Course Specifications

Valid in the academic year 2015-2016

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

Course size

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Study time</th>
<th>Contact hrs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>150 h</td>
<td>45.0 h</td>
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</tbody>
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Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2015-2016

A (semester 1)
- guided self-study 15.0 h
- seminar 30.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2015-2016

Van de Vijver, Gertrudis  LW01 lecturer-in-charge
Acosta, Emiliano  LW01 co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2015-2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Offering</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Master of Arts in Philosophy</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>A</td>
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</tbody>
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Teaching languages

Dutch

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. The students present a chapter or a topic of Kant’s Critique of Pure Reason and prepare a paper (preferably co-authored, at least two students) in general based on the chapter or topic chosen for the presentation.

The students are provided with a list of scientific literature. They must show the capacity of critically dealing with secondary literature and have to formulate in their papers an original interpretative hypothesis on the selected chapter or topic from the Critique of Pure Reason. They get feedback on this paper. If the quality of the work is good, the students will be assisted to publish it in a scientific journal.

As such, this course is in keeping with the following educational competences: M.1.1., M.1.2., M.1.3., M.1.4., M.2.1., M.2.2., M.2.3., M.2.4., M.2.5., M.3.1., M.3.2., M.3.3., M.4.1., M.4.2., M.5.1., M.6.1., M.6.2.

Contents

One fundamental text from the modern philosophical tradition is read and discussed, namely Kant’s Critique of Pure Reason. Each student makes a choice in that work, and prepares the discussion. All the students read the selected chapters. The Critique of Pure Reason is followed as it is set up. At the end of the semester, the students prepare a paper, that is collectively read and discussed.

The critical discussion of the Critique of Pure Reason is preceded by a general introduction, as well as by a discussion of the transcendental deduction.

Thematic content (from 2012-2013 - content can slightly vary each year):

Transcendental Aesthetics (A19/B33 - A49/B73), Transcendental deduction (A84/B116-A130/B169), schematism (A130/B169 - A162/B203), Noumena and Phaenomena (A234/B249- A268/B324), paralogisms (A341/B399 - A405/B432), antinomies (Sections 1 to 7), the ideal of pure reason (A567/B595 - A642/B670), Appendix in the dialectic of
pure reason (A642/B670 - A704/B732).

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 and II", "History of Modern Philosophy" and "History of Contemporary Philosophy", “Texts Modern and Contemporary Philosophy”.

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
Guided self-study, seminar

Learning materials and price
original texts + secundary literature Cost: 15 EUR

References
De transcendentale esthetica

(Approved)


Het schemaatisme


De grondbeginselen


Adickes, E. (1929). *Kants Lehre von der Doppelten Affektion unseres Ich als Schlüssel zu seiner Erkenntnistheorie*. Tübingen:

Mehr-Siebeck


De amfibolie


De antinomieën


(Approved)


Het ideaal van de zuivere rede


Aanhang bij de dialectiek van de zuivere rede


De methodenleer


Course content-related study coaching

Intensive supervision by lecturer and PhD students.

Evaluation methods

continuous assessment

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

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

(Approved)
Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation
  Participation, assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation
  not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods
  Each student makes a work that is read and discussed, at the end of the semester, by all the other students. The assignment consists in writing a paper on which the student develops a thesis about a concrete philosophical issue related to Kant's philosophy as it is presented and discussed in the Critique of Pure Reason. This can of course involve different types of research, but in all cases it is important to precisely formulate the question in order to make the work proposal feasible enough. Guidelines and possible research hypotheses are communicated to the students at the beginning of the year.

  The collective discussion around these papers, which all students read all the papers, is part of the exam.

Calculation of the examination mark
  100% non-periodical

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

(Approved)