PHIL7001
Research Topics in Philosophy II
Session 2, Fully online/virtual 2021
Department of Philosophy

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Disclaimer
Macquarie University has taken all reasonable measures to ensure the information in this publication is accurate and up-to-date. However, the information may change or become out-dated as a result of change in University policies, procedures or rules. The University reserves the right to make changes to any information in this publication without notice. Users of this publication are advised to check the website version of this publication [or the relevant faculty or department] before acting on any information in this publication.

Session 2 Learning and Teaching Update
The decision has been made to conduct study online for the remainder of Session 2 for all units WITHOUT mandatory on-campus learning activities. Exams for Session 2 will also be online where possible to do so.

This is due to the extension of the lockdown orders and to provide certainty around arrangements for the remainder of Session 2. We hope to return to campus beyond Session 2 as soon as it is safe and appropriate to do so.

Some classes/teaching activities cannot be moved online and must be taught on campus. You should already know if you are in one of these classes/teaching activities and your unit convenor will provide you with more information via iLearn. If you want to confirm, see the list of units with mandatory on-campus classes/teaching activities.

Visit the MQ COVID-19 information page for more detail.
General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Professor of Clinical Ethics
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Professor
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Credit points
10

Prerequisites
Admission to MRes

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit will explore various theoretical and practical issues raised by a single important recent theme in philosophy, such as the nature of the self or the impacts of technology. The unit will explore this theme from a variety of perspectives by looking at the relevant metaphysical and epistemological, ethical and moral, and political and social issues it raises. The unit’s topics and themes may differ from year to year but will not replicate those covered in Research Topics in Philosophy I. Students will be exposed to important philosophical debates so that they are able to begin to pursue their own research projects.

Important Academic Dates
Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at [https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates](https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates)

Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:
ULO2: analyse philosophical arguments
ULO3: evaluate philosophical arguments
ULO1: understand issues discussed in the contemporary philosophical literature
ULO4: communicate clearly your own perspective on the philosophical issues examined in this unit

General Assessment Information

Late Assessment Submission Penalty Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved:

(a) a penalty for lateness will apply – 10 marks out of 100 credit will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date; and

(b) no assignment will be accepted seven days (including weekends) after the original submission deadline.

Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essay Plan</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>11.59 15/10/2021 OR 11.59 27/10/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>11:59 12/11.2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in discussion</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Essay Plan
Assessment Type 1: Plan
Indicative Time on Task 2: 20 hours
Due: 11.59 15/10/2021 OR 11.59 27/10/2021
Weighting: 30%

Essay Plan

On successful completion you will be able to:
- analyse philosophical arguments
- evaluate philosophical arguments
- understand issues discussed in the contemporary philosophical literature
- communicate clearly your own perspective on the philosophical issues examined in this unit
**Essay**

Assessment Type: Essay  
Indicative Time on Task: 38 hours  
Due: 11:59 12/11/2021  
Weighting: 50%

Research essay

On successful completion you will be able to:

- analyse philosophical arguments
- evaluate philosophical arguments
- understand issues discussed in the contemporary philosophical literature
- communicate clearly your own perspective on the philosophical issues examined in this unit

**Participation in discussion**

Assessment Type: Participatory task  
Indicative Time on Task: 18 hours  
Due: Ongoing  
Weighting: 20%

Participation in discussion

On successful completion you will be able to:

- analyse philosophical arguments
- evaluate philosophical arguments
- understand issues discussed in the contemporary philosophical literature
- communicate clearly your own perspective on the philosophical issues examined in this unit

1 If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
• the **Learning Skills Unit** for academic skills support.

2 Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

## Delivery and Resources

The unit will consist of 12 weekly two-hour seminars (on campus or Zoom). Prof Wendy Rogers, Prof Richard Menary and Prof Jean-Philippe Deranty will each convene 4 weeks of seminars.

Readings: Each of the three lecturers will provide a set of readings on the iLearn site.

## Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- **Academic Appeals Policy**
- **Academic Integrity Policy**
- **Academic Progression Policy**
- **Assessment Policy**
- **Fitness to Practice Procedure**
- **Grade Appeal Policy**
- **Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public**
- **Special Consideration Policy** *(Note: The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.)*

Students seeking more policy resources can visit the [Student Policy Gateway](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit [Policy Central](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central).

## Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: [https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct](https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct)

## Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](https://eStudent.mq.edu.au), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](https://eStudent.mq.edu.au). For more information visit [ask.mq.edu.au](https://ask.mq.edu.au) or if you are a Global MBA
Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit [http://students.mq.edu.au/support/](http://students.mq.edu.au/support/)

**Learning Skills**

Learning Skills ([mq.edu.au/learningskills](http://mq.edu.au/learningskills)) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Getting help with your assignment
- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- Subject and Research Guides
- Ask a Librarian

**Student Enquiry Service**

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at [ask.mq.edu.au](http://ask.mq.edu.au)

If you are a Global MBA student contact [globalmba.support@mq.edu.au](mailto:globalmba.support@mq.edu.au)

**Equity Support**

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

**IT Help**

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit [http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/](http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/).

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.