

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

Code	33293
Name	Problems in metaphysics
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	4	First term

Subject-matter

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1004 - Degree in Philosophy	34 - Problems in metaphysics	Optional

Coordination

Name	Department
TEJEDOR PALAU, MARIA ASUNCION	359 - Philosophy

SUMMARY

The course will explore ontological problems such as: the debate between realism and idealism; being, subject and solipsism; the problem of normativity; and the nature of the mind. In each of them, the general lines of the problem, the main theoretical positions about it and the most important difficulties of those positions will be exposed. We will address these problems with key philosophers in these areas, such as Ludwig Wittgenstein and Elizabeth Anscombe.

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE**Relationship to other subjects of the same degree**



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

Other requirements

A general philosophical background is required, though it will have been acquired, presumably, in the previous years of the Philosophy Degree

OUTCOMES

1004 - Degree in Philosophy

- Capacidad de comunicación profesional oral y escrita en las lenguas propias de la Universitat de València.
- 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.
- Be able to convey information, ideas, problems and solutions to others (experts or not).
- Have critical and self-critical capacity.
- Know how to work in a team avoiding gender discrimination.
- Be respectful of difference and plurality and avoid gender discrimination.
- Develop innovation and creativity.
- Relate problems, ideas, schools and traditions.
- 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.
- Acquire the learning skills needed to undertake further studies with an increasing degree of autonomy.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of this course, the student should be able to draw a conceptual map of the debates around the main problems dealt with in the course.

S/he also should be able to write, in a well-ordered and coherent way, about the main lines of the aforementioned debates.

Finally, s/he should be able to continue, on his or her own, with the study of the subjects dealt with during the course.



DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. The realism / idealism debate.

The relationship between the world, thought and language. Reality and the principles of the natural sciences. The dissolution of the debate between realism and idealism.

Authors discussed may include: Ludwig Wittgenstein (Tractatus); Cora Diamond; Marie McGinn.

2. Self, Subject and Solipsism

The subject as a condition of the world. The empirical subject and the transcendental subject. Varieties of solipsism. The dissolution of solipsism as philosophical nonsense.

Authors discussed may include: Arthur Schopenhauer; Bertrand Russell; Ludwig Wittgenstein (Tractatus); Cora Diamond; Marie McGinn.

3. The problem of normativity

Nature and normativity. Description, prescription and the myth of the given. Language as normative use. The criticism of the mentalistic model of the normative. Normative practice of rule-following a rule.

Authors discussed may include: Saul Kripke; Ludwig Wittgenstein (Philosophical Investigations); Marie McGinn.

4. The nature of mind

Privacy and transparency of the mental. The problem of sensations. The private language problem. Behaviorism and action. Mind, normative practice and public language. Intention.

Authors discussed may include: René Descartes; Elizabeth of Bohemia; Ludwig Wittgenstein (Philosophical Investigations); Cora Diamond; Marie McGinn; Elizabeth Anscombe.



WORKLOAD

ACTIVITY	Hours	% To be attended
Theory classes	30,00	100
Seminars	15,00	100
Tutorials	5,00	100
Development of individual work	30,00	0
Study and independent work	40,00	0
Readings supplementary material	30,00	0
TOTAL	150,00	

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

Presentation by the professor, with possible participation of the students.

Participation of the students and, in general, of all those present in order to discuss the points of view presented.

Personal interviews or electronic consultations to agree on the autonomous work of the students and the requirements for its elaboration, and to monitor its evolution.

Personal interview of the agents involved or electronic consultation (via virtual classroom, e-mail, blogs, etc.).

Presentation of the agents involved with the possible participation of the participants, and report to be written by the students.

Autonomous work.

EVALUATION

First call:



The theoretical part will be assessed by means of a critical essay on one of the theories addressed in the theory classes.

The practical part will be assessed through the completion of the classroom tasks proposed by the lecturers or by means of an essay or text commentary. These activities will not be recoverable and the mark obtained will be maintained.

The theoretical part will account for 70% of the final mark; the practical part, 30%.

Second call:

The evaluation will be done through a final written assignment on the whole Theory syllabus which will determine 70% of the final grade.

Note: Plagiarism is a very serious offence, inadmissible at the University. Cases of plagiarism will be penalised with a fail in the corresponding exam session, in addition to other possible sanctions provided for by the University regulations.

REFERENCES

Basic

- SANFELIX VIDARTE, VICENTE Y PRADES CELMA, JOSE. Wittgenstein: Mundo y lenguaje. Plastigraf (1990)
- TEJEDOR, CHON. Starting with Wittgenstein. Bloomsbury (2011).
- CORBÍ, JOSEP y MOYA, CARLOS (eds.), Ensayos sobre libertad y necesidad, Valencia, Pre-Textos, 1997.
- MOYA, CARLOS. Filosofía de la Mente, València PUV, 2004, 2006.

Additional

-
- MORRIS, MICHAEL. El Tractatus de Wittgenstein: Guía de Lectura, de Michael Morris (Teorema, 2015)
- PINEDA, DAVID. La mente humana. Introducción a la Filosofía de la Psicología, Madrid (Cátedra, 2012)
- TEJEDOR, CHON The Early Wittgenstein on Metaphysics, Natural Science, Language and Action (Routledge, 2015)
- WITTGENSTEIN, LUDWIG. Tractatus logico-philosophicus-Investigaciones filosóficas, traducción, introducción y notas críticas de Isidoro Reguera Perez (Madrid: Editorial Gredos, 2017)
- WITTGENSTEIN, LUDWIG. Sobre la certeza, editado por G.E.M. Anscombe & G.H. von Wright, traducción Josep Lluís Prades & Vicent Raga (Barcelona: Gedisa, 1995)



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) Teaching content

The teaching contents included in the teaching guide are maintained.

2) Volume of work and time planning of teaching

The dedication of the students to the different programmed activities is maintained, taking into account the semi-presential nature of the classes in the first quarter of the present academic year

3) Teaching methodology

Teaching will be carried out by dividing the groups into subgroups with alternate weeks of attendance by these subgroups. Therefore, teaching will be done simultaneously in person and at a distance by means of streaming.

Tutorials will be done in a non-presential way by telematic means.

4) Evaluation

The evaluation criteria set out in the teaching guide are maintained.

In case of confinement, the assessments programmed in the Module Guide will remain the same, and will be delivered via the Moodle platform.

5) Bibliography

Bibliographic resources will be increased through the Virtual Classroom.