

## Epistemology I (A001181)

Due to Covid 19, the education and assessment methods may vary from the information displayed in the schedules and course details. Any changes will be communicated on Ufora.

**Course size** *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

**Credits** 5.0

**Study time** 150 h

**Contact hrs**

45.0h

**Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2021-2022**

A (semester 2)

Dutch

Gent

lecture

30.0h

**Lecturers in academic year 2021-2022**

Lefevere, Merel

LW01

staff member

Simons, Massimiliano

LW01

lecturer-in-charge

Vanrie, Wim

LW01

co-lecturer

**Offered in the following programmes in 2021-2022**

[Bachelor of Arts in Moral Sciences](#)

**crdts**

**offering**

5

A

[Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy](#)

5

A

**Teaching languages**

Dutch

**Keywords**

Knowledge, justification, rationality

**Position of the course**

**Contents**

- Defining knowledge and justification
- The relation between rationality and knowledge
- Sources of knowledge and justification (perception, testimony, induction, ...)
- The possibility of knowledge (skepticism, objectivity)

**Initial competences**

**Final competences**

- 1 Being able to use the most crucial concepts from contemporary epistemology correctly.
- 2 Having insight in the different positions in contemporary epistemology.
- 3 Having insight in the nature of the analytical method in epistemology and being able to correctly reconstrue arguments.
- 4 Being able to evaluate the status of justification and rationality, both in everyday contexts and in scientific and ethical practice and thinking.
- 5 Being able to analyse the treatment of epistemological problems in texts from the philosophical tradition and to correctly rapport these analyses.

**Conditions for credit contract**

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

**Conditions for exam contract**

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

**Teaching methods**

Lecture

**Extra information on the teaching methods**

- The chapters from the textbook are discussed during the lectures.

- Three short papers must be written concerning David Hume's *Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding* and the topics treated in the textbook.

#### **Learning materials and price**

- Textbook: Richard Feldman. (2003). *Epistemology* (Prentice-Hall foundations of philosophy series). Englewood Cliffs (N.J.): Prentice Hall.
- Obligatory literature: David Hume, *An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding*.

Estimated costs: 50 EUR.

#### **References**

#### **Course content-related study coaching**

There is feedback for each paper.

#### **Assessment moments**

end-of-term and continuous assessment

#### **Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period**

Written examination

#### **Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period**

Written examination

#### **Examination methods in case of permanent assessment**

Assignment

#### **Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment**

examination during the second examination period is possible

#### **Extra information on the examination methods**

#### **Calculation of the examination mark**

Exam (60%) and papers (40%).

#### **Facilities for Working Students**

Facilities:

- 1 Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance
- 2 Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
- 3 Feedback can be given during an appointment during and after office hours

Extra information:

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy