

Analysis of Texts from Modern and Contemporary Philosophy: Continental Tradition (A005207)

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 2024-2025

A (semester 2)

Dutch

Gent

seminar

lecture

Lecturers in academic year 2024-2025

Keymeulen, Kobe

LW01

staff member

Kolen, Filip

LW01

staff member

Van de Vijver, Gertrudis

LW01

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2024-2025

Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy

crdts

offering

5

A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

modern philosophy, contemporary philosophy, continental tradition, phenomenology, philosophical logic, Hegel, Husserl, Heidegger, selfconsciousness, objectivity, constitution, philosophical texts

Position of the course

This course teaches students how to analyse original philosophical texts stemming from the continental tradition (German idealism and phenomenology), on the basis of a proper reading and a confrontation with secondary literature. Moreover, it purports to enhance communicative, research and collective writing skills, through the interactive discussions (following the Octavian discussion format).

Contents

The chosen texts deal with the questions of co-constitution of subject and object, of objectivity and self-awareness, questions that have evolved in a specific way since modernity. The critical potential of these texts for contemporary social situation is discussed at length during the lessons.

Each year, a text by Hegel and another one by Husserl are discussed. The texts are selected from the following list:

1) Hegel: foreword and introduction to Hegel's *Phenomenology of Spirit* (1807), the section about the logic in the *Encyclopedia of the philosophical sciences* (1831), the doctrine of being and of essence in the *Science of logic* (1831).

2) Husserl: *Logische Untersuchungen* (1900), *Ideen zu einer Reinen Phänomenologie und Phänomenologischen Philosophie* (1913), *Die Krisis der europäischen Wissenschaften und die transzendente Phänomenologie* (1936).

Parallel there are readings groups in which students have to analyse the first eight paragraphs of Heidegger's *Being and Time*. In the last lesson this will be discussed in group (intercartelmoment).

Initial competences

To have successfully completed the courses "Analysis of Texts from Modern and Contemporary Philosophy: Anglo-American Tradition" and History of modern philosophy or to have acquired the necessary skills by other means.

To have knowledge of English is required. To have knowledge of German is

recommended.

Final competences

- 1 To be able to situate and comment in detail the major concepts pertaining to Hegel's, Heidegger's and Husserl's philosophy.
- 2 To have an informed view in the history of philosophy, on the basis of an orientation of the most important problems and research traditions.
- 3 To be able to articulate the relevancy of philosophical critique for scientific and societal problems.
- 4 To be able to construct and compare the argumentative thread of the philosophical texts under study, and to be able to assess the own interpretative position in relation to it.
- 5 To adequately analyse and synthesise the philosophical texts, if possible in the language in which they were originally published.
- 6 To acquire a sense of philosophical critique as engaged and subjected to permanent revision, through the confrontation between the own study, the interpretation of fellow students and lecturer, and relevant secondary literature.
- 7 To grasp the variations in ways of addressing problems through the confrontation of various epistemological and metaphysical backgrounds and contexts on the basis of which the studied texts are situated.
- 8 To be able to start a philosophical research by formulating and testing one or more philosophical hypotheses and to confront it with or incorporate it in existing research
- 9 To communicate in oral form about the questions and acquired insights.
- 10 To discuss constructively about various possible interpretations and to weigh the critical potential, the constraints and the possibilities, of philosophical viewpoints for approaching scientific and societal problems.
- 11 To be able to transpose important historical philosophical discussions to a variety of contexts.

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

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Seminar, Lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods

Lecture (10h): introduction, historical and systematic contextualisation, explanation of keyconcepts of the selected literature.

Seminar (35h): interactive discussion about the reading of the texts. Octavian discussion, collective reading groups & collective discussions during 'inter-cartel-day.'

Study material

None

References

- Hegel, G. W. F., *Werke in zwanzig Bänden*, Frankfurt am Main: Suhrkamp, 1979.
- Hegel, G.W.F., *The Phenomenology of Spirit*, translated and edited by T. Pinkard, Cambridge: CUP, 2018.
- Hegel, G. W. F., *Encyclopedia of the Philosophical Sciences In Basic Outline*. trad. K.

Brinkmann and D. O Dahlstrom. Cambridge: Cambridge university press, 2015.
 Hegel, G. W. F., *The Science of Logic*. Trad. G. Di Giovanni. Cambridge: Cambridge university press, 2015.
 Husserl, E., *Ideen zu einer Reinen Phänomenologie und Phänomenologischen Philosophie*, in: Jahrbuch für Philosophie und phänomenologische Forschung 1,1 (1913), S. [1]-323. (EN-vertaling: *Ideas Pertaining to a Pure Phenomenology and to a Phenomenological Philosophy*, tr. by F. Kersten, The Hague: Nijhoff, 1983.
 Husserl, E., *The Crisis of European Sciences and Transcendental Phenomenology : an Introduction to Phenomenological Philosophy*. Evanston (Ill.): Northwestern university press, 1970.
 Husserl, E., *Logical Investigations*. London: Routledge, 2001
 Heidegger, M., *Sein und Zeit*, elfte, unveränderte Auflage, Tübingen: Niemeyer, 1967 (NL-vertaling: *Zijn en Tijd*, Amsterdam: Boom, 1998)
 Heidegger, M., *Being and Time*, Transl. by John Macquarrie & Edward Robinson, Oxford, UK & Cambridge, USA: Blackwell Publishers Ltd., 2001.
 Secondary literature will be posted on Ufora.

Course content-related study coaching

Intensive support by lecturer and assistants, regarding the choice of secondary literature, the reading groups and supervision of research.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Oral assessment

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

Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Participation, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Oral examination consisting of mainly questions of insight. No open book examination. Either the exam takes place online, or on location whereby everyone is assigned a specific time.

Assignment: group work presenting the results of the group collective reading of Heidegger's *Being and Time* (inter-cartel day).

Participation: contribution to the collective discussion in the seminars.

Calculation of the examination mark

Periodical:

-oral examination: 50 %

Non-periodical:

Assignment: 30%

Participation: 20%

(If a student does not succeed the non-periodical evaluation, a second chance is offered by means of a compensatory task between the first and second exam period.)

Facilities for Working Students

1. Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance.

2. Feedback can be given by email, telephone or during an appointment during office hours

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