

MODULE TWO

METHODS OF PHILOSOPHY

(GPS 2205) Philosophy and Logic



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Philosophy is an activity with different Methods, approaches, modes or styles some of which include:



Speculative

Prescriptive

Analytic

Historical



SPECULATIVE PHILOSOPHY

Speculative philosophy is a way of thinking systematically about everything that exists



It tries to understand how all the different things that have been discovered together form some sort of meaningful totality

Speculative philosophy is therefore a search for order and wholesomeness applied not to particular items or experience

It is an attempt to find coherence in the whole realm of thoughts and experience

PRESCRIPTIVE PHILOSOPHY

Prescriptive philosophy seeks to establish standards for assessing values, judging conduct and appraising art

It examines what we mean by good or bad, right and wrong, beautiful and ugly

It asks whether these qualities are in things themselves or whether they are projections of our minds

It is the kind of philosophy that looks to explain how the world is

It is typical of the grand metaphysical systems of Continental philosophy

it rejects sensory evidence and instead seeks to use pure reason to say how the world *must* logically be

ANALYTIC PHILOSOPHY



Analytic philosophy focuses on words and meaning

The analytic philosopher examines such notions as “causes”, “mind”, “academic freedom”, “quality of opportunity”,

in order to assess the different contexts, he shows how inconsistencies may arise when meanings appropriate in certain contexts are imported into others

The analytic philosopher tends to be sceptical, cautious and disinclined to build system of thought.

HISTORICAL PHILOSOPHY

Historical Philosophy
here, we trace the
development of ideas
over time

it is considered
necessary that we go
back to these ideas
and see how they can
be of help to the
problems of our time

A thorough
philosophical study
must be take into
consideration what
has already been
discussed in that area
in the past

But unlike in mere
historical account, the
major emphasis is to
examine the logical
relationship of ideas
over the years

THANK YOU