

## Epistemology I (A001181)

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

**Credits** 5.0

**Study time** 150 h

### Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2023-2024

A (semester 2)	Dutch	Gent	lecture	seminar	0.0h
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### Lecturers in academic year 2023-2024

Taelman, Silke	LW01	staff member
Wallaert, Sigrid	LW01	staff member
Vanrie, Wim	LW01	lecturer-in-charge

### Offered in the following programmes in 2023-2024

	crdts	offering
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Moral Sciences</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy</a>	5	A

### Teaching languages

Dutch

### Keywords

- Analytical epistemology
- Feminist epistemology
- Knowledge first epistemology
- David Hume
- Knowledge
- Epistemic justification
- Epistemic rationality
- Epistemic internalism and externalism
- Epistemic scepticism

### Position of the course

This course is an introductory course with the aim of familiarizing students with a selection of fundamental concepts and positions from the field of analytical epistemology

### Contents

This course presents an overview of some of the main approaches to knowledge and other central epistemological concepts in analytical epistemology.

We start with classical analytical epistemology as it arose in the wake of the paper 'Is Justified True Belief Knowledge?' (1963) by Edmund Gettier. The handbook 'Epistemology' (2003) by Richard Feldman is an excellent exposition and exemplification of the classical approach. Next, we look at two important more recent developments in analytical epistemology: knowledge first epistemology, and feminist epistemology. Each in their own way, they pose critical questions about the classical approach, and try to steer epistemology into a new direction.

For the seminars, students have to read the book 'An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding' (1748) by David Hume. Students will have to make assignments about the epistemological issues that Hume discusses in the book, and about a contemporary text in analytical epistemology.

### Initial competences

### Final competences

- 1 Properly employing concepts from analytical epistemology
- 2 Grasping different positions in analytical epistemology
- 3 Correctly evaluating and reconstructing arguments from analytical epistemology
- 4 Reflecting autonomously and fruitfully about epistemological issues
- 5 Developing insightful analyses of the treatment of epistemological issues in both historical and contemporary philosophical texts
- 6 Grasping the epistemological aspects of certain societal issues

#### **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**

Seminar, Lecture, Peer teaching

#### **Extra information on the teaching methods**

- The handbook and the supplementary course materials are explained and discussed during the lectures
- The seminars will provide guidance for the assignments

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

- Textbook: Richard Feldman (2003). *Epistemology* (Prentice-Hall foundations of philosophy series). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall. The textbook will be made available in digital form through the faculty library.
- Compulsory reading: David Hume (1748). *An enquiry concerning human understanding*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Estimated costs: 30 EUR.

#### **References**

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

For the papers, the students will receive feedback and group tutorials.

#### **Assessment moments**

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Written assessment with open-ended questions

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

Written assessment with open-ended questions

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

Participation, Peer and/or self assessment, Assignment

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

examination during the second examination period is possible

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

- Continuous assessment: Several assignments must be made about Hume's book and about a contemporary text. Each assignment is accompanied by feedback.
- End-of-term assessment: Closed book exam with open questions. The exam will test both the capacity to reproduce the course material, as well as the capacity to think independently about epistemological issues on the basis of the course material

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

- End-of-term: Closed book exam with open questions (60%)
- Continuous assessment: assignments (40%)
  - Examination during the second examination period is possible. For the second examination, students may choose to preserve their marks for the papers from the first examination period.
- To pass the course, it is sufficient to have a total passing grade.

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

- Absence is allowed. Supporting teaching material is provided (slides)
- No online/digital facilities (lectures take place on campus, without recordings)

- It is possible to take the exam at a different time within the regular exam period
- It is possible to consult with the teachers to change the deadlines of assignments
- Possibility to receive feedback at another time: by appointment

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