

PHIL1110
Introduction to Philosophy 哲學概論

Course Outline

Mode of Teaching: Lecture – Online / Tutorial – Online until further notice

Time : LEC - H 2:30pm-4:15pm
TUT - TBA

Location : Online
TBA

Course overview (as shown on CUSIS)

This course is a general introduction to philosophical thinking and problems. Students will gain a basic familiarity with some of the major philosophical fields, figures and issues; be encouraged to develop their own views and to defend them with critical reasoning. Topics to be discussed may include: notion of philosophy; nature of philosophical problems; the importance of philosophical reflection; methods of philosophy; concepts and theories of self, world, categories, and value; and selected topics in ethics, metaphysics, and the theory of knowledge.

Learning outcomes (as shown on CUSIS)

1. Grasp basic concepts in philosophical thinking.
2. Ability to reflect in a critical manner on philosophical issues and their relations.
3. Understand the importance of philosophical reflection and bring it to bear on things that matter in life.

Topics

- Introduction: What is philosophy?
- Knowledge and Skepticism
- Science and World
- God and Evil
- Mind and Body
- Determinism and Freedom
- Morality and Value
- Justice and Society
- Conclusion: Why Philosophy?

Learning activities

- Lectures (online only)
- Tutorials (mixed mode)

Assessment scheme as prescribed on CUSIS (revise if necessary)

| <i>Task nature</i> | <i>Description</i> | <i>Weight</i> |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Mid-term Essay | | 30% |
| Final Take-Home Exam | | 40% |
| Tutorials | | 30% |

Backup plan for assessment in case face-to-face teaching and assessment is not possible due to the pandemic (no need to fill in if the class and related assessments are to be conducted online)

| <i>Task nature</i> | <i>Description</i> | <i>Weight</i> |
|----------------------|--|---------------|
| Mid-term Essay | No backup plan needed | |
| Final Take-Home Exam | No backup plan needed | |
| Tutorials | Switching from mixed mode to online only | |

Remarks on Assessment Scheme (if any)

Grade Descriptor

Please refer to: http://phil.arts.cuhk.edu.hk/~phidept/UG/Grade_descriptors.pdf

Recommended learning resources

- Berlin, Isaiah, *Concepts & Categories: Philosophical Essays*. Oxford University Press, 1950.
- Blackburn, Simon, *The Oxford Dictionary of Philosophy*, Oxford University Press, 1996.
- Blackburn, Simon. *Think*, Oxford University Press, 1999.
- Cahn, Steven, *Exploring Philosophy: An Introductory Anthology*, Oxford University Press, 2000.
- Falikowski, Anthony F., *Experiencing Philosophy*. Upper Saddle River, NJ : Prentice Hall, 2004.
- Grayling, A. C, *Philosophy I: A Guide Through the Subject: A Guide Through the Subject*, vol. 1. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998.
- Guttenplan, Samuel/ Hornsby, Jennifer/Janaway, Christopher, *Reading Philosophy: Selected Texts with a Method for Beginners*. Malden, MA : Blackwell, 2003.
- Hollis, Martin, *Invitation to Philosophy*. Wiley-Blackwell, 1997.
- Martin, Robert, *Philosophical Conversations*. Orchard Park, NY: Broadview Press, 2006.

- Morton, Adam, *Philosophy in Practice: An Introduction to the Main Questions*. Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2004.
- Pojman, Louis P., *Introduction to Philosophy: Classical and Contemporary Readings*, 4th ed. Wadsworth, 1991.
- Russell, Bertrand, *The Problems of Philosophy*, with a new introduction by John Perry. New York: Oxford University Press, 1997.
- Sober, Elliott, *Core Questions in Philosophy: A Text with Readings Plus MySearchLab with eText*, 6th ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson, 2012.
- Solomon, Robert/Higgins, Kathleen M., *The Big Questions: A Short Introduction to Philosophy*, 9th ed. Wadsworth, Cengage Learning, 2013.
- Sumpf, Samuel Enoch, *Philosophy: History & Problems*, 8th ed. McGraw-Hill, 2011.
- Williamson, Timothy, *Doing Philosophy: From Common Curiosity to Logical Reasoning*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018.
- 唐君毅，《哲學概論》。臺北：臺灣學生書局，1975。

Course schedule

| <i>Week</i> | <i>Topics</i> | <i>Teaching Mode</i> <i>Online / in-campus</i> | <i>Required reading</i> | <i>Tutorials</i> | <i>Remarks</i> |
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Details of course website

Contact details for teacher(s) or TA(s)

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| Teacher | |
| Name: | Lau Chong Fuk |
| Office location: | Room 423, Fung King Hey Building |
| Telephone: | 3943 7137 |
| Email: | cflau@cuhk.edu.hk |

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| TA | |
| Name: | |
| Office location: | |
| Telephone: | |
| Email: | |

Academic honesty and plagiarism

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/>

With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. For group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign the declaration.

For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the receipt will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.