

Philosophy

Philosophy has been taught and studied continuously at the University of Melbourne since 1881, and the Department is accordingly one of the oldest and best established in Australia. The Department is renowned for promotion of an eclectic and wide-ranging approach to philosophical issues. It has earned an international reputation for excellence in research and teaching in all of the core fields of the discipline, as well as in less traditional but burgeoning areas of philosophical inquiry and debate. Graduates of the Department have been recruited to positions in Universities worldwide, and in government, industry and the arts. The Department also provides an articulated structure of higher degree study for students who wish to further pursue their interests in this exciting field.

Philosophy deals with the fundamental aspects of reality and value. It tackles questions that lie outside the scope of any of the more specialised disciplines such as physics, mathematics or history, or which the specialised disciplines suggest, but cannot themselves adequately answer. Despite the abstract nature of many of the problems it encounters, philosophy looks for answers that can only be justified by the highest standards of argument and rigour. Philosophy at Melbourne is wide ranging in scope and covers core topic areas such as ethics, epistemology, metaphysics, feminism, political and environmental philosophy. Among philosophical questions discussed are these: Could all experience be a dream? Does God exist? Is morality just a matter of personal preference? Is there such a thing as human nature? Are we genuinely free to choose? Does life have meaning?

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for first year philosophy subjects.

The prerequisite for a second/third year subject in philosophy is completion of one philosophy subject at first year (12.5 points). Students who have done suitable alternative first year subjects are advised to consult with the head of department for permission to enrol. Exemptions may also be granted where second/third year subjects are taken as part of an approved interdepartmental program with its own entry requirements. Note, however, that a major in philosophy requires the completion of two first year subjects.

Students are advised to consult individual subject prerequisites for further information.

Requirements for a major

A major in philosophy usually consists of nine 12.5 point subjects, totalling 112.5 points. It comprises:

- two first year subjects in philosophy (25 points) and;
- seven second/third year subjects in philosophy (totalling 87.5 points).

Honours entry

The prerequisites for entry to Fourth Year Honours in Philosophy are:

- completion of all the requirements for the BA and;
- completion of a major in philosophy and;
- an average grade of H2A or higher over the second/third year subjects within the major.

Entry to honours must be approved by the philosophy honours coordinator and the Faculty of Arts honours course adviser.

Students proposing to enter honours are required to have achieved some spread over their second/third year subjects. Information as to how this may be achieved can be found in the Departmental handbook or by consulting the head of department or the Department's honours coordinator. No subjects are compulsory, but prospective Honours students are strongly advised to take the subject 161-037 Themes in 20th Century Philosophy (*p.291*), a course specifically intended for aspiring honours students.

Honours requirements

Students enrolled in philosophy honours must achieve an H2B grade or better in each assessable component of their honours year.

Pure honours

Students undertaking pure honours in philosophy must complete:

- 161-503 Philosophy Thesis (*p.292*) (25 points) *or* 161-504 Philosophy Thesis (MYE) (*p.292*) (25 points) and;
- six honours subjects in philosophy (totalling 75 points).

With the approval of the head of department, one single-semester fourth year philosophy subject may be replaced by one single-semester history and philosophy of science subject dealing with philosophy of science at fourth year level.

Combined honours

Students undertaking combined honours in philosophy and another area of study must complete:

- 161-503 Philosophy Thesis (*p.292*) (25 points) *or* 161-504 Philosophy Thesis (MYE) (*p.292*) (25 points) and;
- three honours subjects in philosophy (37.5 points) and;
- three honours subjects in the combined area of study (totalling 37.5 points).

or

- honours thesis in the combined area of study (37.5 points) and;
- two honours subjects in the combined area of study (totalling 25 points) and;
- three honours subjects in philosophy (37.5 points).

Further study

The Philosophy Department offers the usual range of further study options to students who have already completed a degree: Graduate Certificate in Philosophy (a specialised version of which is recommended for those students interested in preparing themselves for teaching philosophy at VCE level), Graduate Diploma in Philosophy, Postgraduate Diploma in Arts (Philosophy), Master of Arts (by research or course work), and the PhD. Further information about these programs can be obtained by consulting either the Faculty of Arts postgraduate handbook or the Philosophy Department's appropriate postgraduate coordinators.

Career opportunities

Philosophy develops rigorous thought, clear expression, and creative approaches to problems which are appreciated and valued by employers: 'The best graduates are those who have received a very good training in...the philosophical side of the subject matter; the understanding that will last a long time, irrespective of changes in technology or changes in the market place.' (BHP deputy chair, Jerry Ellis, *The Australian* 4/12/96)

For more information

Department of Philosophy
First Floor, Old Arts Building
The University of Melbourne
Victoria 3010
Tel: +61 3 8344 5142
Fax: +61 3 8344 4280
email: office@philosophy.unimelb.edu.au
WWW: <http://www.philosophy.unimelb.edu.au>

First year subjects

161-001 Moral Conflicts

Note: Formerly available as 161-101. Students who have completed 161-101 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Brian Scarlett

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week throughout the semester, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the second week of semester (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject is a critical examination of some of the sources, ancient and modern, of scepticism about the possibility of a rational and agreed basis for moral argument; some of the main theories about the nature of moral value and the possibility of moral obligation; and a range of current moral conflicts, including animal rights, euthanasia and problems about war. The subject will enable students to recognise the distinctive nature of philosophical problems and their significance for other areas of human thought; know how to go about working through such problems; be in a position to engage with more advanced philosophical material in a wide range of areas; and bring philosophical skills to bear upon their studies in other disciplines.

Assessment: Two essays, one of 500 words and one of 1500 words, participation in tutorials and a 2-hour examination.

Prescribed texts:

A subject reader will be available.

161-002 Study of Human Nature

Note: Formerly available as 161-102. Students who have completed 161-102 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Christopher Cordner

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week throughout the semester, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the second week of semester (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject asks students to explore theories of human nature from ancient philosophers to Marx and Freud. Through this subject, students should come to recognise the distinctive nature of philosophical problems and their significance for other areas of human thought; know how to go about working through such problems; be in a position to engage with more advanced philosophical material in a wide range of areas; and bring philosophical skills to bear upon their studies in other disciplines.

Assessment: Two essays, one of 500 words and one of 1500 words, participation in tutorials and a 2-hour examination.

Prescribed texts:

A subject reader will be available.

161-003 Critical Thinking: The Art of Reasoning

Note: Formerly available as 161-104. Students who have completed 161-104 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Tim van Gelder

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week throughout the semester, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the second week of semester (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject covers the fundamental principles of reasoning and argument in ordinary language. These include distinguishing reasoning from other forms of persuasion; uses and abuses of language in the expression of ideas; extracting arguments from texts; clarifying the internal structure of arguments; evaluating the acceptability of premises; distinguishing kinds of reasoning (statistical, causal, analogical, ethical, explanatory etc.); common patterns of error in reasoning; and the structure of debate. By the end of the subject students should have a greater ability to evaluate reasoning, to support their own positions, and to think their way through difficult issues. These skills should substantially enhance students' performance in subsequent subjects in the Philosophy Department and elsewhere.

Assessment: Written work totalling 4000 words. An examination may be substituted for part of the written work.

Prescribed texts:

Materials prepared by the department.

161-004 Fundamental Questions in Philosophy

Note: Formerly available as 161-105. Students who have completed 161-105 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Douglas Adeney

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week throughout the semester, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the second week of semester (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject forms an introduction to some of the fundamental questions of philosophy, based upon one of the most influential philosophical works ever written: the *Meditations* of René Descartes. Could the world be an illusion - say, a dream? Does God exist? Am I more than a mere body? Can these questions be settled by reason? By studying Descartes' thought on questions such as these, students should attain a recognition of the distinctive nature of philosophical thinking and of the relevance of such thinking to other disciplines, and achieve a sound basis for further work in philosophy.

Assessment: Two essays, one of 500 words and one of 1500 words, participation in tutorials and a 2-hour examination.

Prescribed texts:

A subject reader will be available.

R Descartes, *Meditations on First Philosophy*, CUP, 1996.

161-005 Freedom and Constraint

Note: Formerly available as 161-106. Students who have completed 161-106 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Marion Tapper

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week throughout the semester, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the second week of semester (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject is concerned with the tension between the freedom implied by consciousness and the constraints imposed by culture and society. In the context of this tension students will investigate the nature of our responsibility for our lives. On completion of the subject students should be able to recognise the distinctive nature of the philosophical problems and their significance for other areas of thought; know how to go about working through such problems; be in a position to engage with more philosophical material, and apply their philosophical skills in other disciplines.

Assessment: Two essays, one of 500 words and one of 1500 words, participation in tutorials and a 2-hour examination.

Prescribed texts:

A subject reader will be available.

J-P Sartre, H D Barnes (trans), *Being and Nothingness*, Routledge, 1969. • S De Beauvoir, H M Parshley (trans), *The Second Sex*, Picador, 1988.

161-006 Central Problems in Philosophy

Note: Formerly available as 161-108. Students who have completed 161-108 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Bruce Langtry

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week throughout the semester, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the second week of semester (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject is an introduction to contemporary philosophy through a discussion of three major topics: *The nature of mind* - Are our mental states all physical states, or do they involve non-physical features of reality? *Human free-will* - We assume that human beings are usually free in deciding and acting, and are morally responsible for what they do: but are we really free? *The meaning of life* - What kind of meaning, if any, does your life, or human life generally, have? On completion of this subject students should understand what is at stake in philosophical controversy concerning the topics discussed, and have developed skills in philosophical reasoning.

Assessment: Two essays, one of 500 words and one of 1500 words, participation in tutorials and a 2-hour examination.

Prescribed texts:

A subject reader will be available.

Second/third year subjects

161-007 Moral Philosophy: Great Thinkers

Note: Formerly available as 161-210/310. Students who have completed 161-210/310 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Douglas Adeney

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject. Students who lack this prerequisite, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject requires students to study critically three of the classic works of moral philosophy: Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics*, Kant's *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals*, and Mill's *Utilitarianism*. On completion of the subject students should have acquired the competence and understanding necessary to engage profitably with these significant and influential texts, and to appreciate what is distinctive and of abiding interest in them.

Assessment: Written work totalling 4000 words and participation in tutorials.

161-008 Moral Theory: Basic Issues

Note: Formerly available as 161-211/311. Students who have completed 161-211/311 are not eligible to enrol in this subject. This subject is offered in alternate years with 161-027 Applied Ethics (*p.293*).

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Christopher Cordner

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject. Students who lack this prerequisite, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject involves the discussion of some recent philosophical explorations of the nature and ground of moral thinking. On completion of the subject students should be able to think critically about, and to evaluate, the philosophical cogency of those explorations, and acquire a background for their own further philosophical reflection on the nature and ground of morality.

Assessment: A 2-hour examination, an essay of 2000 words and regular attendance and participation in tutorials.

161-010 Scepticism and Reason

Note: Formerly available as 161-213/313. Students who have completed 161-213/313 are not eligible to enrol in this subject. This subject is offered in alternate years with 161-009 Knowledge, Truth and Relativism (*p.293*).

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Bruce Langtry

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject. Students who lack this prerequisite, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject deals with two major topics in the contemporary theory of knowledge and rational belief. Firstly, scepticism: Are most of my ordinary commonsense beliefs about the world around me beliefs which I am justified in holding? Do I have good reasons for their truth? Secondly, a priori knowledge: Are there logically necessary truths? Is there a priori knowledge? If so, how are we to understand the capacity of human beings to possess a priori knowledge? Students should gain a sound general comprehension of the major recent advances in our philosophical understanding of the nature and structure of knowledge and the roles of experience and reasoning in contributing to this structure.

Assessment: A 2-hour examination, an assignment of 2000 words and participation in tutorials.

161-011 Manners of Meaning

Note: Formerly available as 161-217/317. Students who have completed 161-217/317 are not eligible to enrol in this subject. To alternate with 161-033.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Catherine Legg

Prerequisites: One single-semester philosophy, anthropology or linguistics subject. Students who lack this prerequisite, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt this subject, should consult the head of department.

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject is a survey of the philosophy of language in the 20th century and its antecedents, aiming at a description of the main trends, their ambitions, and the difficulties associated with them. Students of the subject should attain a broad knowledge of these trends, and be in a position to study them in further detail either within philosophy, or in related fields such as anthropology or linguistics.

Assessment: Written work totalling 4000 words and participation in tutorials.

161-013 Contemporary Political Philosophy

Note: Formerly available as 161-219/319. Students who have completed 161-219/319 are not eligible to enrol in this subject. This subject is offered in alternate years with 161-012 Classics of Political Thought (*p.293*).

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Bruce Langtry

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject. Students who lack this prerequisite, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject examines contemporary work on the philosophical foundations of political liberalism, understood broadly to include concern with issues of justice in matters of wealth and social stratification, as well as issues of freedom. Special attention will be paid to the writings of the American philosopher John Rawls.

Assessment: A 2-hour examination, an assignment of 2000 words and participation in tutorials.

161-014 Environmental Philosophy

Note: Formerly available as 161-220/320. Students who have completed 161-220/320 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Brian Scarlett

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject, or 121-012 Environmental Change (*p.180*). Students who lack this prerequisite, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Contact: A 2-hour lecture/seminar per week for the first 11 weeks, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject is a study of the historical background to our present attitudes; what we mean by 'the environment'; models and theories for relating to the environment; moral problems concerning food chains; the preference for diversity; and the bearer of rights and values. The subject should provide students with a critical understanding of some of the main sources of present day attitudes to the environment, and a critical understanding of a representative selection of contemporary philosophical thought about the environment.

Assessment: Written work totalling 4000 words and participation in tutorials.

161-015 Introduction to Formal Logic

Note: Formerly available as 161-221/321. Students who have completed 161-221/321 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Catherine Legg

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject. Students who lack this prerequisite, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week throughout the semester, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the second week of semester (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject is an introduction to the elements of modern symbolic logic (in technical terms, the theory and metatheory of the propositional and predicate calculi). Students of the subject should attain an understanding of the elementary techniques of logic, and their philosophical motivation; and reach an understanding of terminology and symbolism essential for the comprehension of much contemporary philosophical writing.

Assessment: Written work totalling 4000 words and participation in tutorials.

161-016 Topics in Formal Logic

Note: Formerly available as 161-222/322. Students who have completed 161-222/322 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Allen Hazen

Prerequisites: 161-015 Introduction to Formal Logic (*p.289*) or equivalent.

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week throughout the semester, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the second week of semester (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject deals with selected topics in logic beyond what is covered in 161-015 Introduction to Formal Logic (*p.289*), such as the completeness and undecidability of first-order logic and alternative deductive systems. Concepts and results will be approached via both theoretical discussion and practical experience with formal techniques, enabling students to appreciate the philosophical importance of the major logical results and equipping them for further study in philosophy (or logic-related areas of other disciplines, e.g. mathematics, linguistics, computer science).

Assessment: Written work totalling 4000 words and participation in tutorials.

161-017 Does God Exist?

Note: Formerly available as 161-223/323. Students who have completed 161-223/323 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Bruce Langtry

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject. Students who lack this prerequisite, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject is a philosophical examination of whether God exists. Topics covered will include the problem of evil, design arguments for the existence of God and miracles. Lectures will deal with some influential criticisms of arguments by the great 18th century Scottish writer David Hume, and then discuss a recent design argument which starts from discoveries in current physical cosmology about the origins and nature of the universe. Students should develop an understanding of the issues raised in the subject and display acquaintance with some important past contributions to the discussion of those issues.

Assessment: Written work totalling 4000 words and participation in tutorials.

161-018 Philosophy of Art

Note: Formerly available as 161-224/324. Students who have completed 161-224/324 are not eligible to enrol in this subject. This subject is offered in alternate years with 161-032 Philosophy of Cultural Practices (*p.294*).

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Christopher Cordner

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject. Students who lack this prerequisite, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Semester 1*).

Description: In this subject major classical texts in aesthetics and major topics in 18th century and 20th century aesthetics will be studied. The subject will confront students with the dominant ideas in different historical periods

concerning art and the aesthetic, and assist them in responding to these ideas with critical awareness.

Assessment: Written work totalling 4000 words and participation in tutorials.

161-019 Greek Philosophy

Note: Formerly available as 161-225/325. Students who have completed 161-225/325 are not eligible to enrol in this subject. This subject is offered in alternate years with 161-023 Medieval Philosophy (*p.293*).

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Brian Scarlett

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject. Students who lack these prerequisites, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject examines Greek theories of knowledge, reality and value concentrating on Plato and Aristotle, but with reference to other thinkers. At the completion of the subject a student should be able to give an account of the scope, achievements, and principal concerns of some central Greek philosophical investigations into the nature of reality and knowledge; acquire critical and analytical skills in the reading of selected Greek philosophical texts; be able to trace connections between ancient and modern treatments of metaphysical and epistemological issues.

Assessment: Two essays of 2000 words each and participation in tutorials.

161-020 Contemporary European Philosophy 1

Note: Formerly available as 161-226/326. Students who have completed 161-226/326 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Marion Tapper

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject, or first year European studies, see *Prerequisites (p.167)*. Students who lack these prerequisites, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject is a study of some classic texts and major themes in the 20th century philosophical traditions of phenomenology and existentialism. Themes to be discussed will include consciousness and perception, being-in-the-world, embodiment, truth and evidence, the phenomenological method, and the meaning of transcendental philosophy. The main authors to be discussed will be selected from Husserl, Heidegger, Merleau-Ponty and Sartre and their texts will be discussed in the light of contemporary interpretation and criticism. On completion of the subject students should be able to engage in detailed exegesis of philosophical texts and to critically examine philosophical arguments and theses therein.

Assessment: Written work totalling 4000 words and participation in tutorials.

161-022 Philosophy of Feminism

Note: Formerly available as 161-228/328. Students who have completed 161-228/328 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Katrine Keuneman

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject. Students who lack this prerequisite, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department. Women's studies students wishing to enrol in this subject would normally have completed first year women's studies, see *Prerequisites (p.351)*.

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject explores the meaning and development of key concepts such as the social construction of womanhood, equality, difference and power. The changing relationship between traditional philosophy and feminist theory is examined, and some recent feminist epistemological and ethical theories are also presented and critically analysed. On completion of the subject students should have an understanding of the debates about the nature of sexual difference and the location of sexual oppression.

Assessment: Written work totalling 4000 words and participation in tutorials.

161-024 Issues in Biomedical Ethics

Note: Formerly available as 161-230/330. Students who have completed 161-230/330 are not eligible to enrol in this subject. Also available as 502-024 Issues in Biomedical Ethics (Medicine).

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr David McCarthy

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject. Students who lack this prerequisite, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Semester 1*).

Description: The course will examine a number of theoretical ethical issues that arise from the beginning to the end of life and use contemporary ethical theory to analyse them. It will ask questions like: (1) Can it ever be wrong to create someone? Even if that person has a life worth living? (2) Is it morally acceptable to choose whom to create on the basis of such things as health status, intelligence, or gender? (3) Is it morally acceptable or even morally required to enhance the people who are going to be created anyway? (4) What is the moral status of the fetus? (5) What is the moral significance for abortion of the fact that the fetus is dependent upon the woman? (6) Suppose that we could, via a genetic test, find out exactly when we will die or find out a lot about our abilities and psychological characteristics; should we have the test? (8) When, if ever, is euthanasia morally acceptable? (9) Is there a morally significant difference between killing and letting die? Between intending death and foreseeing death? The course is designed to understand the theoretical bases of disputes in these controversial areas, not to advocate particular answers.

Assessment: Written work totalling 4000 words and participation in tutorials.

161-026 Philosophy and Music

Note: Formerly available as 161-232/332. Students who have completed 161-232/332 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Katrine Keuneman

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject. Students who lack this prerequisite, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject consists of a philosophical exploration of a number of questions arising in connection with music: How should we define or understand music? What is the relationship between music and society? What problems are raised by notions such as creation, performance, and authenticity? What is the ontological status of a piece of music? Where do various theories locate meaning in music? By the end of the subject it is expected students will be able to discern the philosophical implications of questions about the nature and interpretation of music, to understand the cultural shaping of key background concepts, and to grasp and compare various theories of meaning in music.

Assessment: Written work totalling 4000 words and participation in tutorials.

161-029 Philosophy and Literature

Note: Formerly available as 161-242/342. Students who have completed 161-242/342 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Katrine Keuneman

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject, or first year European studies, see *Prerequisites (p.167)*. Students who lack these prerequisites, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject is an exploration of some of the philosophical problems concerning the self raised by autobiographical writing. The links between literary and philosophical texts will be examined, as well as themes like narrative unity and human identity; selfhood and temporality; and the possibility of self-knowledge. On completion of the subject, students should have gained insight into the problems of writing about oneself, and skills in extracting philosophical implications from literary texts.

Assessment: Written work totalling 4000 words and participation in tutorials.

161-030 Modern Philosophy

Note: This subject is offered in alternate years with 161-031 Metaphysics and the Nature of God (*p.294*).

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Allen Hazen

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject. Students who lack this prerequisite, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject is a study of metaphysical and epistemological topics arising in and from the work of 17th and 18th century philosophers from the rationalist and empiricist traditions. In each case, the focus will be on primary texts by the author concerned, though some use will be made of the secondary literature, and recent philosophical research on relevant issues. Metaphysical issues discussed may include substance and causation. Epistemological issues discussed may include the roles of experience and reason in the foundations of knowledge. Students should complete the subject able to display acquaintance with the work of selected 17th and 18th century philosophers; able to show an understanding of selected issues raised by those philosophers; and be able to indicate awareness of how those issues are related to 20th century work.

Assessment: Written work totalling 4000 words and participation in tutorials.

161-034 Asian Traditions of Philosophy

Note: Formerly available as 161-247/347. Students who have completed 161-247/347 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: To be advised

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject or Asian studies subject (in consultation with the lecturer). Students who lack these prerequisites, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject is an introduction to some of the central philosophical ideas and principles of Asian/Eastern traditions, with a particular focus on Indian, Chinese and Japanese philosophies. Major themes will include conceptions of nature, the meaning of life and death, and the culture of morality. Other areas studied include traditional speculations in Vedic-Brahmanism to the development of ideas of embodiment, personal identity or its negation in the *Upanishads*, yoga and Buddhism, to doctrines of virtues, *karma*, *dharma*, rights, and human ends. The subject also considers debates and social praxis within Chinese philosophies (Tao, Confucian) and Zen in Japan, as well as in contemporary East-West thinking. Students will gain critical understanding of Asian intellectual responses to problems of existence, suffering, freedom, and caring, and an appreciation of cultural, legal, bioethical and postcolonial issues.

Assessment: Written work totalling 4000 words and participation in tutorials.

161-035 Philosophy of Buddhism

Note: Formerly available as 161-248/348. Students who have completed 161-248/348 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Len O'Neill

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject or Asian studies subject (in consultation with the lecturer). Students who lack this prerequisite, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Contact: A 2-hour lecture/seminar per week for the first 11 weeks, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject explores the Buddhist account of suffering as deriving from the illusion of permanence and the self and of how release from suffering may be achieved. It should provide students with a critical understanding of the key notions and central philosophical doctrines of Buddhism.

Assessment: Written work totalling 4000 words and participation in tutorials.

161-052 Ideas of Utopia

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Katrine Keuneman

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject. Students who lack this prerequisite, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures and a 1-hour tutorial per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject is a study of different utopian theories (that is theories which describe the ideal state or society) representing a variety of philosophical positions. The subject introduces the student to a number of different ideals of social perfection and to the difficulties which emerge in prescribing

the pathway to lead us there. It explores the conception of human nature which various theories imply. It also examines the problems encountered by utopian theorists in attempting to reconcile conflicting aims such as freedom and equality. Students who complete the subject should be able to analyse the arguments offered in favour of different utopian visions. They should also appreciate the tensions and difficulties arising from both particular theories and, arguably, from utopian thought in general.

Assessment: Written work totalling 4000 words and participation in tutorials.

Prescribed texts:

A subject reader will be available.

161-053 The Good Life in Ancient Thought

Note: This is an intensive subject held over two weeks during Summer Semester. Timetabling will be such that this subject and 161-054 Human Life in Modern Thought can be taken concurrently.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Douglas Adeney

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject. Students who lack this prerequisite, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures and a 1-hour tutorial per day for 10 days (*Summer semester*).

Description: The subject examines and critically compares a number of conceptions of good human life to be found in ancient philosophical, cultural and religious texts and traditions. These conceptions include those of Plato and Aristotle and their Greek successors the Cynics, Stoics, and Epicureans; some from other Mediterranean sources such as the Roman, Jewish, and Christian; and some from further afield such as the Hindu, Buddhist and Confucian. Topics and themes include the nature of happiness and its relation to virtue, the varieties and significance of social life and relationships between the sexes, the relative importance of this-worldly and other-worldly goods, and the nature and causes of moral success and failure. Students will be expected to develop an understanding of these various conceptions, of important similarities and differences among them, of philosophical issues arising in and about them, and of their relevance to enduring questions concerning the quality of human life.

Assessment: Two 2000-word essays and tutorial participation.

Prescribed texts:

A subject reader will be available.

161-054 Human Life in Modern Thought

Note: This is an intensive subject held over two weeks during Summer Semester. Timetabling will be such that this subject and 161-053 The Good Life in Ancient Thought can be taken concurrently.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Rod Foster

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject. Students who lack this prerequisite, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures and a 1-hour tutorial per day for 10 days (*Summer semester*).

Description: The subject examines some influential 19th and 20th century conceptions of human life and human nature, including the revolutionary ideas of Nietzsche, Darwin, Marx, Sartre, Freud and Wittgenstein. Students are asked to engage with key questions arising in the writings of these thinkers, including the following: 1. Are human life and values determined by biological instinct, by social and economic forces, by personal psychological dynamics, or by free individual choices? 2. Does human morality require a religious foundation? 3. Do human minds differ radically from those of (other) animals? 4. Do such ideas concerning human nature have implications for the way we should conduct our lives?

Assessment: Two 2000-word essays and tutorial participation.

Prescribed texts:

A subject reader will be available.

Third year subjects

161-037 Themes in 20th Century Philosophy

Note: Formerly available as 161-316. Students who have completed 161-316 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Allen Hazen

Prerequisites: Any four single-semester second/third year subjects in philosophy.

Contact: A 2-hour lecture/seminar per week for the first 11 weeks, and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject engages students in a discussion of the dominant lines of thought in analytic philosophy this century, dwelling mainly on issues concerning meaning, truth, philosophical analysis, and the changing views of proper philosophical methodology. In particular, attention will be given to the philosophical ideas of Bertrand Russell, Rudolf Carnap, J L Austin, and W V O Quine. Students should develop a good understanding of the development of the problems raised by the selected philosophical theories and acquire an appreciation of their place in philosophy as a whole.

Assessment: Written work totalling 4000 words and participation in tutorials.

Third/fourth year subjects

161-038 Morality, Mortality

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr David McCarthy

Prerequisites: Two second/third year single-semester philosophy subjects or equivalent for third year. Admission to the Postgraduate Diploma or Fourth Year Honours in Philosophy for fourth year.

Contact: A 2.5-hour lecture/seminar per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: The subject examines a wide range of issues about death and saving life. It asks: what, if anything, is bad about death? Is death bad because it deprives us of future goods? Or bad because it frustrates present projects? Or both? It examines asymmetries between prenatal nonexistence and death. It asks whether we should regret the inevitable fact of our deaths or whether we should be glad that we are not immortal. It also asks what the difference between death and survival is. For example, if your body is destroyed on earth and a perfect copy of it is made on a colony on Mars, is this the same as ordinary survival or the same as ordinary death? It goes on to examine dilemmatic cases in which we have a choice over whom to save from a threat of death when we cannot save everyone. Is it better to save the greater number? Should each person be given an equal chance of survival? What significance do factors like age and responsibility for being before a threat of death have? Is quality of life relevant? What significance does giving priority to the worse off have in dilemmatic cases?

Assessment: Written work totalling 4000 words for third year, 5000 words for fourth year.

Prescribed texts: D Parfit, *Reasons and Persons*, Oxford University Press, 1987. • F Kamm, *Mortality, Mortality: Death and Whom to Save from It*, Oxford University Press, 1993.

Fourth year subjects

161-503 Philosophy Thesis

Credit points: 25

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Marion Tapper

Prerequisites: Admission to the Postgraduate Diploma or Fourth Year Honours in Philosophy.

Semester: Year long

Description: A supervised thesis on a topic to be approved by the head of department or the Department's fourth year coordinator.

Assessment: A thesis of 10 000 words.

161-504 Philosophy Thesis (MYE)

Credit points: 25

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Marion Tapper

Prerequisites: Mid-year admission to the Postgraduate Diploma or Fourth Year Honours in Philosophy.

Semester: Semester 1, repeat 2

Description: A supervised thesis on a topic to be approved by the head of department or the Department's fourth year coordinator.

Assessment: A thesis of 10 000 words.

161-039 Recent European Philosophy

Note: Formerly available as 161-431. Students who have completed 161-431 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Marion Tapper

Prerequisites: Admission to the Postgraduate Diploma or Fourth Year Honours in Philosophy.

Contact: A 2-hour lecture/seminar per week (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject involves a study of one or more key texts and themes in 20th century European philosophy. Students completing the subject should have achieved a critical understanding of the texts and themes discussed and be able to relate them to contemporary issues in philosophy.

Assessment: Written work totalling 5000 words.

161-041 Epistemology and Metaphysics

Note: Formerly available as 161-434. Students who have completed 161-434 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Allen Hazen

Prerequisites: Admission to the Postgraduate Diploma or Fourth Year Honours in Philosophy.

Contact: A 2-hour lecture/seminar per week (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject is an in-depth examination of one or more works of great philosophers of the past which deal with problems in epistemology and/or metaphysics. Precisely how the problems are dealt with will vary with the text/s chosen but the issues to be considered will include: What is knowledge? Is it possible? If it is possible, what is it knowledge of? What is the world? What is it to be an object? What does it mean to be? Students will also consider the nature of space and time; the relationship between the mind and the world; and between language and the world. On completion of the subject students should have the ability to interpret a major text from the history of philosophy, to critically compare and assess conflicting interpretations of a text, and to discuss a text from the history of philosophy in the light of current philosophical problems, arguments and theories. This year's great philosopher of the past is W V Quine; we will look particularly at his *From a Logical Point of View* and *Word and Object* (and a few papers published elsewhere).

Assessment: Written work totalling 5000 words.

161-042 Current Issues in Philosophy 1

Note: Formerly available as 161-435. Students who have completed 161-435 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Marion Tapper

Prerequisites: Admission to the Postgraduate Diploma or Fourth Year Honours in Philosophy.

Contact: A 2-hour lecture/seminar per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject examines some topic or topics of interest in current philosophical debate, in the general area of metaphysics or epistemology, through the medium of selected recent monographs and journal articles. Topics might include, for example, the idea of the transcendental in post-Kantian philosophy; the relation between ethics and metaphysics; and truth, reason and reality. Students of the subject should attain detailed knowledge of the ideas operative in the topics selected for study, and of the background and context necessary for their evaluation.

Assessment: Written work totalling 5000 words.

161-043 Philosophical Psychology 1

Note: Formerly available as 161-440. Students who have completed 161-440 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Brian Scarlett

Prerequisites: Admission to the Postgraduate Diploma or Fourth Year Honours in Philosophy.

Contact: A 2-hour lecture/seminar per week (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject represents a selection from a range of topics at the intersection of psychology and moral evaluation. For example the moral psychology of the virtues considered in detail with respect to a selection of purported virtues and vices; the idea of the unity of the virtues: can they exist in isolation?; integrity and integration as moral and psychological concepts; the idea of multiple personalities; Aristotle on friendship: *Nicomachean Ethics* Books VIII and IX; and pleasure according to Aristotle, pleasure according to Bentham.

Assessment: Written work totalling 5000 words.

161-045 Ethical Theory 2

Note: Formerly available as 161-442. Students who have completed 161-442 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Douglas Adeney

Prerequisites: Admission to the Postgraduate Diploma or Fourth Year Honours in Philosophy.

Contact: A 2-hour lecture/seminar per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject is an advanced study of problems and issues in contemporary ethics. The major topics to be covered will be the relation between normative ethics and meta-ethics, the nature and plausibility of moral realism, and the varieties and limitations of consequentialism.

Assessment: Written work totalling 5000 words.

161-046 Political Philosophy

Note: Formerly available as 161-443. Students who have completed 161-443 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Prof C A J Coady

Prerequisites: Admission to the Postgraduate Diploma or Fourth Year Honours in Philosophy.

Contact: A 2-hour lecture/seminar per week (*Semester 1*).

Description: The subject examines difficult questions of ethics and morality raised by the phenomena of violence, particularly that awesome and wholesale deployment of violence known as war. Yet such is the extraordinary nature of war (in spite of its age-old familiarity) that many doubt whether morality can apply to it at all. In this course we shall examine this scepticism and the classical tradition of the just war to see what moral outlook (if any) is appropriate to the employment of major political violence. Topics will include the nature of violence, terrorism, mercenary war, the ideal of peace, humanitarian intervention, and weapons of mass destruction.

Assessment: Written work totalling 5000 words.

161-047 Current Issues in Philosophy 2

Note: Formerly available as 161-445. Students who have completed 161-445 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Christopher Cordner

Prerequisites: Admission to the Postgraduate Diploma or Fourth Year Honours in Philosophy.

Contact: A 2-hour lecture/seminar per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject examines problems and issues of central interest in current philosophical debate in the areas of metaphysics and the philosophy of language, through a study of selected journal articles and monographs by prominent contemporary philosophers. Typical issues discussed are realism and anti-realism, the ontology of mind, and the nature of objectivity. Students of the subject should attain detailed knowledge of the ideas operative in the topics selected for study, and the background and context necessary for their evaluation.

Assessment: Written work totalling 5000 words.

161-048 Logic Directed Study

Note: Formerly available as 161-447. Students who have completed 161-447 are not eligible to enrol in this subject. This subject is offered as a supervised 'directed study'. Timetabling will be decided in consultation with the supervisor.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Dr Allen Hazen

Prerequisites: Admission to the Postgraduate Diploma or Fourth Year Honours in Philosophy, approval from the head of department at the beginning of the candidate's honours year, and completion of 161-015 Introduction to Formal Logic (*p.289*) and 161-016 Topics in Formal Logic (*p.289*) or equivalent.

Contact: Two hours per week (*Semester 1, repeat 2*).

Description: This subject involves advanced topics in formal logic, the particular topic in any year to be chosen by the supervisor after consultation with the candidate/s. Possible topics include an investigation of the modal logical analysis of proof theoretic features of mathematical systems, as described in George Boolos's *The Logic of Probability*. On completion of the subject students should have gained an understanding of the philosophical motivations for the study of formal logic and have had experience in using the mathematical techniques for the study of formalised languages that have been developed in modern logic.

Assessment: Written work totalling 5000 words.

Subjects not offered in 2001

Second/third year subjects not offered in 2001

161-009 Knowledge, Truth and Relativism

Note: Formerly available as 161-212/312. Students who have completed 161-212/312 are not eligible to enrol in this subject. This subject is offered in alternate years with 161-010 Scepticism and Reason (*p.288*).

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject. Students who lack this prerequisite, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject examines the philosophical thesis that there is no absolute truth or knowledge: truth and knowledge are always relative to some specific intellectual tradition, or community, or individual outlook. There will be discussion of major authors who have influenced relativist thinking, such as Thomas Kuhn, Paul Feyerabend and Richard Rorty.

161-012 Classics of Political Thought

Note: Formerly available as 161-218/318. Students who have completed 161-218/318 are not eligible to enrol in this subject. This subject is offered in alternate years with 161-013 Contemporary Political Philosophy (*p.289*).

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject. Students who lack this prerequisite, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject involves the critical study of classic political texts by Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes and Locke, with comparisons among them and with more recent writers. These texts contain many famous views and arguments, and raise various fundamental questions in political philosophy including those of the basis of political authority, the relationship between politics and morality, and the best form of government. The study of such classics should develop students' appreciation of historically important parts of western thought, and contribute to a richer understanding of modern views and issues.

161-021 Contemporary European Philosophy 2

Note: Formerly available as 161-227/327. Students who have completed 161-227/327 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject, or first year European studies, see *Prerequisites (p.167)*. Students who lack these prerequisites, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject studies the theories of meaning and interpretation developed in contemporary European thought. It examines questions such as: What is a text? Is the meaning of a text a function of the author's intentions, or is the meaning to be identified with some representation of the world described in the text, or is it a function of the structure of the text and discourse in general? Can interpretations be true? Can conflicting interpretations both be true? What is it to interpret a text? How does an interpretation differ from a deconstruction? Major authors discussed will be chosen from Saussure, Freud, Heidegger, Ricoeur, Gadamer, Derrida, Barthes and Foucault. On completion of this subject students should have a broad grasp of a variety of competing theories and understand what would be involved in applying them to a critical reading of texts.

161-023 Medieval Philosophy

Note: Formerly available as 161-229/329. Students who have completed 161-229/329 are not eligible to enrol in this subject. This subject is offered alternate years with 161-019 Greek Philosophy (*p.290*).

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject. Students who lack this prerequisite, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: Thinking about human nature, the body, sex, death and the possibility of a transcendent dimension to life is still heavily influenced by medieval thought. In this subject this influence will be examined and criticised through a study of a range of philosophical texts. Students should gain the ability to understand and criticise philosophical texts from the 5th to the 13th century and bring to the investigation of certain contemporary philosophical problems an informed sense of the contributions made to their solution in the middle ages.

161-027 Applied Ethics

Note: Formerly available as 161-240/340. Students who have completed 161-240/340 are not eligible to enrol in this subject. This subject is offered in alternate years with 161-008 Moral Theory: Basic Issues (*p.288*).

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject. Students who lack this prerequisite, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: In this subject, students should develop an appreciation of the relevance of philosophy to issues of public concern by attention to four significant and controversial areas: sexual morality and public policy; business ethics; the justification of punishment; and the morality of war.

161-031 Metaphysics and the Nature of God

Note: Formerly available as 161-243/343. Students who have completed 161-243/343 are not eligible to enrol in this subject. This subject is offered in alternate years with 161-030 Modern Philosophy (*p.290*).

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject. Students who lack this prerequisite, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject explores contemporary metaphysics and its bearing on the nature of God. The focus for 2000 will be on the philosophy of Christianity. Issues discussed will include divine attributes such as love, justice, mercy, incarnation and trinity, and features of the divine-human relationship such as atonement, justification and prayer. On completion of this subject students should show an understanding of the issues raised in classes, and have developed skill in philosophical reasoning concerning those issues.

161-032 Philosophy of Cultural Practices

Note: Formerly available as 161-244/344. Students who have completed 161-244/344 are not eligible to enrol in this subject. This subject is offered in alternate years with 161-018 Philosophy of Art (*p.289*).

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject, or first year European studies, see *Prerequisites (p.167)*. Students who lack these prerequisites, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject involves a study of the work of Foucault and Habermas and its bearing on contemporary cultural practices. Students should develop a critical appreciation of the work of two major contemporary European thinkers, and acquire the ability to critically assess and apply the theoretical frameworks studied in the subject to issues that arise in contemporary cultural practices.

161-033 The Ways of Paradox

Note: Formerly available as 161-245/345. Students who have completed 161-245/345 are not eligible to enrol in this subject. This subject is offered in alternate years with 161-011 Manners of Meaning (*p.289*).

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject. Students who lack this prerequisite, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject is a study of arguments leading to apparently irresolvable contradictions in metaphysics, logic, and theories of belief and action, and of attempts to resolve them, leading to an appreciation of the relevance of (sometimes foolish-seeming) paradoxes to theories in various fields. On completion of the subject students should have a knowledge of the content of major paradoxical arguments in logic, metaphysics and decision theory; acquire knowledge of the principal responses to the paradoxes; and display an understanding of how the paradoxes relate to developing theories in the fields in which they arise.

161-036 Issues in Philosophy

Note: Formerly available as 161-265/365. Students who have completed 161-265/365 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Prerequisites: A first year single-semester philosophy subject. Students who lack this prerequisite, but believe themselves adequately prepared to attempt second/third year subjects, should consult the head of department.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject offers a detailed investigation and analysis of one or more philosophical topics of concern, familiarising students with the philosophical topic or topics dealt with in lectures and providing them with the ability to evaluate research in terms of the adequacy of the methodology employed in the research and the effectiveness with which it is presented in publications. Students should also gain the ability to conduct library research and produce a logically structured, coherent and concise evaluative report setting out prior work on the area/s in question and indicating ways in which the topic/s could be analysed in future studies.

Fourth year subjects not offered in 2001

161-040 Ethical Theory 1

Note: Formerly available as 161-432. Students who have completed 161-432 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Prerequisites: Admission to the Postgraduate Diploma or Fourth Year Honours in Philosophy.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: Both continental and English-speaking philosophers will be included in this advanced study of conceptual and ethical problems posed by our existence as embodied individuals and social beings. Embodiment will be explored from a variety of angles: phenomenological, epistemological and ethical. Topics to be covered may include the lived body; the sexed body; bodies and ritual; monstrous bodies; and bodies after Freud. The subject will help students in the investigation of the problems posed by embodied existence from a variety of philosophical perspectives: phenomenological, epistemological and ethical.

161-044 Philosophical Psychology 2

Note: Formerly available as 161-441. Students who have completed 161-441 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Prerequisites: Admission to the Postgraduate Diploma or Fourth Year Honours in Philosophy.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject involves a discussion of various questions in action theory, including the adequacy of the belief-desire model of rational action, and the bearing of ethical considerations on the understanding and explanation of action and agency. The philosophers whose work will be discussed include Kant, Wittgenstein, Charles Taylor and Bernard Williams. Students who successfully complete the subject should have a mastery of at least the contemporary history of the problem under investigation and be in a position to make an original contribution to its resolution.