

FPRA22, Practical Philosophy: Level 2, 30 credits

Praktisk filosofi: Föreläsning, 30 högskolepoäng

First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2015-05-18 and was last revised on 2025-09-08 by The Pro Dean of First and Second Cycle Studies at The Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology (U 2025/630). The revised syllabus comes into effect 2025-09-09 and is valid from the spring semester 2026.

General information

The course is offered as a single course. It can normally be included as part of a general degree at the undergraduate or graduate levels.

Language of instruction: Swedish

Teaching in English may occur in some subcourses.

*Main field of
study*

Specialisation

Practical
Philosophy

G1F, First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course the student shall

Knowledge and understanding

- be able to give an in-depth account of methods and issues within Practical Philosophy
- be able to give an in-depth account of various classical and contemporary theories of Practical Philosophy

Competence and skills

- be able to analyse meta-ethical and normative theories in the disciplines of Ethics and Social Philosophy
- be able to analyse philosophical problems autonomously
- be able to place various meta-ethical and normative theories in a broad theoretical context
- be able to write and orally defend his/her own short written assignment, in accordance with the working methods of Practical Philosophy, and with a specific deadline.

Judgement and approach

- be able to argue in an analytical manner and take a position on key social issues, including issues of gender, the allocation of resources, cultural diversity and human rights,
- be able to formulate relevant criticism of individual arguments or complete theories,
- be able to evaluate normative standpoints and take a position on the informative, metaphysical and semantic assumptions on which these standpoints are based,
- demonstrate insight into the role of knowledge in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used.

Course content

The course gives students a deeper understanding of the central areas of practical philosophy: normative ethics, meta-ethics and political philosophy. Throughout the course aims to clarify the fundamental role of norms and values within these and other areas, both on an individual and societal level. The focus is on enabling students to increase their understanding of what is distinctive about this type of issues. The course also contains a module in the form of a thematic course, devoted to a special study of some issue in practical philosophy, usually tied to the instructor's own research. In addition, there is an essay module, including oral opposition and defense, developing students' ability to argue philosophically as well as their ability to express themselves philosophically, orally and in writing.

The course contains the following subcourses:

1. Advanced Ethics, 7,5 credits
2. Classical Works in Ethics, 6, credits
3. Modern Political Philosophy, 6 credits
4. Paper, 4,5 credits
5. Thematic Course, 6 credits

Course design

Teaching consists of lectures, group exercises and individual tutoring. Depending on how it is examined, there may be an obligatory seminar in module 5.

If a student is unable to participate at an obligatory seminar it is possible to compensate for this either with a make-up seminar or with an invigilated written assignment.

Assessment

Module 1: examination by invigilated exam

Module 2: examination by invigilated exam

Module 3: examination by a written assignment and a seminar. As a rule the grade is determined by the written assignment, though a good seminar performance can give the higher grade in case the student is already close to that grade. However, the seminar can also lead to a failing grade if the student is unable to account satisfactorily for the content of his/her submitted assignment.

Module 4: examination by a paper and a seminar. As a rule the grade is determined by the paper, though a good seminar performance can give the higher grade in case the student is already close to that grade. However, the seminar can also lead to a failing grade if the student is unable to account satisfactorily for the content of his/her paper.

Module 5: examination generally by a written assignment or a take-home exam, depending on course content (which varies from term to term). An invigilated exam is used if the course is of a technical character. In case the examination is by written assignment or take-home exam there may also be a seminar. It can lead to a failing grade if the student is unable to account satisfactorily for the content of his/her submitted assignment or 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 overall course grade is determined as follows:

(1) Each letter grader corresponds to a numerical grade: 5 to A, 4 to B, 3 to C, 2 to B, 1 to E

and 0 to U.

(2) The numerical grade for each subcourse is multiplied with the number of credits in that subcourse.

(3) The products are summed and the sum divided by 30 (=the total number of credits in the course).

(4) This weighted average determines the overall course grade. $x=4,50-5,00$ yields the grade A; $x=3,50-4,49$ yields the grade B; $x=2,50-3,49$ yields the grade C; $x=1,50-2,49$ yields the grade D; $x=0-1,49$ yields the grade E.

Entry requirements

General entry requirements and Practical Philosophy: Level 1 (FPRA12), or the equivalent.

Further information

- The course is offered at the Department of Philosophy, Lund University.

- The course replaces FPRA21.
- 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.
- For further details see the current registration information and other relevant documentation.
- Module titles in Swedish

1. Fördjupad moralfilosofi
2. Moralfilosofins klassiker
3. Modern samhällsfilosofi
4. Uppsats
5. Temakurs