

Moral Science: Practical Issues (A000496)

Due to Covid 19, the education and evaluation methods may vary from the information displayed in the schedules and course details. Any changes will be communicated on Ufora.

Course size	<i>(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)</i>		
Credits 5.0	Study time 150 h	Contact hrs	45.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2020-2021

B (year)	Dutch	Gent		
			project	10.0 h
			lecture	1.25 h
			online demonstration	5.0 h
			online seminar: coached	2.5 h
			exercises	
			online lecture: plenary	2.5 h
			exercises	
			online seminar: practical PC	2.5 h
			room classes	
			microteaching	1.25 h
			online project	10.0 h
			seminar: practical PC room	2.5 h
			classes	
			online lecture: response	7.5 h
			lecture	
			demonstration	0.0 h
			lecture: plenary exercises	0.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2020-2021

Goethals, Tina	LW01	staff member
Provoost, Veerle	LW01	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2020-2021

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in Moral Sciences	5	B

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Moral research, moral experience, moral experience, judgement, moral attitudes, discourse analysis, Theory of Planned Behaviour, systematic review, research proposal, experiment, attitude scales, survey, questionnaire construction, qualitative research, quantitative research, experiment, focus groups, interviews, narrative analysis, grounded theory, interpretative phenomenological analysis, SPSS, statistics, data-analysis, thematic analysis, NVivo, interview training

Position of the course

This advanced course teaches students how to choose and use research methods of moral science.

Contents

The content and lessons consist of two assignments:

- 1 A quantitative study (individual work): formulate a research question, construct a questionnaire, contact respondents, gather data, data cleaning, data-analysis and process and present the final results.
- 2 A qualitative study or an experiment (group work): formulate a research question,

prepare the forms for the ethics committee, conduct interviews, transcribe the interviews, analyse the data using NVivo, synthesize and present the results.

Assignment 2 and 3 are preceded by an advanced seminar where the steps to be taken are explained in detail. In the following lessons, practical tips for using specific software will be given. During three lessons of presentations, students will take turns in providing relevant feedback based on the presentations of their peers.

Students are guided through all steps of working on these assignments either individually or in small groups. This may be during online sessions. Results of these assignments will be presented (online) to peers. During and after these presentations students will be asked to participate in the discussion and give feedback to their peers.

In light of the COVID-19 crisis, most of the above can also be offered in online format. There will be ample opportunity for (online) guidance and support, both individual as well as in small groups.

Initial competences

- To have successfully completed the course 'Statistics'
- To have successfully completed 'Methods and techniques of research in Moral Science: introduction' or to have acquired the necessary skills by other means.

Final competences

- 1 Assess the importance and the usefulness of empirical research results for ethical-theoretical research
- 2 To be able to read critically and interpret published research papers about both quantitative and qualitative empirical research
- 3 To be able to construct research questions, explain their relevance and situate the research question within the current empirical science.
- 4 To understand different qualitative research methods, to be able to apply these methods
- 5 To be able to choose the best fitted empirical research method for a given research question.
- 6 To be able to practically design a study according to a particular research method (recruitment, selection, informing participants, etc.)
- 7 Prepare a file for the Ethics Committee
- 8 To be able to design a clear and correct questionnaire to address a particular research question.
- 9 To be able to construct & analyse moral judgement tests
- 10 To be able to use specific software (Word, Qualtrics) to construct face-to-face or online questionnaires for surveys.
- 11 To be able to clean quantitative databases to prepare them for data analysis.
- 12 To analyse gathered data in a scientifically correct and comprehensive way, using specific software (NVivo, SPSS).
- 13 To be able to present empirical research results in a clear way, making a good distinction between main and side issues. To be able to correctly answer questions about the conducted research.

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

Demonstration, lecture, microteaching, project, lecture: plenary exercises, seminar: practical PC room classes, online demonstration, online lecture: plenary exercises, online lecture: response lecture, online project, online seminar: coached exercises, online seminar: practical PC room classes

Extra information on the teaching methods

Seminar (12h): introduction to language (writing) support, instructions and practical directions, theoretical deepening about quantitative and qualitative research, guest lecturer who presents his/her (moral) research project.

Seminar/demonstration (2h): data cleaning

Exercises (6h): construct quantitative questionnaires, clean own data, analyse own data.

Microteaching (14h): presentation of three assignments, peer feedback, training of interview techniques, peer feedback

Online discussion groups: peer feedback about research questions (all tasks) and

quantitative questionnaire (task 2).

Field work: gather quantitative data (task 2: closed questionnaire, online or face-to-face), gather and write out qualitative data (task 3: semi-structured interviews, IPA).

Research project: prepare research question, research method, file for the Ethics Committee, data-analysis, prepare presentations.

Group work/project (11h): consultation class: possibility to work together on group assignments, teachers provide help and feedback.

Learning materials and price

(Electronic) syllabus, articles, available on electronic learning platform. Cost: 10.00 €

References

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Course content-related study coaching

Personal guidance by professor or assistant. Moments of individual consultation and follow-up of assignments.

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

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Participation, assignment, peer assessment, report

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

Peer evaluation: evaluate the assignments of peers

Working papers: evaluation based on periodical and final documents such as questionnaire, research question, form for the ethics committee, databases, presentations.

Report: evaluation based on oral presentation and results of the empirical studies

Participation: evaluation on the basis of the student's critical reflection and participation in the discussions in the classes, on online discussion forums and related to the presentations of other students.

Calculation of the examination mark

Non-periodical: continuous assessment (100%)

Assignment 1 (quantitative study) – 50%

Assignment 2 (qualitative study) – 50%

Students need to obtain a minimum of 50% for each assignment to succeed.

Facilities for Working Students

Students should contact the professor or assistant to ask for the possibilities.

Attendance during most lessons is required but alternative assignments and/or electronic learning can be used instead.

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