



Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology

FPPA01, Practical Philosophy: Philosophy, Politics and Economics - Introductory Term, 30 credits

Praktisk filosofi: Praktisk filosofi, politik och ekonomi - baskurs, 30 högskolepoäng
First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the programmes director by delegation from the pro-dean for first- and second-cycle studies on 2014-08-20 and was last revised by The Pro Dean of First and Second Cycle Studies at The Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2024-02-15 (U 2024/81). The revised syllabus comes into effect 2024-02-19 and is valid from the autumn semester 2024.

General information

The course is the first semester of the Bachelor's programme in Practical Philosophy, Politics and Economics.

Language of instruction: Swedish

Main field of study Specialisation

Practical Philosophy G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the students shall be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- give an account of some issues, methodological problems, theories, concepts and positions in moral philosophy including applied ethics, political philosophy, decision theory, action theory and the philosophy of the social sciences
- identify societal issues suitable for analysis based on the starting point of practical philosophy as well as the starting points of political science and economics

- describe in general terms important historical and contemporary philosophers whose work and thinking have importance for how practical philosophy is carried out today

Competence and skills

- employ some of the methods of practical philosophy in written presentations
- use the analytical tools of practical philosophy to analyse certain positions and theorisings in moral philosophy including applied ethics, political philosophy, decision theory, action theory and the philosophy of the social sciences
- at a basic level understand and evaluate different positions in moral and political questions and discuss them.

Judgement and approach

- use the analytical tools of practical philosophy to make assessments concerning present day problems
- critically reflect on norms and values in relation to social problems.

Course content

The course introduces the student to the problems and methods of practical philosophy. Questions about the position of values and actions, on both individual and community level, are central. The theories of contemporary and older philosophers are presented and analysed. The course covers philosophy as a tool to analyse moral and political conceptions, in order to understand society and make decisions. The entire course highlights methods of argumentation and critical thinking in relation to the different philosophical issues. The course consists of the following five modules:

1. Introduction and the History of Moral Philosophy, 7.5 credits
2. Critical Thinking and Applied Ethics, 6 credits
3. Moral Philosophy, 7.5 credits
4. Political Philosophy, 4.5 credits
5. Philosophical Questions and Methods in Politics and Economics, 4.5 credits

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures, group exercises and two compulsory written assignments (module 2).

Assessment

Module 1: Assessment through written exam

Module 2: Assessment through written exam

Module 3: Assessment through written exam

Module 4: Assessment through written exam

Module 5: Assessment through written exam

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: U=Fail, E=Sufficient, D=Satisfactory, C=Good, B=Very Good, A=Excellent

The grade on the course as a whole is calculated in accordance with the following method:

- (1) Each letter grade corresponds to a number. 5 for A, 4 for B, 3 for C, 2 for D, 1 for E and 0 for Fail.
- (2) The number grade for each module is multiplied by the number of credits in the module.
- (3) The products are added up and the sum is divided by 30 (= the total number of credits for the whole course)
- (4) The resulting weighted average determines the grade on the whole course. $x=4.5-5.00$ gives the grade A; $x=3.50-4.49$ gives the grade B; $x=2.50-3.49$ gives the grade C; $x=1.50-2.49$ gives the grade D; $x=0-1.49$ gives the grade E.
- (5) To pass the course, students must have been awarded at least the grade of E on all modules.

Entry requirements

General and courses corresponding to the following Swedish Upper Secondary School Programs: English 6, Mathematics 3b/3c and Social Studies 1b/1a1+1a2.

Further information

1. The course is offered by the Department of Philosophy, Lund University.
2. The course is partly identical to the level 1 course in practical philosophy (FPRA12).
3. The credits allocated for course content that in whole or in part is commensurate with another course can only be credited once for a degree.
4. Module titles in Swedish:
 1. Introduktion och moralfilosofins historia
 2. Kritiskt tänkande och tillämpad etik
 3. Moralfilosofi
 4. Samhällsfilosofi
 5. Filosofiska frågor och metoder inom politik och ekonom