

Degree	Type	Year
Philosophy	OT	3
Philosophy	OT	4

Contact

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Teachers

Jesus Hernandez Reynes

Teaching groups languages

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Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course

Objectives and Contextualisation

Ancient Cynicism and the Contemporary Philosophical Struggle.

In this 2025-2026 academic year, the *Seminar on Ethics and Political Philosophy* will have two parts: one, dedicated to ancient cynicism; the other, focused on contemporary theoretical struggle.

Competences

- Philosophy
- Analysing and summarising the main arguments of fundamental texts of philosophy in its various disciplines.
- Recognising and interpreting topics and problems of philosophy in its various disciplines.
- Students must be capable of applying their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional way and they should have building arguments and problem resolution skills within their area of study.
- Students must be capable of collecting and interpreting relevant data (usually within their area of study) in order to make statements that reflect social, scientific or ethical relevant issues.

- Students must develop the necessary learning skills to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.
- Thinking in a critical and independent manner on the basis of the specific topics, debates and problems of philosophy, both historically and conceptually.

Learning Outcomes

1. Accurately drawing up normative texts.
2. Carrying out a planning for the development of a subject-related work.
3. Correctly, accurately and clearly communicating the acquired philosophical knowledge in oral and written form.
4. Demonstrating a personal stance over a problem or controversy of philosophical nature, or a work of philosophical research.
5. Developing self-learning strategies.
6. Discriminating the features that define the writer's place in the context of a problem and reorganising them in a consistent diagram.
7. Distinguishing and outlining the fundamental content of a philosophical text.
8. Recognising, with a critical eye, philosophical referents of the past and present and assessing its importance.

Content

Ancient Cynicism and the Contemporary Philosophical Struggle.

The course connects two blocks of ethical and political philosophy that are different in time and style of thought, focused on forms of resistance against the established order. One block treats ancient cynicism as an anti-civic practice. The other block addresses resistance through the theoretical critique of the dominant ideology, denaturalizing power and its mechanisms

Part on ancient cynicism:

1. Cynicism in its Greek origins.
2. Sophistry and the question of the *phýsis/nómos* opposition.
3. Socrates and the option for civic spirit.
4. The role of Antisthenes in cynicism.
5. Minimum life vs. opulent life.
6. Law and justice.
7. Active life.
8. Autarky and freedom.
9. Truth against science. The actor as an archetype.

Part on contemporary theoretical struggle:

1. Historical dialectics in Hegel: epistemology and politics
2. The opposition idealism /*materialism*: dialectical materialism in Marx.
3. Marxism and humanism: Marx's theoretical antihumanism.
4. *Imaginary/ideology*: a pertinent distinction.
5. The concept of *surplus value*: a theoretical science of practical life.
6. The reproductive function of the State: repressive and ideological apparatuses.
7. Ideological mechanisms: interpellation as subjects

Activities and Methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
classes	30	1.2	6, 8
Lectures	15	0.6	5, 6, 7, 2, 8
Type: Supervised			
tutorship	15	0.6	3, 1, 5
Type: Autonomous			
Readings and studies	75	3	3, 1, 2

The classes consist of the reading and discussion of the appropriate texts. Interventions by the teacher and the participating students are planned.

The class dynamics make it necessary to read the texts outside of classroom hours that will later be treated.

15 minutes of a class will be reserved, within the calendar established by the centre/degree, for the complementation by the students of the surveys of evaluation of the performance of the teaching staff and the evaluation of the subject" in order to remind the teaching staff of the need to promote the surveys among the students.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Assessment

Continuous Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Class participation	20%	12	0.48	4, 5, 7, 2
1st test	40%	1.5	0.06	3, 1, 5, 6, 7, 8
2ond test	40%	1.5	0.06	3, 1, 5, 6, 8

This subject does not provide for the single assessment system.

The evaluation will be done on two exams, with a value of 40% each, and on participation and attendance in class, with a value of 20%. On the date established by the Dean's Office, the exams will be retaken through a final exam, with a weighted value of 80%. Participation is not recoverable.

The evaluation of all activities will be *reviewed* individually in the teacher's office, on the date that will be announced in due course through the Virtual Campus.

To take the retake exam, you must have taken at least one exam and attended the seminar sessions. The final grade is the weighted average of all the activities evaluated.

Students who do not attend a minimum of assessment activities that represent 2/3 of the relative weight *are considered non-assessed*.

It is possible that the Department of Philosophy will establish (as it has done during the first semester) a period of concentration of evaluative tests. The teaching staff will indicate if there is this period or what the dates of the tests are at the beginning of each subject.

In this subject, the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies is allowed as an integral part of the development of the work, provided that the final result reflects a significant contribution of the student in the analysis and personal reflection. The student will have to: (i) identify which parts have been generated with AI; (ii) specify the tools used; and (iii) include a critical reflection on how these have influenced the process and the final result of the activity. Lack of transparency in the use of AI in this assessable activity will be considered a lack of academic honesty and will result in the activity being evaluated with a 0 and not being able to be recovered, or greater penalties in cases of seriousness

In the event that the student makes any irregularity that may lead to a significant variation in the grade of an evaluation act, this evaluation act will be graded with 0, regardless of the disciplinary process that may be instructed. If there are several irregularities in the evaluation acts of the same subject, the final grade of this subject will be 0.

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Software

Not applicable.

Groups and Languages

Please note that this information is provisional until 30 November 2025. You can check it through this [link](#). To consult the language you will need to enter the CODE of the subject.

Name	Group	Language	Semester	Turn
(SEM) Seminars	11	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(SEM) Seminars	12	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	1	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed