Course Specifications
Valid as from the academic year 2019-2020

Master's Dissertation (A003412)

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Study time</th>
<th>Contact hrs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>600 h</td>
<td>30.0 h</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2019-2020

A (year) Dutch master's dissertation 30.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2019-2020

Praet, Danny LW01 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2019-2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>crdts</th>
<th>offering</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Master of Arts in Moral Sciences</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Arts in Philosophy</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

research skills

Position of the course

The master's dissertation completes the academic formation in the field of philosophy/moral sciences. The student is expected to conduct scientific research individually and report on his/her findings within a given time-frame, both by handing in a written dissertation and by an oral presentation and defense in which he/she demonstrates that all the final competences are acquired.

Contents

The emphasis is not exclusively on the originality of the theme, but also on the scientific exploration of the theme. Important objectives are:

- formulating a research question against the backdrop of recent literature
- analysing sources of information (primary sources, historical literature,...)
- interpreting the collected materials consistent with current knowledge
- demonstrating writing skills, capacity to synthesize and formulating conclusions.

Initial competences

Basic knowledge about the specific area of research is expected. The student also has advanced knowledge of and insight into the field of philosophy/moral sciences. An investigating attitude and basic skills relating to the ability to conduct research individually, formulating research questions, reporting and communicating about research findings etc. are expected. The student will develop these skills further by working on the Master's dissertation.

Final competences

1. Identify and delineate relevant philosophical or ethical problems.
2. Select and interpret relevant sources of information regarding a specific research question.
3. Formulate a clear status quaestionis regarding a specific research question in the fields of philosophy/ethics/moral sciences.
4. Select the most suitable methodology to contribute to a solution to the research question.
5. Properly apply a theoretical framework to a specific research question.
6. Formulate a strong philosophical/ethical argumentation concerning a specific research question in a structured, clear and coherent manner.
7. Deal with sources of information in a critical and scientifically correct way.
8. Process relevant literature adequately in an original and relevant contribution that answers the initial research question.

(Draft -- caution, this is not the final version)
9 Founding intermediary and final conclusions on presented material, analyses and argumentation.
10 Using correct academic language, both grammatically, orthographically and stylistically (professional, clear, scientific).
11 Applying a transparent and consistent reference system.
12 Compiling a complete and consistent bibliography and list of references.
13 Neatly presenting a thesis (lay-out, typography, page numbers, title page, ...).
14 Adequately incorporating feedback into a research project.
15 Communicating the contents of a research project in a brief, clear and scientific presentation.
16 Orally explaining scientific findings and properly responding to critical questions regarding those findings.

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
Master's dissertation

Learning materials and price

References

Course content-related study coaching

Evaluation methods
end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

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

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

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation
Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation
examination during the second examination period is possible

Calculation of the examination mark