399b – so we are requesting the change to PHIL 398. At the 400 level, we also have PHIL 498 and PHIL 499 as distinct Advanced Topics in Philosophy courses. We find it necessary to have two such courses available at both the 300 and 400 level in order to accommodate course innovation. (For example, in Spring 2016 we are offering all of PHIL 399, PHIL 399b, PHIL 498 and PHIL 499. None of these topic courses can be accommodated in our other existing courses.)