

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

Code	46510
Name	Language, truth and interpretation
Cycle	Master's degree
ECTS Credits	6.0
Academic year	2022 - 2023

Study (s)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
2256 - M.U. en Pensamiento Filosófico Contemporáneo 23-V3	Faculty of Philosophy and Educational Sciences	1	First term

Subject-matter

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
2256 - M.U. en Pensamiento Filosófico Contemporáneo 23-V3	10 - Language, truth and interpretation	Optional

Coordination

Name	Department
VALOR ABAD, JORDI	359 - Philosophy

SUMMARY

In *Truth and Truthfulness*, Bernard Williams (2002) identifies two ingrained tendencies in our society. On the one hand, we demand truthfulness and denounce those discourses that, for obscure and self-interested reasons, conceal or distort the truth. On the other hand, however, we are suspicious of truth. We are suspicious of any discourse that appeals to it in order to invest itself with authority. Both tendencies feed on each other: the less we believe in the truth of certain discourses, the less we trust the truthfulness of those who disseminate them, and vice versa. However, there is a clear tension between the two tendencies when they become entrenched and we generalise them to any discourse because it would make no sense to demand something (truth) in whose existence one does not believe. We seem, however, reluctant to abandon the idea of "truth". Those who distrust the truth of a discourse do so from the conviction that the truth exists but lies elsewhere; and those who see no possibility of agreement in an acrimonious debate in which they are unable to refute the reasons of their interlocutor often distinguish between "my truth" and "his truth" in order to settle the discussion. (Faced with facts that seemed to disprove some of Donald Trump's claims during his presidential term in the United States, his press office provided "alternative facts" in support of those claims.) Why is the idea of truth so important in the architecture of our thinking? In this course we will examine some of the reasons why the concept of truth is difficult to give



up, and why it is an elusive and often even contentious concept in areas where (in addition to an absence of consensus as to what truth might be, or what should count as true) there is a clear desire for appropriation of the term between the parties in dispute.

The idea of truth plays a central role in our explanation of things such as:

- (a) our idea of knowledge and the value we attach to certain cognitive states and certain theoretical disciplines;
- (b) our ability to express general propositions, to understand linguistic meaning, to interpret others or to translate languages;
- (c) the connection between our beliefs, values and actions, as well as between the ideas of rational deliberation, choice and freedom;
- (d) the distinction between fiction and reality;
- (e) the justification of normative principles in any practical domain and the identification of correct ways of reasoning and arguing;
- (f) the articulation of discourses that entrench collective and individual identities.

This course aims to explore the connections of truth with other basic concepts through the discussion of specific philosophical theories and problems organised around five thematic sections.

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 se requieren.

OUTCOMES

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- Students should apply acquired knowledge to solve problems in unfamiliar contexts within their field of study, including multidisciplinary scenarios.
- Students should be able to integrate knowledge and address the complexity of making informed judgments based on incomplete or limited information, including reflections on the social and ethical responsibilities associated with the application of their knowledge and judgments.
- Students should communicate conclusions and underlying knowledge clearly and unambiguously to both specialized and non-specialized audiences.



- Students should demonstrate self-directed learning skills for continued academic growth.
- Mejorar las destrezas relacionadas con la exposición y defensa oral de una disertación o ensayo, así como la participación en debates y el trabajo en equipo.
- Capacidad de analizar, sintetizar e interpretar datos de índole cultural, social, política, ética o científica y de emitir juicios reflexivos sobre ellos en los trabajos escritos que se presentan.
- Comprensión en profundidad de las relaciones y conflictos entre distintos ámbitos de la cultura y el pensamiento: filosofía, ciencia, derecho, política, etc.
- Saber manejar con soltura las diversas fuentes de información, relevantes para la investigación (bibliográficas, electrónicas, etc.), así como la recopilación de dicha información y bibliografía con vistas a la creación de textos propios.
- Conocimiento en profundidad del estado de la cuestión de los debates lógicos y epistemológicos en el contexto del pensamiento filosófico contemporáneo
- Desarrollo de la capacidad de reflexión crítica sobre el presente y sus problemas estéticos y culturales sobre la base de los recursos conceptuales procedentes de las diferentes disciplinas y tradiciones filosóficas
- Desarrollo de la capacidad para identificar distintos tipos de discurso filosófico y formas válidas y no válidas de argumentación típicas de cada uno de ellos

LEARNING OUTCOMES

English version is not available

WORKLOAD

ACTIVITY	Hours	% To be attended
Theory classes	37,50	100
Classroom practices	15,00	100
Development of individual work	52,50	0
Readings supplementary material	15,00	0
Preparing lectures	30,00	0
TOTAL	150,00	

TEACHING METHODOLOGY



English version is not available

EVALUATION

English version is not available

REFERENCES

Basic

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- Butler, J. 1990. El género en disputa. Feminismo y la subversión de la identidad. Barcelona: Paidós, 2007.
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Additional



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- Butler, J. 1988. Performative Acts and Gender Constitution: An Essay in Phenomenology and Feminist Theory. Theatre Journal 40 (4): 519-531. Traducción al castellano de Marie Lourties: Actos performativos y constitución del género: un ensayo en fenomenología y teoría feminista.
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- Stroud, B. 2000. La búsqueda de la realidad. Madrid: Síntesis, 2003
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