

Course Outline

School / Portfolio: Faculty of Education and Arts

Course Title: PHILOSOPHICAL THINKING

Course ID: PHILO1001

Credit Points: 15.00

Prerequisite(s): Nil

Co-requisite(s): Nil

Exclusion(s): Nil

ASCED Code: 090305

Program Level:

AQF Level of Program						
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Level						
Introductory	■	■	✓	■	■	■
Intermediate	■	■	■	■	■	■
Advanced	■	■	■	■	■	■

Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

- K1.** Appraise key concepts in philosophy, including metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, and political philosophy
- K2.** Discuss, compare, and critique philosophical texts and theories

Skills:

- S1.** Evaluate philosophical claims and arguments
- S2.** Contrast and compare differing positions in philosophy

Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Present one's philosophical views in verbal and written form in tutorial discussions and in sustained academic writing
- A2.** Critique philosophical traditions and theories through academic writing based on independent research and the use of relevant secondary literature

Course Content:

Topics may include:

- Basic issues in ethics, such as ethical relativism, rights and duties, and virtues and vices.
- Basic issues in epistemology, such as the nature and definition of knowledge, scepticism and cognitive relativism, the varieties of knowledge.

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PHILO1001 PHILOSOPHICAL THINKING

- Basic issues in metaphysics, such as the existence of God, the mind-body problem, the nature of consciousness, determinism and free will, and personal identity.
- Basic issues in political philosophy, such as justice, freedom and obligation, citizenship and democracy.

Values and Graduate Attributes:

Values:

- V1.** Respect the importance of critical and reasoned argument regarding key issues in philosophy
- V2.** Awareness of the importance of engaging with ideas and arguments in philosophy in a rational, open minded, yet judicious fashion
- V3.** Creative approaches to constructing arguments and developing original ideas about philosophy and the arguments of key philosophers
- V4.** Respect for the philosophical ideals of clarity and coherence: outlining one's own philosophical position on a variety of issues in a confident, reasoned, clear, and articulate way
- V5.** Reflecting critically one's own philosophical ideas and the philosophical ideas of others

Graduate Attributes:

Attribute	Brief Description	Focus
Continuous Learning	Students will continuously develop basic skills in the analysis of philosophical concepts and arguments	High
Self Reliance	Students will develop basic skills in intensive reading, personal organisation, independent study, and research	High
Engaged Citizenship	Students will develop new skills in critical thinking	Medium
Social Responsibility	Students will work to gain the skills and confidence needed to be informed ethical and political thinkers and actors	Medium

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Task	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1 K2 S1 S2 A1	make informed contributions to discussions of set texts	Tutorial participation and online discussion, assessed throughout the semester	10 - 20%
K1 K2 S1 A1 A2	Comprehension and critique of a philosophical argument	A series of short answer exercises, due throughout the semester	30 - 40 %
K1 K2 S1 S2 A1 A2	Analysis of a major philosophical problem	Major essay, due at the end of semester	30 - 40%
K1 K2 S1 S2 A1	Oral presentation on ideas and texts under discussion in the relevant week	Oral presentation delivered to tutorial class	10 - 20%

Adopted Reference Style:

Chicago