

PHIL 2160: Philosophy of Science Survey

Spring 2021, Mondays and Wednesdays, 4:35–5:55pm, Online

Schedule (See revision on p. 2)

This overview is just to give you a sense of what this course will be like, and it is not going to reflect any changes that may be made during the semester. **For the actual assignments, consult weekly pages on the course website.**

Wk	Date	Topics	Readings
1	Mon, Jan 18	<i>MLK Day (no class)</i>	
	Wed, Jan 20	Introduction	Syllabus
2	Mon, Jan 25	Worldviews	DeWitt, Ch. 1 (pp. 7–16)
	Wed, Jan 27	Truth	Ch. 2 (pp. 17–30)
3	Mon, Feb 1	Facts	Ch. 3 (pp. 31–35)
	Wed, Feb 3	Reasoning	Ch. 4 (pp. 36–42)
4	Mon, Feb 8	Scientific Method	Ch. 5 (pp. 43–53)
	Wed, Feb 10	Induction	Ch. 6 (pp. 54–60)
5	Mon, Feb 15	Falsifiability	Ch. 7 (pp. 61–65)
	Wed, Feb 17	Instrumentalism and Realism	Ch. 8 (pp. 66–71)
6	Mon, Feb 22	Aristotelian Worldview	Ch. 9 (pp. 75–80)
	Wed, Feb 24	Ptolemy's <i>Almagest</i>	Ch. 10 (pp. 81–91)
7	Mon, Mar 1	Astronomical Data	Ch. 11 (pp. 92–98)
	Wed, Mar 3	<i>Wellness Break (no class)</i>	
8	Mon, Mar 8	Astronomical Data	Ch. 12 (pp. 99–105)
	Wed, Mar 10	Ptolemaic System	Ch. 13 (pp. 106–114)
9	Mon, Mar 15	Copernican System	Ch. 14 (pp. 115–124)
	Wed, Mar 17	Tychonic System	Ch. 15 (pp. 125–127)
10	Mon, Mar 22	Kepler's System	Ch. 16 (pp. 128–137)
	Wed, Mar 24	Galileo	Ch. 17 (pp. 138–153)
11	Mon, Mar 29	Problems for the Aristotelian Worldview	Ch. 18 (pp. 154–158)
	Wed, Mar 31	The New Science	Ch. 19 (pp. 159–163)
12	Mon, Apr 5	Newtonian Worldview	Ch. 20 (pp. 164–170)
	Wed, Apr 7	Development of the Newtonian Worldview	Ch. 22 (pp. 179–190)
13	Mon, Apr 12	Darwinian Worldview	Ch. 29 (pp. 286–299)
	Wed, Apr 14	Development of the Darwinian Worldview	Ch. 30 (pp. 300–319)
14	Mon, Apr 19	Conclusion	Ch. 31 (pp. 320–321; 325–327)
	Wed, Apr 21	Review	

Revised (April 6, 2021)

9	Mon, Mar 15	<i>Cancelled due to the Teams problem</i>	
	Wed, Mar 17	Copernican System	Ch. 14 (pp. 115–124)
10	Mon, Mar 22	Copernican System and Tyconic System	Ch. 15 (pp. 125–127)
	Wed, Mar 24	Kepler's System	Ch. 16 (pp. 128–137)
11	Mon, Mar 29	Galileo	Ch. 17 (pp. 138–153)
	Wed, Mar 31	Problems for the Aristotelian Worldview	Ch. 18 (pp. 154–158)
12	Mon, Apr 5	The New Science	Ch. 19 (pp. 159–163)
	Wed, Apr 7	Newtonian Worldview	Ch. 20 (pp. 164–170)
13	Mon, Apr 12	Darwinian Worldview	Ch. 29 (pp. 286–299)
	Wed, Apr 14	Development of the Darwinian Worldview	Ch. 30 (pp. 300–319)
14	Mon, Apr 19	Conclusion	Ch. 31 (pp. 320–321; 325–327)
	Wed, Apr 21	Review	