

PHIL20039 The Nature of Reality

Credit Points:	12.5									
Level:	2 (Undergraduate)									
Dates & Locations:	2016, Parkville This subject commences in the following study period/s: Semester 2, Parkville - Taught on campus.									
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: 2x 1-hour lectures each week and 1x 1-hour tutorial (weeks 2-12) Total Time Commitment: 170 hours									
Prerequisites:	None									
Corequisites:	None									
Recommended Background Knowledge:	One of the following subjects is recommended but not required: <table border="1" data-bbox="389 689 1485 891"> <thead> <tr> <th>Subject</th> <th>Study Period Commencement:</th> <th>Credit Points:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>PHIL10002 Philosophy: The Big Questions</td> <td>Semester 1</td> <td>12.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PHIL10003 Philosophy: The Great Thinkers</td> <td>Semester 2</td> <td>12.50</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Subject	Study Period Commencement:	Credit Points:	PHIL10002 Philosophy: The Big Questions	Semester 1	12.50	PHIL10003 Philosophy: The Great Thinkers	Semester 2	12.50
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PHIL10003 Philosophy: The Great Thinkers	Semester 2	12.50								
Non Allowed Subjects:	None									
Core Participation Requirements:	<p><p>For the purposes of considering request for Reasonable Adjustments under the Disability Standards for Education (Cwth 2005), and Student Support and Engagement Policy, academic requirements for this subject are articulated in the Subject Overview, Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Generic Skills sections of this entry.</p> <p>It is University policy to take all reasonable steps to minimise the impact of disability upon academic study, and reasonable adjustments will be made to enhance a student's participation in the University's programs. Students who feel their disability may impact on meeting the requirements of this subject are encouraged to discuss this matter with a Faculty Student Adviser and Student Equity and Disability Support: http://services.unimelb.edu.au/disability</p></p>									
Coordinator:	Dr Dana Goswick									
Contact:	Email: dgoswick@unimelb.edu.au (mailto:dgoswick@unimelb.edu.au)									
Subject Overview:	<p>Our central question in this subject will be the extent to which our everyday experiences are determined by the nature of the world itself versus the extent to which they're determined by the structure of our own minds. Our approach to this question will be multi-faceted, drawing on philosophical texts, films and literary works, as well as our personal experiences. In topic 1, the nature of the world, we'll discuss Realism, Idealism, and Skepticism. Is the world really as it seems intuitively to be to us (Realism) or is it just a projection of our minds (Idealism). In topic 2, the nature of the self, we'll examine (i) what changes you can undergo and still remain yourself, (ii) the extent to which your personality and mind are constructed by you vs. being given to you by nature or upbringing, and (iii) whether genuine relationships exist between you and others or whether it's mostly a projection on your part. In topic 3, the nature of time, we'll examine time. Does only the present moment exist or does reality consist of many moments of time - some past, some present, and some future? Is there really any such thing as time or is it, as Kant says, just a feature of our minds? Does contemporary physics show there's no such thing as time, or is there a way to reconcile the findings of physics with our intuitive view that time exists?</p>									
Learning Outcomes:	<p>On completing this subject students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # have a critical understanding of the main issues in contemporary analytical metaphysics; # have developed skills in philosophical reasoning concerning issues covered; 									

	# be in a position to go on to more advanced work in this area.
Assessment:	Three assignments of 600 words, due end of week 4, end of week 8 and end of week 12 (15% each) One assignment of 2200 words, due in the first week of the examination period (55%) Hurdle requirement: Students must attend a minimum of 75% of tutorials in order to pass this subject. All pieces of written work must be submitted to pass this subject. Note: Assessment submitted late without an approved extension will be penalised at 10% per day. After five days late assessment will not be marked. In-class tasks missed without approval will not be marked.
Prescribed Texts:	A subject reader will be available at the university bookshop at the beginning of semester.
Breadth Options:	This subject potentially can be taken as a breadth subject component for the following courses: # Bachelor of Biomedicine (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2016/B-BMED) # Bachelor of Commerce (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2016/B-COM) # Bachelor of Environments (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2016/B-ENVS) # Bachelor of Music (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2016/B-MUS) # Bachelor of Science (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2016/B-SCI) # Bachelor of Engineering (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2016/B-ENG) You should visit learn more about breadth subjects (http://breadth.unimelb.edu.au/breadth/info/index.html) and read the breadth requirements for your degree, and should discuss your choice with your student adviser, before deciding on your subjects.
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees
Links to further information:	http://shaps.unimelb.edu.au/philosophy
Related Majors/Minors/Specialisations:	Graduate Certificate in Arts - Philosophy Graduate Diploma in Arts - Philosophy Philosophy Philosophy Major