

**COURSE DATA****Data Subject**

Code	33250
Name	Introduction to philosophy
Cycle	Grade
ECTS Credits	6.0
Academic year	2021 - 2022

Study (s)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1004 - Degree in Philosophy	Faculty of Philosophy and Educational Sciences	1	First term
1012 - Degree in Philosophy	Faculty of Philosophy and Educational Sciences	1	First term

Subject-matter

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1004 - Degree in Philosophy	3 - Philosophy	Basic Training
1012 - Degree in Philosophy	3 - Philosophy	Basic Training

Coordination

Name	Department
ARENAS LLOPIS, LUIS	359 - Philosophy
MARAGUAT IDARRAGA, EDGAR	359 - Philosophy

SUMMARY

Introduction to philosophy is a mandatory course in the first year of the Philosophy Program. The main goal of this course is that students develop a first understanding of the different areas of philosophy, its methods, the relations between philosophy and other disciplines, and the relations between philosophy and its own history.



PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

Relationship to other subjects of the same degree

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

Other requirements

No previous knowledge required.

OUTCOMES

1004 - Degree in Philosophy

- Students must have the ability to gather and interpret relevant data (usually in their field of study) to make judgements that take relevant social, scientific or ethical issues into consideration.
- Students must be able to communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions to both expert and lay audiences.
- Students must have acquired knowledge and understanding in a specific field of study, on the basis of general secondary education and at a level that includes mainly knowledge drawn from advanced textbooks, but also some cutting-edge knowledge in their field of study.
- Que los estudiantes sepan aplicar sus conocimientos a su trabajo o vocación de una forma profesional y posean las competencias que suelen demostrarse por medio de la elaboración y defensa de argumentos y la resolución de problemas dentro de su área de estudio.
- Capacidad de comunicación profesional oral y escrita en las lenguas propias de la Universitat de València.
- Be able to communicate in a foreign language.
- Be able to obtain information from different primary and secondary sources.
- Be able to organise and plan work times.
- Acquire the capacity to pose and solve problems, as well as to make decisions, in a limited time.
- Have critical and self-critical capacity.
- Know how to work in a team avoiding gender discrimination.
- Be able to apply knowledge to practice.
- Develop innovation and creativity.
- Be able to design, manage and evaluate quality projects.
- Identify the fundamental issues that underlie any type of debate.
- Accurately describe the results of the analysis of controversial and complex problems.
- Identify and evaluate clearly and rigorously the arguments presented either in texts or orally.



- Be agile and efficient managing various sources of information: bibliographical, electronic and others.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

In addition to acquiring the aforementioned competences, it is expected that students reach the following goals:

A. That they get an initial acquaintance of the field of philosophy and its methods, comparing both things with those of other disciplines and activities. At the end of the course, students should be able to explain to a colleague doing Arts or Sciences how their discipline differs from hers, with respect to object of study and methodology.

B. That they are able to distinguish between different areas of research within philosophy, relating to them different problems, arguments and discourses. At the end of the course, students should be able, for instance, of distinguishing an epistemological thesis from a metaphysical one.

C. That they acquire an initial understanding of the relationship between philosophy and its own history. At the end of the course, students should be able of explaining to a college doing mathematics, for instance, in which sense (if in any at all) the relation between philosophy and the history of philosophy is different from the relationship between mathematics and the history of mathematics

D. That they get acquainted with some central philosophical problems and with some of the major views and arguments about them. At the end of the course, the student should be able to identify some of the central views about the topics covered in the course.

E. That they develop their own views and arguments about these topics, and that they become able to express them in writing as well as orally. At the end of the course, students should be able to write a short essay mainly devoted to presenting an argument of their own about one of the topics studied, with the degree of refinement expectable from a student in the first year of the program.

F. That they become able to identify, reconstruct and evaluate the arguments present in a variety of philosophical texts belonging to different periods and traditions. At the end of the course, students should be able to write a short essay in which a complex argument is reconstructed and evaluated



G. That they learnt to appreciate the more or less formal aspects of philosophical academic writing, such as expressive clarity, precision in the use of technical terminology, proper use of textual quotation, grammatical correctness, etc. At the end of the course, students should be able to write a short essay that exemplifies these relatively formal virtues.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. The nature of philosophy and methodological issues

This module will deal with topics related to the nature of philosophy, its field of study, its methods and its relationships with other activities. These are some points that can be addressed within this thematic unit:

1. Introduction
2. Philosophy and the history of philosophy
3. Philosophy and Science
4. Analytical Philosophy and Continental Philosophy
5. History of philosophy: an overview
 - 5.1. Ancient philosophy
 - 5.2. Modern philosophy
 - 5.3. Contemporary philosophy

2. Philosophical problems: an introduction

Some specific philosophical problems related to the various fields in which philosophical activity unfolds will be introduced in this module. The main positions on them will be discussed (materialism vs. idealism; realism vs. antirealism; moral objectivism vs. moral relativism; theism / deism vs. atheism / agnosticism, etc.), encouraging students to develop their own views and arguments about them. These are some points that can be addressed within this thematic unit:

1. Metaphysics
2. Theory of knowledge
3. Ethics or moral philosophy
4. Philosophical anthropology
5. Political philosophy
6. Philosophy of religion
7. Philosophy of art

**3. Analysis of philosophical texts**

In this module, corresponding to the practical part, some philosophical texts, both classic and contemporary, related to the topics of units 1 and 2 will be analyzed. The list of texts to be analyzed will be offered in a specific guide for this unit at the beginning of the course.

WORKLOAD

ACTIVITY	Hours	% To be attended
Theory classes	30,00	100
Seminars	15,00	100
Tutorials	5,00	100
Attendance at events and external activities	5,00	0
Study and independent work	90,00	0
Readings supplementary material	5,00	0
TOTAL	150,00	

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

1. Theoretical-oriented lectures: these lectures will be mostly expository, although it is expected an active student's participation. In order to do this, students will have to come to class having done the mandatory readings to be discussed in class.

2. Practical-oriented classes: in each of these sessions, students will carry out a task that will be proposed by the professor.

3. Tutorials: these sessions will constitute a forum in which students may raise any course-related questions. These sessions will be also devoted to monitoring the students' work.

4. Homework: during the course, students will write at least one essay under the supervision of the professors.

EVALUATION

First call



The evaluation will be done through a final written test and a series of continuous evaluation activities (essays, presentations, commentaries, etc.) that will be carried out during the course. The final written exam and the activities proposed in the theoretical classes will determine 65% of the final grade, while the activities proposed in the practical classes will determine the remaining 35%. The maximum possible grade for the theoretical part will be 6.5 points. The maximum possible mark in the practical part will be 3.5 points.

Second call

The evaluation will be done through a final written exam on the entire syllabus that will determine 100% of the final grade.

REFERENCES

Basic

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- Williams, B. (2000), Philosophy as a Humanistic Discipline, Philosophy 75, pp. 477-496.

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Additional

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ADDENDUM COVID-19

This addendum will only be activated if the health situation requires so and with the prior agreement of the Governing Council

1) Contents

The course contents are the same as those specified in the course guide.

2) Workload and teaching schedule

Students will have assigned the same workload and teaching schedule, taking into account a blended-learning scheme during the first quadrimester of the current academic year.

3) Teaching methodology

Student groups will be divided into subgroups attending classroom sessions every other week. Subgroups will attend all sessions either in classroom or online.

Tutoring sessions with students will be held online.

4) Assessment

The same criteria figuring in the course guide will be applied.

5) References

Additional online-accessible references will be suggested through Aula Virtual.

More bibliographic resources will be available online through the Aula Virtual.