

COURSE OUTLINE

(1) GENERAL

SCHOOL	PHILOSOPHY		
ACADEMIC UNIT	PHILOSOPHY AND SOCIAL STUDIES		
LEVEL OF STUDIES	Undergraduate		
COURSE CODE	ΦA000.5	SEMESTER	5-8
COURSE TITLE	Descartes: Meditations on First Philosophy		
INDEPENDENT TEACHING ACTIVITIES <i>if credits are awarded for separate components of the course, e.g. lectures, laboratory exercises, etc. If the credits are awarded for the whole of the course, give the weekly teaching hours and the total credits</i>	WEEKLY TEACHING HOURS	CREDITS	
	3	10	
<i>Add rows if necessary. The organisation of teaching and the teaching methods used are described in detail at (d).</i>			
COURSE TYPE <i>general background, special background, specialised general knowledge, skills development</i>	Specialised general knowledge, Skills development Close reading seminar		
PREREQUISITE COURSES:	History of Modern Philosophy (recommended)		
LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION and EXAMINATIONS:	Greek (Erasmus students can be given tutorials as well as write their essays in English or German)		
IS THE COURSE OFFERED TO ERASMUS STUDENTS	Yes (see above)		
COURSE WEBSITE (URL)			

(2) LEARNING OUTCOMES

<p>Learning outcomes <i>The course learning outcomes, specific knowledge, skills and competences of an appropriate level, which the students will acquire with the successful completion of the course are described.</i></p> <p><i>Consult Appendix A</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Description of the level of learning outcomes for each qualifications cycle, according to the Qualifications Framework of the European Higher Education Area</i> • <i>Descriptors for Levels 6, 7 & 8 of the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning and Appendix B</i> • <i>Guidelines for writing Learning Outcomes</i>
<p>After successfully completing the seminar, the students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • will have become familiar with the argumentative structure of Descartes's <i>Meditations</i>, a seminal text of early modern philosophy • will have developed the capacity to relate that philosophical text to Descartes's wider scientific program as well as to its historical context • will have developed the capacity to analyze a philosophical text and dissect its arguments • will have developed the capacity to discuss variant exegetical approaches and their consequences • will have developed the skills required in order to conduct literature search and write an academic essay

General Competences

Taking into consideration the general competences that the degree-holder must acquire (as these appear in the Diploma Supplement and appear below), at which of the following does the course aim?

Search for, analysis and synthesis of data and information, with the use of the necessary technology
Adapting to new situations
Decision-making
Working independently
Team work
Working in an international environment
Working in an interdisciplinary environment
Production of new research ideas

Project planning and management
Respect for difference and multiculturalism
Respect for the natural environment
Showing social, professional and ethical responsibility and sensitivity to gender issues
Criticism and self-criticism
Production of free, creative and inductive thinking
.....
Others...
.....

Working independently

Team work

Engagement in interdisciplinarity

Practicing criticism and self-criticism

Promotion of independent, creative and constructive thought

(3) SYLLABUS

Descartes's *Meditations on First Philosophy* is a seminal text of early modern philosophy. Passing through radical doubt and the demolition of received wisdom, Descartes arrives at a foundation of the "first principles of human knowledge". The science of these principles is first philosophy or metaphysics, and it is the root of all other sciences in Descartes' ambitious scientific program. We will study closely Descartes's fascinating text and discuss its argumentative structure as well as the formative influence it has exercised on modern thought.

(4) TEACHING and LEARNING METHODS - EVALUATION

<p style="text-align: center;">DELIVERY <i>Face-to-face, Distance learning, etc.</i></p>	Face-to-face	
<p style="text-align: center;">USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY <i>Use of ICT in teaching, laboratory education, communication with students</i></p>	Use of the platform UoC-eLearn for distributing course material and for communicating with students	
<p style="text-align: center;">TEACHING METHODS</p> <p><i>The manner and methods of teaching are described in detail.</i></p> <p><i>Lectures, seminars, laboratory practice, fieldwork, study and analysis of bibliography, tutorials, placements, clinical practice, art workshop, interactive teaching, educational visits, project, essay writing, artistic creativity, etc.</i></p> <p><i>The student's study hours for each learning activity are given as well as the hours of non-directed study according to the principles of the ECTS</i></p>	Activity	Semester workload
	Seminar attendance	39
	Lesson preparation	40
	Study of literature	40
	Writing essay	131
Course total	250	
<p style="text-align: center;">STUDENT PERFORMANCE EVALUATION</p> <p><i>Description of the evaluation procedure</i></p> <p><i>Language of evaluation, methods of evaluation, summative or conclusive, multiple choice questionnaires, short-answer questions, open-ended questions, problem solving, written work, essay/report, oral examination, public presentation, laboratory work, clinical examination of patient, art interpretation, other</i></p> <p><i>Specifically-defined evaluation criteria are given, and if and where they are accessible to students.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Written essay - Participation in class discussion 	

(5) ATTACHED BIBLIOGRAPHY

<p>- Suggested bibliography:</p> <p>Text:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Descartes, <i>Meditations on First Philosophy</i> (1641) [English: Oxford UP 2008; Greek: Ekkremes, Athens 2003].</p> <p>Secondary literature:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gary Hatfield, <i>Descartes's Meditations</i>, Routledge, London 2014. 2. Andreas Kemmerling (ed.), <i>René Descartes. Meditationen über die Erste Philosophie</i>, Akademie Verlag, Berlin 2010. 3. Catherine Wilson, <i>Descartes's Meditations: An Introduction</i>. Cambridge UP, Cambridge 2003. <p>- Related academic journals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Journal of the History of Philosophy</i> 2. <i>Revue de métaphysique et de morale</i>

