

Bachelor's Dissertation (A005647)

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

Credits 10.0 **Study time 300 h**

Course offerings in academic year 2024-2025

A (Year) Dutch Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2024-2025

Bleys, Kjell	LW01	staff member
Lefevere, Merel	LW01	staff member
Schreel, Louis	LW01	staff member
Vercootere, Sofie	LW01	staff member
Vervisch, Thomas	LW01	staff member
Van Dyck, Maarten	LW01	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2024-2025

Bachelor of Arts in Moral Sciences	crdts	offering
	10	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Research project, bachelorpaper, literature review, argumentation, writing skills, philosophy, ethics, moral science

Position of the course

This course is the final piece of the bachelor's program in moral sciences and as such integrates and realizes essential competences from the bachelor's program in moral sciences. The research elaborated in the bachelor's thesis realizes moral-philosophical, moral-scientific and normative ethical competences by developing and substantiating an ethical argumentation and position. As such, it is an extension of the philosophical ethical courses, in particular the course normative ethics, which are followed by the student during the bachelor's program.

Contents

Under the supervision of the supervisor, the student works on a bachelor's thesis on a topic in line with the research profile of the Department of Philosophy and Moral Science at UGent, thus realizing essential moral philosophical competencies. The theme is determined in close consultation with the supervisor and must be approved by him/her. The supervisor supervises the progressive acquisition of a scientific habitus. The bachelor thesis is complementary to the course Practice of Moral Scientific Research. In that course, moral scientific competencies are central, while the undergraduate thesis focuses on normative moral philosophical competencies.

The written paper contains a well-thought-out and well-structured elaboration and argumentation on the research topic, with correct use of footnotes and bibliographic reference system.

Intermediate group seminars are organized during the year. During these sessions, the progress of the bachelor's thesis is discussed and students are given intermediate assignments consistent with the achievement of the final competencies. The supervisor or supervisor is responsible for the development of the content of the paper and is required to read the research plan and at least one section thoroughly and provide feedback.

Initial competences

Having sufficient critical reflection, research, and reporting competencies. These will further be elaborated during the process of working on the bachelorpaper.
Having successfully completed Philosophical Methodology and Normative Ethics - or having acquired the necessary skills in other ways.

Final competences

- 1 Having a critical insight in selected domains in philosophy that tie in with the bachelorpaper.
- 2 Having a critical insight in the links between philosophical issues and social, cultural and (if needed) scientific developments.
- 3 Being able to develop a research project on bachelor level.
- 4 Being able to critically reflect on one's own philosophical ideas and being able to substantiate these with arguments based on a literature review.
- 5 Communicate orally and in writing about the results of philosophical research with experts and lay people.

Conditions for credit contract

This course unit cannot be taken via a credit contract

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

The bachelor's thesis integrates various forms of work. In the academic year prior to the academic year in which the bachelor thesis will be included, a seminar is organized to introduce students to the various research areas within the program and by extension the department. After this, students can choose a particular area of research. At the start of the academic year, students are assigned to peer groups. Throughout the year, group seminars are organized on a regular basis. During these seminars, the progress of the bachelor's thesis is discussed and students are given assignments corresponding to the specific requirements of the bachelor's thesis. The final work form of the bachelor's thesis is the independent work by which students demonstrate acquired competencies. Searching feedback from supervisor and supervisors in this regard is not only possible, but also strongly recommended.

Study material

None

References

Depends on the chosen project.

Course content-related study coaching

By the promoter.

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, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Written paper: evaluation is done by the supervisor and a second reader who is a member of the academic and/or teaching staff of the Department of Philosophy and Moral Science. The evaluation is done through a rubric and a written evaluation report. In evaluating the bachelor's thesis, the student is assessed in terms of his/her knowledge of ethics and moral science as well as ethical and scientific skills.

Intellectual attitude and understanding of the relationship between ethics and society, individual and current issues also play a role in the assessment. The work process and the student's active cooperation with the supervisor and other support staff are also taken into account in the evaluation.

Participation in group seminars including interim assignments (20%)

Second examination opportunity is possible, provided the student passed the component 'participation' in the first examination period.

Calculation of the examination mark

Written paper: 80%

Participation: participation in the group seminars including mid-term assignments (20%).

Failure to pass either component will prevent one from passing the entire course component. If the final score would still be a grade of ten or more out of twenty, it will be reduced to the highest non-deliberable grade.

Facilities for Working Students

- 1 In consultation with the supervisor and the collaborators of this course.
- 2 No possibility of examination at other time.