

136-033 Science, Reason and Reality

Credit Points:	12.50
Level:	2 (Undergraduate)
Dates & Locations:	2009, This subject commences in the following study period/s: Semester 1, - Taught on campus.
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: Between 10-12 weekly tutorials and between 20-24 lectures, normally two per week Total Time Commitment: 2.5 contact hours/week, 6 additional hours/week. Total of 8.5 hours per week.
Prerequisites:	Usually 75 points of first year study across any discipline areas.
Corequisites:	None
Recommended Background Knowledge:	None
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:	Assoc Prof Howard Sankey
Contact:	Assoc Prof Howard Sankey - chs@unimelb.edu.au
Subject Overview:	This subject addresses some of the central issues in the philosophy of science. It will raise questions such as: What is the difference between science and non-science? Is there a universal scientific method? Or do the methods employed by scientists vary historically? Is scientific theory change a rational process? Is science objective? Do scientific theories inform us of the truth about the world? Students who take this class will have knowledge of the major themes of recent and contemporary philosophical thinking about science. They will also have experience of the methods of critical analysis and argument employed in the philosophy of science and a background on which to base further study in the area.
Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # have knowledge of the major ideas and theories of recent and contemporary philosophy of science; # have background in the philosophy of science on which to base further research and study in the area; # have experience with methods of critical analysis and argument employed in the philosophy of science, leading to improved general reasoning and analytical skills.
Assessment:	Written work totalling 4000 words comprising a 1500-word essay 30% (due mid-semester) and a 2500-word essay 70% (due at the end of semester).
Prescribed Texts:	What is This Thing Called Science? (A Chalmers) Philosophy of Science: The Central Issues (M Curd & J A Cover) Representing and Intervening (I Hacking)
Breadth Options:	<p>This subject potentially can be taken as a breadth subject component for the following courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Bachelor of Biomedicine (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2009/J07) # Bachelor of Commerce (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2009/F04) # Bachelor of Environments (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2009/A04)

	<p># Bachelor of Music (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2009/M05)</p> <p># Bachelor of Science (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2009/R01)</p> <p># Bachelor of Engineering (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2009/355-AA)</p> <p>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.</p>
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees
Generic Skills:	<p># have experience of thinking systematically about difficult intellectual problems of an abstract nature;</p> <p># have practice conducting research, speaking articulately, writing clearly and reading with attention to detail.</p>
Notes:	<p>Formerly available as 136-202/302. Students who have completed 136-202 or 136-302 Science, Reason and Reality are not eligible to enrol in this subject. For science third year, see PHIL30004 (Science, Reason and Reality (Science 3)).</p> <p>This subject is available for science credit for students enrolled in the BSc (pre-2008 degree only), or a combined BSc course (except for the BA/BSc).</p>
Related Course(s):	Diploma in Arts (History and Philosophy of Science Diploma in Arts (Philosophy)
Related Majors/Minors/Specialisations:	<p>History & Philosophy of Science</p> <p>History & Philosophy of Science Major</p> <p>History and Philosophy of Science</p> <p>History and Philosophy of Science</p> <p>Logic and Philosophy of Science</p> <p>Philosophy</p> <p>Philosophy</p> <p>Philosophy</p> <p>Philosophy Major</p>