



University of Pretoria Yearbook 2017

Philosophy 310 (FIL 310)

Qualification Undergraduate

Faculty [Faculty of Humanities](#)

Module content

Philosophical anthropology and cognitive philosophy
In this module the focus is on the quest to understand humankind and its relations to reality and knowledge. 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 is philosophical anthropology or contemporary metaphysics. Themes covered may include: Is a human more than the sum total of its properties?; the relation between consciousness, self-consciousness and the human unconscious; the meaning of life; the nature of personal identity; the issue of free will, and others. The second focus of the semester module is the cognitive disciplines of philosophy, such as philosophy of science, philosophy of mind and epistemology. In philosophy of science, themes covered may include the types of reasoning in science, the nature and role of explanations in science, the scientific realism debate, the nature of scientific progress, justification of scientific theories, the role of truth in science, and others. In philosophy of mind, themes covered may include the relation between spirit, psyche and body - the mind-body problem, the nature of consciousness and qualia, dualism, materialism, functionalism, physicalism, supervenience, intentionality, and others. In epistemology themes covered may include rationalism, empiricism, transcendental, idealism and Kant foundationalism coherentism, epistemic internalism and externalism, radical scepticism, and others.

Module credits 30.00

Programmes [BA Humanities](#)

[BA Languages](#)

[BA Law](#)

[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 three of FIL 110, 120, 210, 220

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

Language of tuition Separate classes for Afrikaans and English



Academic organisation	Philosophy
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Period of presentation	Semester 1
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