PHI 92: The Art of Living: Presented by the Hosts of Philosophy Talk

Course schedule:
5 Mondays, April 8, April 22, May 6, May 20, and June 3, 7:00 – 9:15 pm

April 8:
"The Demands of Morality"
Tamar Schapiro, Associate Professor of Philosophy, Stanford

April 22:
"Faith vs. Reason"
Howard Wettstein, Professor of Philosophy, UC Riverside

May 6:
"Finding Meaning in a Material World"
Owen Flanagan, Jr., James B. Duke Professor and Professor of Neurobiology, Duke University

May 20:
"Ancient Wisdom for Modern Times"
Melissa Lane, Fellow, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford; Professor of Politics, Princeton University; Director of the Princeton Program in Values and Public Life

June 3:
"Life As a Work of Art"
R. Lanier Anderson, Associate Professor of Philosophy, Stanford

This course may not be taken for a Letter Grade. For more information on the radio program, Philosophy Talk, please visit: philosophytalk.org.

Preliminary Reading List

Friedrich Nietzsche, The Gay Science: With a Prelude in Rhymes and an Appendix of Songs, translated by Walter Kaufmann (Vintage, 1974)
Howard Wettstein, The Significance of Religious Experience (OUP, 2012)
Melissa Lane, Eco-Republic: What the Ancients Can Teach Us about Ethics, Virtue, and Sustainable Living (Princeton UP, 2012)
**Course Hosts:**

JOHN R. PERRY, *Henry Waldgrave Stuart Professor of Philosophy, Emeritus, Stanford*

John R. Perry has made significant contributions to many areas of philosophy, including philosophy of language, metaphysics, and philosophy of mind. He has served as chair of the Stanford Philosophy Department and director of the Center for the Study of Language and Information. He is also the author of more than 100 articles and books, including *A Dialogue on Personal Identity and Immortality; Knowledge, Possibility, and Consciousness; and Reference and Reflexivity*. Perry received the Lloyd W. Dinkelspiel Award for Distinctive Contributions to Undergraduate Education in 1990. He is the co-host, with Ken Taylor, of the radio program *Philosophy Talk*. He received a PhD from Cornell.

KENNETH TAYLOR, *Henry Waldgrave Stuart Professor of Philosophy, Stanford*

Ken Taylor’s work lies at the intersection of the philosophy of language and the philosophy of mind, with an occasional foray into the history of philosophy. He is the author of *Truth and Meaning: An Introduction to the Philosophy of Language, Reference and the Rational Mind, and Referring to the World: An Introduction to the Theory of Reference*. He is the co-host, with John Perry, of the radio program *Philosophy Talk*. Taylor received a PhD from the University of Chicago.

**Speaker Bios:**

TAMAR SCHAPIRO, *Associate Professor of Philosophy, Stanford*

Tamar Schapiro has published articles on various topics in moral philosophy including the moral status of children, the concept of a necessary evil, the problem of others’ wrongdoing, and the relation between action and value. Her current project is a series of papers on the structure of human motivation. Specifically she is interested in the relation between higher and lower forms of motivation (variously termed "reason vs. emotion" or "will vs. inclination"). She also has interests in the history of modern moral philosophy and action theory. Schapiro received a Junior Fellowship from the Harvard Society of Fellows before joining the Stanford faculty in 2000. Since then she has received fellowships from the Stanford Humanities Center, the Hellman Family Foundation, and the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard. Schapiro received a PhD from Harvard.

HOWARD WETTSTEIN, *Professor of Philosophy, UC Riverside.*

Howard Wettstein has taught at the University of Notre Dame and the University of Minnesota, Morris, and was a visiting scholar at Stanford and the University of Iowa. He received a PhD in philosophy from City University of New York in 1976. His main research areas are the philosophy of language and the philosophy of religion. He has been editor of *Midwest Studies in Philosophy* since 1974. His latest book is *The Significance of Religious Experience* (Oxford UP 2012). He also published two volumes in the philosophy of language, *The Magic Prism* (Oxford UP, 2004) and *Has Semantics Rested On a Mistake?* (Stanford UP 1991).
OWEN FLANAGAN, James B. Duke Professor and Professor of Neurobiology, Duke University
Owen Flanagan came to Duke as Chair of department in 1993, a post he held until 1999. He also holds appointments in Psychology and Neurobiology, and is a Faculty Fellow in Cognitive Neuroscience and a steering committee member of the "Philosophy, Arts, and Literature" (PAL) program, and an Affiliate of the Graduate Program in Literature. He has also had visiting positions at Berkeley, Brandeis, Princeton, Harvard, and La Trobe in Australia. University of Vienna as well as several fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities. In 1993-94 Flanagan was President of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology. In 1998, he was recipient of the Romanell National Phi Beta Kappa award, given annually to one American philosopher for distinguished contributions to philosophy and the public understanding of philosophy. Besides writing many articles, reviews, and contributions to colloquia, Flanagan has written and edited numerous books. His most recent is The Bodhisattva's Brain: Buddhism Naturalized (MIT, 2011). Flanagan received a PhD from Boston University.

MELISSA LANE, Professor of Politics, Princeton University
Melissa Lane previously served for fifteen years in the Faculty of History of the University of Cambridge, the same university where she received a PhD in philosophy. She specializes in political theory, especially that of ancient Greece, as well as the way Greek ideas have been developed historically and today. She is the author of Eco-Republic: What the Ancients Can Teach Us about Ethics, Virtue, and Sustainable Living (Princeton UP, 2012), a New Jersey Council for the Humanities 2012 Honor Book; Plato’s Progeny: how Plato and Socrates still captivate the modern mind (Duckworth, 2001); Method and Politics in Plato’s Statesman (Cambridge UP, 1998); and an Introduction to the Penguin edition of Plato’s Republic (2007). Her book The Birth of Politics: Ideas of the Greeks and Romans is scheduled to appear from Penguin in 2014. She is a 2012 Fellow of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation and a 2012-13 Fellow of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University.

LANIER ANDERSON. Associate Professor of Philosophy, Stanford
Lanier Anderson was educated at Yale (AB, 1987) and the University of Pennsylvania (MA, PhD, 1993), where he worked closely with Alexander Nehamas, Paul Guyer, and Gary Hatfield. He has taught at Stanford since 1996, and was promoted to tenure here in 2004. He has also taught at Harvard University, Haverford College, Bryn Mawr College, and the University of Pennsylvania. He works in the history of late modern philosophy, focusing primarily on Kant and his influence on 19th c. philosophy. He has written articles on Kant’s theoretical philosophy, on Nietzsche, and on the neo-Kantian movement. He is currently working on a book about the analytic/synthetic distinction in Kant, as well as ongoing projects about the notion of redemption and the norms governing belief for Nietzsche. With Joshua Landy (French), he has been instrumental in developing and
undergraduate program in Philosophy and Literature at Stanford, and they are currently collaborating on papers in that area.