PHIL701

Foundations of Research in Philosophy

S1 External 2019

Dept of Philosophy

Contents

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
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Credit points
4

Prerequisites
Admission to MRes

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
The unit will focus on an in-depth reading of foundational texts in the history of philosophy and will examine their impact on current debates in the field. Each year 3 key texts will be selected for study from ethics, metaphysics and epistemology, and European philosophy. Texts may include: Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics, Hume's Enquiry, Kant's Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals, Hegel's Phenomenology of Spirit, Wittgenstein's Philosophical Investigations, Millikan's Language, Thought and other Biological Categories.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Acquire a coherent and advanced knowledge of the methodology, concepts and arguments of philosophy

Synthesise and analyse information from a variety of sources concerning foundational concepts and arguments in philosophy

Analyse and critically evaluate philosophical arguments

Work in cooperation with others to analyse, communicate, criticise, and develop seminal ideas in philosophy

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Research Essay	60%	No	week 12
Essay presentation	30%	No	weeks 8-10
Participation	10%	No	All Weeks

Research Essay

Due: **week 12**
Weighting: **60%**

Due: week 12 Weighting: 60%

Essay drawing upon research related to course content. The essay should be 4000 words long. The title and content should be agreed with the course convenor prior to submission (no later than week 8).

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Essay presentation

Due: **weeks 8-10**
Weighting: **30%**

1. Due: weeks 8-10 Weighting: 30%

   At the end of the course each student will give a 20 minute presentation on their essay indicating:

   1.identifies the philosophical problem that the essay will address

2. locates that problem in an area of philosophy

3. Outlines the structure of the argument, indicating the key concepts or arguments that require attention in addressing the problem.

Second, each student will be asked to present their proposal and outline and to be prepared to

respond to

questions on the proposal. Finally, each student will be expected to participate in the presentations, to ask questions of other

students and to offer constructive commentary aimed at clarification or refinement of each proposal.

Criteria for assessment: clarity of the question/problem, contextualisation in philosophical debate, articulation of the argument structure and rationale. Clarity of verbal presentation, value of the contribution to discussion.

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Participation

Due: **All Weeks**
Weighting: **10%**

1. Due: Each Week Weighting: 10%

    Student preparation for discussion of readings. The quality of their participation in weekly online discussions.

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Delivery and Resources

The seminar will meet weekly unless indicated in the schedule.

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.)*

Undergraduate 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/study/getting-started/student-conduct

Results

Results published on platform other than eStudent, (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. For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Student Support

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

Learning Skills

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

- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module for Students
- Ask a Learning Adviser

Student Services and 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.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit 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.

Graduate Capabilities

PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Acquire a coherent and advanced knowledge of the methodology, concepts and arguments of philosophy
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Assessment tasks

- Essay presentation
- Participation

PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Acquire a coherent and advanced knowledge of the methodology, concepts and arguments of philosophy
- Synthesise and analyse information from a variety of sources concerning foundational concepts and arguments in philosophy
- Analyse and critically evaluate philosophical arguments

Assessment tasks

- Research Essay
- Essay presentation

PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

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Assessment tasks

- Research Essay
- Essay presentation

PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or

practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

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- Analyse and critically evaluate philosophical arguments

Assessment tasks

- Research Essay
- Essay presentation

PG - Effective Communication

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Analyse and critically evaluate philosophical arguments
- Work in cooperation with others to analyse, communicate, criticise, and develop seminal ideas in philosophy

Assessment tasks

- Essay presentation
- Participation

PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Analyse and critically evaluate philosophical arguments
- Work in cooperation with others to analyse, communicate, criticise, and develop seminal ideas in philosophy

Assessment task

- Participation

Changes since First Published

Date	Description
19/02/2019	Changed essay date.