



# University of Pretoria Yearbook 2017

## Philosophy 220 (FIL 220)

**Qualification** Undergraduate

**Faculty** [Faculty of Humanities](#)

*Political philosophy and ethics*

In this module the ways in which human reality is reflected on in practical philosophy, are examined. Both the analytical, interpretative perspective and the normative perspective are covered. This is done with the aid of a selection of key themes and texts from the history of philosophy, but with special attention to their contemporary relevance. The first of the two foci of this semester module will be on political philosophy. Among the issues that may be covered are justice, power, ideology, authority, the social contract, law, legitimacy, recognition, etc. The second focus of this semester module will be on ethics. Among the issues that may be covered are the formation of rules, principles, ideal, dispositions and the capability to judge that regulate such diverse phenomena as freedom, equality, rights, distribution, oppression, pluralism, and others. The classical approaches to ethics - virtue ethics, deontology, consequentialism - will form the backdrop against which moral philosophy will be discussed. In this module, in general, the student can expect to be exposed to the work of Plato, Aristotle, Augustine, Aquinas, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Kant, Hegel, Marx, Sidgwick, Nietzsche, Weber, Mead, Arendt, Habermas, Rawls, Ricoeur, Walzer, Young, Sen, Honneth, and others.

**Module content**

**Module credits** 20.00

**Programmes** [BA Humanities](#)

[BA Languages](#)

[BA Law](#)

[BA Visual Studies](#)

[BPolSci International Studies](#)

[BPolSci Political Studies](#)

[BSocSci Industrial Sociology and Labour Studies](#)

[BSocSci Philosophy, Politics and Economics](#)

**Service modules** Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology

**Prerequisites** At least one of FIL 110, 120

**Contact time** 2 lectures per week, 1 discussion class per week

**Language of tuition** Separate classes for Afrikaans and English

**Academic organisation** Philosophy



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**Period of  
presentation**

Semester 2

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