



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

PHILOSOPHY PROGRAMME PHIL 310: SPECIAL TOPIC: EXPERIMENTAL PHILOSOPHY 20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 2014

Important dates

Trimester dates: 3 March to 2 July 2014

Teaching dates: 3 March to 6 June 2014

Easter/Mid-trimester break: 18 April to 4 May 2014

Last assessment item due: 20 June 2014

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, Friday 2:10pm to 4:00pm
Venue: New Kirk (KK) 202

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Dr Justin Sytsma
Room No: MY 710
Email: justin.sytsma@vuw.ac.nz
Office hours: By appointment

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 will survey and critique the new and emerging field of experimental philosophy.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the field of experimental philosophy.
2. Exhibit detailed knowledge of the construction of empirical studies relevant to philosophical questions.
3. Undertake in-depth logical and critical thinking, especially as it pertains to experimental philosophy.

Teaching format

This course will involve two two-hour lectures per week. 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

Other than obtaining an overall pass mark there are no mandatory course requirements.

Workload

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

Preparation and attendance at classes:	120 hours
Essay 1:	40 hours
Essay 2:	40 hours

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	3,500-word essay describing and critiquing/supporting a piece or area of work in experimental philosophy	35%	1, 3	Friday 9 May (before class)
2	3,500-word essay laying out and motivating an empirical study that could be conducted to help illuminate a philosophical issue	35%	2, 3	Friday 20 June (by 4:00 pm)
3	Eight pop quizzes (worth 5% each, dropping two lowest scores); quizzes will be given during lecture and will take approximately five to ten minutes to complete; no make-up quizzes will be given	30%	1	N/A

Submission and return of work

Essays should be submitted electronically through Blackboard. Indicative grades and comments will be posted on blackboard.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

Make-up quizzes will not be given, although the lowest two quiz grades will be dropped for each student. For essays, all extensions must be obtained from the course coordinator, prior to the deadline for submission of the assessment task unless unforeseeable circumstances prevent this. Short extensions of up to 3 days will be automatically granted to any student who requests it with an email prior to the scheduled deadline. Longer extensions need to be negotiated and require justification and supporting evidence. Any work submitted late without an extension having been obtained is subject to penalties (see below).

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 essay will be accepted after 30 June.

Set texts

All required readings will be made available on Blackboard.

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/resources/subjectcontacts.html>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz