



PARTNERS ACADEMIC SUMMER SCHOOL 2024

Syllabus for Philosophy

Subject Area

This syllabus is for PARTNERS applicants seeking to progress to the degrees of:

- V500 Philosophy BA Honours
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Aims

To allow students to demonstrate their potential to succeed in specified degree programmes by showing a grasp of entry-level subject-specific knowledge, understanding, cognitive and subject-specific skills.

Learning Outcomes

This course aims to familiarise students with two key figures, arguably the two most foundational, within the history of modern philosophy: Descartes and Kant. In particular, we will begin the course with Descartes' inaugural text of philosophy: *The Meditations on First Philosophy* (1641). As we work through each Meditation (I-VI), we will introduce students to crucial concepts within philosophy such as: the cogito, the function of hyperbolic doubt, the question of truth and knowledge as well as the question of proof regarding God's existence. Following this Cartesian advance, we will turn to the critical philosophy of Kant, insofar that Kant's philosophy can be understood as a detailed, critical response to Descartes' philosophy. The systematic aspects of Kant's philosophy, and the transcendental mode of reasoning will be introduced to students by way of Kant's responses to what he perceives to be the fundamental problems within Descartes' groundbreaking philosophy. To this end, we will provide students with a thorough introduction and appropriate entrance into modern philosophy by way of the works of two great philosophers, while simultaneously demonstrating how philosophy takes shape, through critical dialogue, a key practice within philosophical thinking and critique.

The ability to apply this knowledge and critical understanding to...

Philosophical reasoning and critical thinking are applicable to both every day and academic contexts.

Discussions of ideology critique and its potential benefits and limitations for social criticism in academia and in general.

Not only discussions about the distinctions between different approaches to ideology critique, but also the potential ramifications of those approaches to ideology critique on both those making ideological criticisms (e.g., social critics) and the addressees of those criticisms (e.g., oppressed groups).

Competence in...

- Reading, understanding, and articulating the philosophical material. Critical engagement and dialogue among peers..

Summer School Syllabus

Please see subject timetable

Activities for Personal Study

Students are expected to prepare prior to the lecture/seminar. This includes close reading the texts, taking notes, and preparing questions/comments to share.

On-Campus Teaching:

Sunday 30th June (PM), Monday 1st July & Tuesday 2nd July

Online Teaching:

Wednesday 3rd, Thursday 4th & Friday 5th (AM only) July

Formative Assessment Details

Students will write a short essay (800-1000). Teachers will provide the essay topic(s) that directly deal with the course material. Primary and secondary sources will be required.

Hand-in Method

Digital

Assessment deadline

Friday 12th July