

Philosophy

Course # HUSS 2051

Credits 6

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites: None

Course Description

This course is an introduction to philosophy. It aims to strengthen students' critical thinking skills, help them build a theoretical toolkit to navigate interdisciplinary practices of knowledge production. As an introductory course, it provides students with the basic knowledge of philosophical theories, categories, and topics. We explore major philosophical discussions in the contemporary world ranging from epistemology to aesthetics. The course does not presume to dictate any philosophical doctrine; its purpose is to help students improve their skills of reasoning and develop a taste to reflect on things non-pragmatic.

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:

- use philosophical categories accurately in discussing philosophical topics;
- untangle (latent) premises upon which (their own or others') philosophical statements are made;
- identify inconsistencies and potential errors that require attention and investigation;
- take a systematic approach, to ensure that issues are viewed in a "bigger picture" and essentials are not overlooked;
- defend a stance in a debate reasonably (using relevant facts, knowledge of theories, coherent arguments);
- discuss philosophical issues responsibly (amicably and cooperatively).

Course Assessments and Grading

Item	Weight
Attendance	5 %
Participation in in-class activities	15%
Student presentations (individual)	30% (2 presentations x 15%)

Student presentations (group debates)	15% (3 debates x5%)
Midterm test	15%
Final test & essay	20%