

Metaphysics

Academic Year: (2023 / 2024)

Review date: 25-05-2022

Department assigned to the subject: Humanities: Philosophy, Language, Literature Theory Department

Coordinating teacher: GONZALEZ MARIN, MARIA CARMEN EVA

Type: Electives ECTS Credits : 6.0

Year : Semester :

REQUIREMENTS (SUBJECTS THAT ARE ASSUMED TO BE KNOWN)

History of Philosophy (I and II)
Moral Philosophy
Logic and argumentation

OBJECTIVES

The course will offer an analysis of classical and contemporary philosophical discussions concerning the meaning of Metaphysics, its character and its relations to social and political dimensions. The course will develop a detailed reading and hermeneutical commentary of classical and contemporary texts, which will contribute to the development of the following competences:

1. Approach to a reflection on metaphysics as a problem.
2. Knowledge of abstract concepts in the classical and contemporary interpretation of the natural, social and personal world, and, specially, those of selfhood, experience, action and truth.
3. Interpretation and understanding of the arguments and reasons (perspectives, styles, theories).
4. Interpretation of those concepts and arguments in different cultural contexts and in the diverse philosophical styles and traditions.
5. Understanding and use of different forms of expression and diverse renderings.
6. Competence achievement in developing arguments and writing reviews by way of writing short papers and essays.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

This course will be developed in two parts.

PART I. "Metaphysics as a problem, as a misunderstanding and as a residue".

1. Introductory session
2. Entelechies of power. A reading from book IX (or book ζ[theta]) of Aristotle's Metaphysics
3. Was Thomas Aquinas the secret inventor of the modern self? Modernity as an anti-avian plot.
4. The image and the scheme. The power of the images in the chapter on the schematism of the pure concepts of the understanding, of the Critique of the pure reason from Kant

Part II The Transcendentals

1. Genealogies of the Transcendentals as properties of being as being
2. UNUM: Substance, subject, me

Persistence and constitution
The physical and the mental
Causation, determinism and freedom

3. VERUM: Theories of truth.

Correspondence theories, coherence
Deflationary, pluralistic and pragmatist theories
Realism and anti-realism

4. PULCHRUM: The metaphysics of beauty

Philosophical conceptions of beauty
Objectivity and subjectivity

5. BONUM: Good and good

From excellence to obligation
The metaphysics of morality

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

1. 3 credits assigned to the presentation of the contents of the program by way of lectures.
2. 3 credits assigned to the discussion in class of the syllabus.
- .2. The students are required to write two essays on the topics assigned and following the instructions.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

1. Continuous assessment by way of 2 essays and class discussions and commentaries centered in the syllabus. These activities amount to a 60% of the final grade and is a necessary condition for it.
2. Final exam (40% of the final grade) that will be the interpretation of a text, in the light of a problem or concept and according to a chosen theory or approach. An essay can substitute the final exam.

% end-of-term-examination:	40
% of continuous assessment (assignments, laboratory, practicals...):	60

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Arendt, H. The Life of the Mind, Nueva York, 1978, Harcourt Brace & co., 1978
- Arendt, H. Responsibility and Judgment, , Random House, , 2003
- Arendt, H. Lectures on Kant's Political Philosophy, , University of Chicago Press, , 1982
- Arendt, H. The Human Condition, , University Press, Chicago,, 1958
- Young-Bruehl, Elisabeth Hannah Arendt. For Love of the World. , Yale University Press, , 1982