Course Outline

School / Portfolio: Faculty of Education and Arts
Course Title: MODERN EUROPEAN PHILOSOPHY
Course ID: PHILO3209
Credit Points: 15.00
Prerequisite(s): (PHILO1002 or equivalent AND One 2000 Level Philosophy Course)
Co-requisite(s): Nil
Exclusion(s): (PHILO2209)
ASCED Code: 091701

Program Level:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introductory</td>
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<td>Intermediate</td>
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<td>Advanced</td>
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Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

K1. Appraise the key arguments proposed by a select group of important European philosophers of the modern period.
K2. Compare individual thinkers in modern European philosophy in relation to their arguments concerning the subject or self and its interactions with and knowledge of the world.
K3. Evaluate the work of individual thinkers in relation to their predecessors and successors in the history of modern European philosophy.
K4. Examine commonly held assumptions about the subject or self and knowledge and knowing.

Skills:

S1. Demonstrate expertise in critical textual analysis and exegesis.
S2. Articulate an informed perspective.
S3. Analyse, evaluate and critically engage expertly with philosophical positions.
S4. Undertake independent research to deepen critical understanding of Modern European philosophical traditions and texts.
S5. Design research questions, drawing on critical understanding of the core philosophical problematics driving arguments in Modern European philosophy.

Application of knowledge and skills:
Course Outline

PHILO3209 MODERN EUROPEAN PHILOSOPHY

A1. Recognise and reflect on the relations between different philosophical positions and traditions and their historical and philosophical contexts.

A2. Articulate and justify a philosophical position in a clear and well-structured manner in verbal or written form, demonstrating mastery of the conventions and techniques of philosophical scholarship.

Course Content:

This course functions as a critical examination of the history of European philosophical ideas of the modern period (i.e., from Descartes up until the twentieth century). Beginning with an analysis of Descartes’ famous statement ‘I think, therefore I am’, the course will map the theory of the subject or ‘I’ as being the central issue in Western philosophy from the 17th century onwards, specifically with regards to our interactions with and knowledge of the world. Accordingly, the course will examine different theorisations of the subject and its interactions with external objects, other subjects, nature, and God, from Descartes onwards. Thinkers studied will include: René Descartes, Baruch Spinoza, David Hume, Immanuel Kant, G.W.F. Hegel, Karl Marx, Friedrich Nietzsche, and Sigmund Freud. The course will conclude with a consideration of how these issues have informed twentieth century philosophy.

Values and Graduate Attributes:

Values:

V1. Develop the capacity to see philosophical problems within their historical contexts.

V2. Recognise and respect the variety of perspectives on and critical approaches to philosophical positions.

V3. Challenge commonly held views about the human self or subject and knowledge and knowing.

V4. Develop an awareness of the continuing relevance of Modern European philosophy to debates in modern Western culture.

V5. Respect other cultural traditions.

V6. Respect the procedures of disciplined philosophical argumentation.

Graduate Attributes:

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<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Brief Description</th>
<th>Focus</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Continuous Learning</td>
<td>Students will develop skills in comprehension, critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, and creative thinking</td>
<td>High</td>
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<tr>
<td>Self Reliance</td>
<td>Students will build on their skills in continuous learning, personal organisation, communication, independent thinking and research, initiative, and creativity.</td>
<td>High</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engaged Citizenship</td>
<td>Students will develop respect for and an informed perspective regarding the conceptual frameworks and traditions of Modern European philosophy</td>
<td>Medium</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Responsibility</td>
<td>Students reflect on and gain respect for differing conceptual and epistemological frameworks and their implications for societal discussions of knowledge and truth claims.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
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Learning Task and Assessment:
## Course Outline

PHILO3209 MODERN EUROPEAN PHILOSOPHY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Outcomes Assessed</th>
<th>Assessment Task</th>
<th>Assessment Type</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K1, S1, S2,</td>
<td>Demonstrate critical understanding of key concepts, arguments and texts in response to self and peer developed short answer questions.</td>
<td>Reading &amp; Comprehension Exercise</td>
<td>25-35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>K1, K2, K4, S1, S2, S3, S4, S5, A1, A2</td>
<td>Analysis, research and argument. Identify a philosophical research problem in consultation with their tutor. Develop and defend a position regarding this research problem by marshalling support, comparing competing viewpoints and drawing conclusions.</td>
<td>Research Essay</td>
<td>35-45%</td>
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<tr>
<td>K1, K2, K3, S1, S2, S3, S4, A1, A2</td>
<td>Present ideas and arguments pertinent to one course topic.</td>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>10-15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>K1, K2, K4, S1, S2, S3, S4, A2</td>
<td>Make informed contributions to course activities and discussion; demonstrate leadership and expertise in the discussion of course texts and ideas.</td>
<td>Participation &amp; Contribution</td>
<td>5-10%</td>
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**Adopted Reference Style:**

Chicago