

Capita Selecta in Modern and Contemporary Philosophy: Analysis of Texts (A001994)

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 1)

English

Gent

lecture

seminar

Lecturers in academic year 2023-2024

Haack, Levi

LW01

staff member

Van de Vijver, Gertrudis

LW01

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2023-2024

crdts

offering

Master of Science in Teaching in Arts and Humanities (main subject Philosophy)

5

A

Master of Arts in Philosophy

5

A

Research Master of Arts in Philosophy

5

A

Exchange Programme Philosophy and Moral Sciences

5

A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Text study, modern philosophy, contemporary philosophy, Kant, transcendental philosophy, epistemology

Position of the course

This advanced course assists the students in interpreting one of the fundamental philosophical texts from transcendental philosophy, namely Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason*. Furthermore, the course attempts at situating this work in its context and to bring it in discussion with contemporary interpretations. In addition, this course fosters communication, research and writing skills by means of interactive discussion, group presentation of one of the theses or antitheses presented by the instructors in the lectures, a written assignment, the participation in the [Oxford Style Debate](#) or the submission of a paper.

The final score consists of participation during the course, the written assignment and the participation in the debate.

The students are provided with a list of scientific literature. In their written assignment and participation in the debate, they must show the capacity of critically dealing with secondary literature.

Contents

One fundamental text from the modern philosophical tradition is read and discussed, namely Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason*. The course is structured in the form of a number of theses that will be discussed in the lectures and workshop-sessions.

Initial competences

Knowledge of English is required, knowledge of German and French is advised. General philosophical knowledge and skills is required, as offered in "Philosophical Methodology I", "History of Modern Philosophy" and "History of Contemporary Philosophy", "Texts Modern and Contemporary Philosophy: continental tradition" and "Text Modern and Contemporary Philosophy: Anglo-American Tradition".

Final competences

1 To have advanced an up to date knowledge about Kant's transcendental philosophy and to creatively apply this knowledge in the

treatment of philosophical issues.

- 2 To understand and appropriately use specialized philosophical terminology.
- 3 To understand the relationship between specific issues within Kant's transcendental philosophy and the modern dogmatic idealism and modern empiricism, and to be able to place this in historical perspective.
- 4 To understand the strengths and weaknesses of Kant's transcendental philosophy, modern dogmatic idealism and modern empiricism.
- 5 To analyse philosophical arguments and to expose conceptual lacks. To construct convincing arguments for or against the philosophical schools mentioned above.
- 6 To analyse, synthetically summarise and interpret philosophical texts in Dutch, French and English.
- 7 To be familiar with key international literature on Kant's Critique of Pure Reason, to actively follow the latest developments in contemporary (idealist / materialist) transcendental philosophy and to integrate them into in the own reflection and research.
- 8 To draft a research strategy by both detecting complex problems on the basis of theoretical models and accurately formulating them.
- 9 To interpret and report the results of existing and tentative own research.
- 10 To integrate in the own analysis of Kant's transcendental philosophy opposite opinions regarding Kant's theories and problems.
- 11 To consciously and thoughtfully judge about complex problems on the basis of philosophical insights and scientific knowledge.
- 12 To independently, systematically and critically reflect on thinking, learning, decision making and acting by oneself and by others.
- 13 To orally and in writing communicate the results of philosophical inquiry with experts and laymen.
- 14 To constructively debate about philosophical and social problems about which the correct problem formulation is still not clearly defined.
- 15 To understand the possibilities and limitations for philosophy to take a position in contemporary social contexts.
- 16 To independently conduct philosophical research and to fit in the dynamic of a philosophical research group.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Seminar, Lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods

The instructors explain and discuss in a number of introductory lectures the central points of Kant's philosophy and of the theses. In the seminars, students present their own interpretation of the content of the theses and prepare so their intervention in the Oxford Style Debate.

Learning materials and price

Original texts + secondary literature.

Cost: 15 EUR

References

An extensive list of secondary literature is to be found on Ufora.

Course content-related study coaching

Intensive supervision by lecturer and PhD students.

Assessment moments

continuous assessment

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

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

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Participation, Peer and/or self assessment, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

Participation

- In the Oxford Style Debate *or* submission of a paper.
- Participation in the discussion in the seminars.

Written assignment

- for those taking part in the Oxford Style Debate: preparation of a written structure of the arguments handed over to the lecturers: max. 1500 words.
- for those preparing a paper: submission of a first draft and argumentative schema, max. 1500 words

Calculation of the examination mark

100% non-periodical, with the following specification:

- Participation in the discussions during the course: 60%
- Participation in the debate *or* submission of a paper: 30%
- Written assignment: 10%

In order to obtain a deliverable total score, it is necessary to have taken part in all the components of the process.

Facilities for Working Students

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 by email, telephone or during an appointment during or after office hours

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