



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

PHILOSOPHY PROGRAMME PHIL 267: GREAT PHILOSOPHERS 20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 2 March to 1 July 2015

Teaching dates: 2 March to 5 June 2015

Easter/Mid-trimester break: 3–19 April 2015

Study period: 8–12 June 2015

Examination/Assessment Period: 12 June to 1 July 2015

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

Lectures: Tuesday, 11.00-12.50, Murphy (MY)LT220
 Thursday, 11.00-12.50, Hunter (HU)LT220

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Simon Keller
Room No: MY720
Phone: 463 9638
Email: simon.keller@vuw.ac.nz
Office hours: Wednesday and Friday, 10.00 - 11.00 am

Lecturer: Max Cresswell
Room No.: MY 721
Phone: 463 6902
Email: max.cresswell@vuw.ac.nz
Office hours: Thursdays, 10-11am.

Communication of additional information

This course uses Blackboard and presumes that all enrolled students have valid myvuw.ac.nz addresses. Please check that this account is active and you have organised email forwarding. Additional information and any changes to the timetable or lecture and seminar programme will be advised by email, announced in lectures, and posted on the course Blackboard site.

Prescription

This course surveys the history of philosophy through the contribution of influential philosophers from both the ancient and modern period. Philosophers that may be discussed include: Thales, Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, Spinoza, Leibniz, Locke, Berkeley, and Hume.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students passing the course should be able to:

1. demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the history of philosophy and philosophical ideas
2. critically evaluate a variety of arguments in the history of philosophy established methods of formal or informal logic
3. analyse or elucidate complex ideas and concepts from the history of philosophy.

Teaching format

The bi-weekly meetings will include some lecturing, plus discussion, informal group assignments, and time for questions. There are no tutorials for this course.

Students are expected to attend classes regularly, take part in class discussion, and keep up with the reading.

Mandatory course requirements

There are no mandatory course requirements.

Workload

In accordance with University Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 200 hours to the course throughout the year. An approximate indication of the hours to be spent on each component of the course is as follows:

Preparation and attendance at classes: 50 hours

First essay: 40 hours

Second essay: 40 hours

Examination: 70 hours

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	2000-word essay	30%	1, 2, 3	30 April, 12.00 pm
2	2000-word essay	30%	1, 2, 3	4 June, 12.00 pm
3	Three-hour closed-book final examination	40%	1, 2, 3	Exam period 12 June to 1 July

The essays and examination will be evaluated against the following five criteria:

1. directness and clarity in answering the question

2. support of answer with relevant and reasoned argument
3. knowledge of relevant material presented in readings and lectures
4. consideration of alternative viewpoints and arguments
5. quality of writing, including clarity of handwriting where relevant.

Submission and return of work

All assignments are due before 12pm (noon) on the due date.

Submission: All written work must be submitted in hard copy in class, or to the PHIL 267 mailbox outside MY518 by 12 pm on the due date. Written work must also be submitted electronically to the PHIL 267 site on Blackboard. All written work must use double-spaced 12-point text, and must include page numbers.

Essays and tests will be returned at times to be advised. If students fail to attend these times, they may collect their essay from the Office, MY518 between the hours of 2.00 and 3.00 pm from Monday to Friday and must show their Student ID card before collection. We will notify students via Blackboard when graded essays are available (generally 2-3 weeks after the date submitted).

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

Late submission of **assignments** will **not be accepted** unless the student makes an appointment as soon as practically possible with the course coordinator to explain the lateness (preferably before the assignment is due to be submitted). The circumstances under which an extension will be considered are outlined in section 3.2.1 of the Assessment Handbook.

(See: www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf).

Penalties

Philosophy Programme policy stipulates that late submission of essays is penalised. Late essays submitted without extensions having been obtained will receive a penalty of 5 points per day (or part thereof) late. No assignment will be accepted after the day of the final exam. Essays must be within the word limit. All material beyond 110% of the word limit will not be read or graded.

Set texts

Students must purchase the PHIL 267 Course Book, and the following two books:

Descartes, Spinoza, and Leibniz, *The Rationalists* (New York: Anchor Books, 1974).

Locke, Berkeley, and Hume, *The Empiricists* (New York: Anchor Books, 1974).

The readings will be available from Vicbooks. Locations and opening hours for course book purchases are available at www.vicbooks.co.nz.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

Enhancements made to this course, based on the feedback of previous students, will be covered during the course.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz