

PHIL 3652
Topics in Contemporary Western Philosophy 當代西方哲學
專題
Philosophy of Nature

Course Outline

This is an unofficial preliminary course outline. The official outline will be distributed via blackboard to students enrolled in the class.

Time : M 1:30pm-4:15pm	Location: LDS 214
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Course overview (as shown on CUSIS)

The course aims at an in-depth study of selected works of contemporary Western philosophy. Topics may include: Positivism, Structuralism, Neo-Kantianism, Process Philosophy, British Idealism, American Pragmatism, and other contemporary philosophers such as Frege, G. E. Moore, Russell, Wittgenstein, and Quine. Offerings with different subtitles can be taken up for credit, up to a maximum of two times.

Advisory to Majors: to be taken in year 2 or above.

Learning outcomes (as shown on CUSIS)

1. Acquire knowledge of the selected topics of the course.
2. Have a solid grasp of the philosophical issues of the selected topics of the course.
3. Demonstrate familiarity with the primary/secondary source texts.
4. Be able to articulate and defend a philosophical thesis of their own.

Topics

Philosophy of nature

Learning activities

The majority of the grade (80%) will be based on a major essay and a few minor take-home exams. Students will also give a presentation on the reading for one class (10%). Students are expected to participate in class regularly (10%).

Assessment scheme as prescribed on CUSIS (revise if necessary)

<i>Task nature</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Weight</i>
Essay		50%
Short answer test or exam		30%
Presentation		10%
Participation		10%

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Backup plan for assessment in case face-to-face teaching and assessment is not possible due to the pandemic

Same as above

Remarks on Assessment Scheme

Grade Descriptor

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

Recommended learning resources

There are two required texts for this class. Students may purchase them in hardcopy or find their own digital copies.

- Simon P. James. *Environmental Philosophy: An Introduction*. Polity: 2015.
[Amazon.com](#) [Bookdepository.com](#)
- David Abram. *The Spell of the Sensuous*. Twentieth Anniversary Edition. Vintage: 2017 [1996].
[Amazon.com](#) [Bookdepository.com](#)

Course schedule

<i>Week</i>	<i>Topics</i>	<i>Teaching Mode Online / in-campus</i>	<i>Required reading</i>	<i>Tutorials</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1	Introduction	In-campus			
2-6	Central topics in environmental philosophy	In-campus	James, <i>Introduction to Environmental Philosophy</i> (selections)		
7-13	<i>The Spell of the Sensuous</i>	In-campus	Abram, <i>The Spell of the Sensuous</i> (selections)		

Details of course website

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

Teacher	
Name:	Hayden, Kee
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TA	
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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.