



UNSW Course Outline

ARTS3373 Topics in Metaphysics, Epistemology, and Philosophy of Language - 2024

Published on the 22 May 2024

General Course Information

Course Code : ARTS3373

Year : 2024

Term : Term 2

Teaching Period : T2

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture

Academic Unit : School of Humanities and Languages

Delivery Mode : In Person

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : Kensington

Campus : Sydney

Study Level : Undergraduate

Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

At a time when distinguishing between knowledge and 'spin' in media, politics, and business is

more important than ever, it is important to get clear on what is involved in knowing something, in being accurate in what one says or thinks, in saying or thinking something meaningful at all. Are there such things as truth and knowledge? What are they, and how could we arrive at them? Even more fundamentally, what is meaningful speech or thought? And is there an objective reality for our speech and thought to represent? These are the sorts of questions explored in this advanced course. You will learn about key ideas and approaches in contemporary analytic philosophy, through an in-depth engagement with topics selected from among the areas of epistemology, metaphysics, and the philosophy of language. Precise topics and areas represented may vary in different iterations of the course.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Identify and critically assess arguments concerning knowledge, and/or mind, and/or meaning, and/or reality.
CLO2 : Employ and explain some key conceptual tools for analysing arguments on advanced philosophical issues.
CLO3 : Evaluate key writings on knowledge, and/or reality, and/or mind, and/or meaning, which provide a foundation for much contemporary thought and culture.
CLO4 : Analyse and explain key concepts and ideas on some central philosophical views, demonstrating a basis for on-going engagement with philosophy.
CLO5 : Contextualise study in other disciplines in the broader context of human thought.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Identify and critically assess arguments concerning knowledge, and/or mind, and/or meaning, and/or reality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major essay • Final exam
CLO2 : Employ and explain some key conceptual tools for analysing arguments on advanced philosophical issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early exam • Major essay • Final exam
CLO3 : Evaluate key writings on knowledge, and/or reality, and/or mind, and/or meaning, which provide a foundation for much contemporary thought and culture.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major essay • Final exam
CLO4 : Analyse and explain key concepts and ideas on some central philosophical views, demonstrating a basis for on-going engagement with philosophy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early exam • Major essay • Final exam
CLO5 : Contextualise study in other disciplines in the broader context of human thought.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final exam

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System | Review - Assessment/Feedback Tool

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Major essay Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (4 days)	50%	Due Date: 02/08/2024 08:00 PM Post Date: 20/08/2024 12:00 AM
Early exam Assessment Format: Individual	20%	Due Date: 10/06/2024 11:30 AM
Final exam Assessment Format: Individual	30%	Due Date: 15/07/2024 12:00 PM

Assessment Details

Major essay

Assessment Overview

Research essay. 3000 words. Essay questions available by week 2; discussed at outset with students, enabling them to start thinking about the essay concurrently with the associated lectures; students encouraged to consult during office hours about essay; essay due a few weeks later. Subsequent feedback via individual comments. Further personal consultation about essay available afterwards.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Identify and critically assess arguments concerning knowledge, and/or mind, and/or meaning, and/or reality.
- CLO2 : Employ and explain some key conceptual tools for analysing arguments on advanced philosophical issues.
- CLO3 : Evaluate key writings on knowledge, and/or reality, and/or mind, and/or meaning, which provide a foundation for much contemporary thought and culture.
- CLO4 : Analyse and explain key concepts and ideas on some central philosophical views, demonstrating a basis for on-going engagement with philosophy.

Assessment Length

3000 words

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Early exam

Assessment Overview

In-class exam. Held before census date. 20 minutes long. Provides early formal feedback for students, to be discussed in subsequent pre-census class (and in consultation hours, if students wish), once marked.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO2 : Employ and explain some key conceptual tools for analysing arguments on advanced philosophical issues.
- CLO4 : Analyse and explain key concepts and ideas on some central philosophical views, demonstrating a basis for on-going engagement with philosophy.

Assessment Length

20 minutes

Submission notes

in-class short test

Assessment information

This will take place during class time in Week 4. Check Moodle for official details

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

Final exam

Assessment Overview

Final exam (held in UNSW Exam period). Two hours. Feedback via individual comments, if sought by student. (This is the final assessment for attendance purposes.)

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Identify and critically assess arguments concerning knowledge, and/or mind, and/or meaning, and/or reality.
- CLO2 : Employ and explain some key conceptual tools for analysing arguments on advanced philosophical issues.
- CLO3 : Evaluate key writings on knowledge, and/or reality, and/or mind, and/or meaning, which provide a foundation for much contemporary thought and culture.
- CLO4 : Analyse and explain key concepts and ideas on some central philosophical views, demonstrating a basis for on-going engagement with philosophy.
- CLO5 : Contextualise study in other disciplines in the broader context of human thought.

Detailed Assessment Description

2 hour centrally timetabled exam administered by School.

Assessment Length

Two hour exam

Assessment information

Check Moodle for up to date details. This is an in person exam. Centrally timetabled.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

General Assessment Information

Check moodle for dates and latest details. There may be some changes. Keep up to date with information on Moodle.

Grading Basis

Standard

Requirements to pass course

An overall grade of 50% is required. There is no particular assessment that must be passed.

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 27 May - 2 June	Seminar	Thinking About Philosophy Through The History of Philosophy Aristotle on Essence, Mind and Explanation How Did Language Come To Be So Important For Philosophy
Week 2 : 3 June - 9 June	Other	No Class this week due to King's Birthday Holiday.
Week 3 : 10 June - 16 June	Seminar	Ideas: The Triumph of Extensionalism
Week 4 : 17 June - 23 June	Seminar	Kripke Part 1
Week 5 : 24 June - 30 June	Seminar	Kripke Part 2
Week 6 : 1 July - 7 July	Other	NO CLASS
Week 7 : 8 July - 14 July	Seminar	The Recidivists Respond: Two Dimensionalism
Week 8 : 15 July - 21 July	Seminar	What is Formal Semantics I
Week 9 : 22 July - 28 July	Seminar	What is Formal Semantics II
Week 10 : 29 July - 4 August	Seminar	Presupposition and explanation

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

General Schedule Information

Keep up to date with Moodle site for this course. That will have the latest and correct information.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

Readings will be available through moodle via Leganto on Moodle site

Recommended Resources

See Moodle for links and additional resources.

Course Evaluation and Development

Student feedback will be gathered through myExperience surveys (along with any informal comments that come my way from students). This will be carefully considered. Any useful comments or notable patterns will be taken into account in preparing and teaching my future courses.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Michaelis Michael		Morven Brown Room 325	93852183	Email for meeting arrangement	No	Yes

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

Due to evolving advice by NSW Health, students must check for updated information regarding online learning for all Arts, Design and Architecture courses this term (via Moodle or course information provided).

Please see: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines> for essential student information relating to:

- UNSW and Faculty policies and procedures;

- Student Support Services;
- Dean's List;
- review of results;
- credit transfer;
- cross-institutional study and exchange;
- examination information;
- enrolment information;
- Special Consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;

And other essential academic information.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- Copying: Using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This includes copying materials, ideas or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original information, structure and/or progression of ideas of the original without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.
- Collusion: Working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student for the purpose of them plagiarising, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.
- Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.
- Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): Submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

The UNSW Academic Skills support offers resources and individual consultations. Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study. One of the identified

causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items. UNSW Library has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW, but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time
- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Use of AI for assessments

As AI applications continue to develop, and technology rapidly progresses around us, we remain committed to our values around academic integrity at UNSW. Where the use of AI tools, such as ChatGPT, has been permitted by your course convener, they must be properly credited and your submissions must be substantially your own work.

In cases where the use of AI has been prohibited, please respect this and be aware that where unauthorised use is detected, penalties will apply.

[Use of AI for assessments | UNSW Current Students](#)

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au

Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin, you may

apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support, you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone, you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, alternative submission details will be stated on your course's Moodle site. For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

Late Submission Penalty

UNSW has a standard late submission penalty of:

- 5% per calendar day,
- for all assessments where a penalty applies,
- capped at five calendar days (120 hours) from the assessment deadline, after which a student cannot submit an assessment, and
- no permitted variation.

Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request [Special Consideration](#) as early as possible before the deadline. Support with [Time Management is available here.](#)

School Contact Information

School of Humanities & Languages

Email: hal@unsw.edu.au

Location: School Office, Morven Brown Building, Level 2, Room 258

Opening Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm