

# 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 the University of Melbourne is wide ranging in scope and covers core topic areas such as logic, 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?

## Time commitment to study

As well as scheduled contact hours for lectures, tutorial and seminars a considerable additional time commitment is needed to complete the academic requirements of each subject.

A subject-specific time commitment to study will be provided by your lecturer or tutor at the beginning of semester to help you schedule your workload and successfully manage your time during the semester. In addition, general estimates of the total time commitment required to study a 12.5-point single semester subject in the Faculty of Arts can be found on page 1.

## 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.

## Diploma in Arts (Philosophy)

The Diploma in Arts (Philosophy) is only available to students who are currently enrolled in a degree course at the University of Melbourne. It consists of a three-year sequence of study, and adds one year to the duration of your degree.

Students must complete 25 points of first-year philosophy subjects and 75 points of second/third-year philosophy subjects. Alternatively, students who have completed appropriate background studies at first year may complete 100 points of second/third-year philosophy subjects.

## Requirements for a major

### Philosophy major

A major in philosophy 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 (87.5 points).

### Subjects for the major

First year	Sem.
161-101 Morality and its Dilemmas ( <i>p.3</i> )	1
161-104 Critical Thinking: The Art of Reasoning ( <i>p.3</i> )	2
161-106 Existentialism and its Critics ( <i>p.3</i> )	2
161-108 Reason, Religion and Responsibility ( <i>p.3</i> )	1
161-110 Global Justice and Human Rights ( <i>p.3</i> )	1
161-111 Great Ideas in Philosophy ( <i>p.4</i> )	2
161-115 Logic ( <i>p.4</i> )	1

### Subjects for the major

Subjects for the major	Sem.
161-134 Asian Philosophies ( <i>p.4</i> )	2
<b>Second/third year</b>	
161-007 Great Thinkers in Moral Philosophy ( <i>p.4</i> )	N/A
161-008 Basic Issues in Moral Theory ( <i>p.4</i> )	2
161-009 Knowledge, Truth and Relativism ( <i>p.4</i> )	2
161-010 Scepticism and Reason ( <i>p.4</i> )	N/A
161-011 Manners of Meaning ( <i>p.5</i> )	N/A
161-012 Classics of Political Thought ( <i>p.5</i> )	1
161-013 Contemporary Political Philosophy ( <i>p.5</i> )	N/A
161-014 Environmental Philosophy ( <i>p.5</i> )	N/A
161-016 Metatheory ( <i>p.5</i> )	N/A
161-017 Does God Exist? ( <i>p.5</i> )	N/A
161-018 Philosophy of Art ( <i>p.5</i> )	1
161-019 Greek Philosophy ( <i>p.5</i> )	N/A
161-020 Classics of Phenomenology ( <i>p.6</i> )	1
161-021 From Hermeneutics to Derrida ( <i>p.6</i> )	2
161-022 Philosophy of Feminism ( <i>p.6</i> )	N/A
161-023 Medieval Philosophy ( <i>p.6</i> )	N/A
161-024 Issues in Biomedical Ethics ( <i>p.6</i> )	N/A
161-027 Practical Ethics ( <i>p.6</i> )	1
161-029 Philosophy and Literature ( <i>p.6</i> )	N/A
161-030 The Rise of Modern Philosophy ( <i>p.7</i> )	1
161-031 Philosophy of Christianity ( <i>p.7</i> )	1
161-033 Philosophical Problems of Space and Time ( <i>p.7</i> )	N/A
161-035 Philosophy of Buddhism ( <i>p.7</i> )	2
161-052 Ideas of Utopia ( <i>p.7</i> )	2
161-053 The Good Life in Ancient Thought ( <i>p.7</i> )	N/A
161-054 Human Life in Modern Thought ( <i>p.7</i> )	N/A
161-210 Philosophy of Logic ( <i>p.8</i> )	2
161-211 Minds and Computers ( <i>p.8</i> )	1
161-212 Non-Classical Logic ( <i>p.8</i> )	1
161-213 Thinking in Asian Philosophy ( <i>p.8</i> )	1
161-214 The Philosophy of Ludwig Wittgenstein ( <i>p.8</i> )	1
161-215 The Nature of Mind ( <i>p.8</i> )	Summer
161-216 Science, Knowledge and Dogma ( <i>p.9</i> )	Summer
161-217 Kant's Metaphysics of Experience ( <i>p.9</i> )	2
161-235 Recent French Philosophy ( <i>p.9</i> )	N/A
161-236 Nietzsche and the Dream of Reason ( <i>p.9</i> )	2
161-237 Analytic Philosophy ( <i>p.9</i> )	N/A
161-238 Body, Time and Spirit in Indian Thought ( <i>p.9</i> )	N/A
161-240 Chinese Philosophy ( <i>p.9</i> )	N/A
161-241 Mathematical Logic ( <i>p.10</i> )	N/A
161-246 Reasoning and Uncertainty ( <i>p.10</i> )	N/A
161-247 The Structure of Reality ( <i>p.10</i> )	N/A
<b>Third year</b>	
161-310 What is Philosophy? ( <i>p.10</i> )	2

BA Students may take up to three alternative subjects offered by other departments towards their major in philosophy. Subjects from the following list will be approved automatically. Other subjects may be approved by the Head of Department if the content is deemed appropriate.

### Philosophy alternative subjects

Philosophy alternative subjects	Sem.
<b>First year</b>	
136-105 Science, Philosophy and History ( <i>p.2</i> )	2
<b>Second/third year</b>	
110-210 Muslim Philosophy and Thought ( <i>p.2</i> )	1
136-033 Science, Reason and Reality ( <i>p.3</i> )	2
136-034 Science, Life and Mind ( <i>p.3</i> )	1
136-038 The Scientific Revolution ( <i>p.4</i> )	1
136-260 God and the Natural Sciences ( <i>p.6</i> )	2
166-020 Modern Political Thought ( <i>p.4</i> )	2
730-261 Advanced Legal Philosophy ( <i>p.5</i> )	N/A
730-315 Jurisprudence ( <i>p.13</i> )	N/A

## Logic and philosophy of science major

A major in logic and philosophy of science (see page 1) consists of nine 12.5-point subjects, totalling 112.5 points. It comprises:

- two first-year subjects in philosophy (25 points), which must include 161-115 Logic (*p.4*) and one other first-year subject from the list below; and
- seven second/third-year subjects (87.5 points), which must include 136-033 Science, Reason and Reality (*p.3*) and six other second/third-year subjects from the list below.

BA students who complete a major in logic and philosophy of science at a satisfactory level (minimum of H2A average within the major) may undertake

combined honours in philosophy and HPS. They may not however be eligible for admission to pure honours in either department. Students wishing to undertake pure honours in either department should consult with the relevant honours coordinator for advice on how to design their course to meet departmental entry requirements for pure honours.

<b>Logic and philosophy of science subjects</b>		Sem.
<b>First year</b>		
161-115	Logic (p.4)	1
161-104	Critical Thinking: The Art of Reasoning (p.3)	2
136-105	Science, Philosophy and History (p.2)	2
<b>Second/third year</b>		
161-009	Knowledge, Truth and Relativism (p.4)	2
161-010	Scepticism and Reason (p.4)	N/A
161-011	Manners of Meaning (p.5)	N/A
161-033	Philosophical Problems of Space and Time (p.7)	N/A
161-210	Philosophy of Logic (p.8)	2
161-211	Minds and Computers (p.8)	1
161-212	Non-Classical Logic (p.8)	1
161-216	Science, Knowledge and Dogma (p.9)	Summer
136-033	Science, Reason and Reality (p.3)	2
136-034	Science, Life and Mind (p.3)	1
136-038	The Scientific Revolution (p.4)	1
136-044	Current Issues in Philosophy of Science (p.4)	N/A
136-207	Philosophy of Biology (p.5)	2
136-208	History and Philosophy of Mathematics (p.5)	N/A
136-260	God and the Natural Sciences (p.6)	2
433-171	Introduction to Programming (p.16)*	1 rep 2
433-253	Algorithms and Data Structures (p.17)*	1 rep 2
433-255	Logic and Computation (p.17)*	1 rep 2
433-330	Theory of Computation (p.18)*	1

\* These subjects require additional contact hours and have special entry requirements that must be met.

### Philosophy and social theory major

A major in philosophy and social theory (see page 1) consists of nine 12.5 point subjects, totalling 112.5 points. It comprises:

- two first-year subjects (25 points) from the list below; and
- seven second/third-year subjects (87.5 points), which must include either 136-074 Modernity Revolution to Social Movements (p.2) or 161-020 Classics of Phenomenology (p.6); and
- six other second/third-year subjects from the list below. **At least two subjects must be taken from each of list A and list B.**

BA students who complete a major in philosophy and social theory are not thereby eligible to apply for entry to combined honours in philosophy and social theory. Students wishing to undertake pure or combined honours in philosophy or combined honours in social theory should consult with the relevant honours coordinator for advice on how to design their course to meet departmental entry requirements for honours entry.

<b>Philosophy and social theory subjects</b>		Sem.
<b>First year</b>		
161-106	Existentialism and its Critics (p.3)	2
161-110	Global Justice and Human Rights (p.3)	1
161-111	Great Ideas in Philosophy (p.4)	2
136-103	The Good Life and Science (p.2)	1
136-175	The Ecological History of Humankind (p.2)	2
<b>Second/third year: list A</b>		
161-012	Classics of Political Thought (p.5)	1
161-013	Contemporary Political Philosophy (p.5)	N/A
161-020	Classics of Phenomenology (p.6)	1
161-021	From Hermeneutics to Derrida (p.6)	2
161-022	Philosophy of Feminism (p.6)	N/A
161-052	Ideas of Utopia (p.7)	2
161-214	The Philosophy of Ludwig Wittgenstein (p.8)	1
161-217	Kant's Metaphysics of Experience (p.9)	2
<b>Second/third year: list B</b>		
136-037	Biotechnology in Modern Society (p.3)	1
136-040	Science Technology and Society (p.4)	2
136-073	Critical Theories (p.2)	1
136-074	Modernity Revolution to Social Movements (p.2)	N/A
136-075	Identities in Conflict (p.2)	N/A
136-076	Social Theory and Political Analysis (p.2)	1
136-077	Psychoanalysis and Social Theory (p.2)	2
136-205	Cybersociety (p.4)	1

## 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.

For information on how to apply see *Applying for Honours* (p.13).

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 complete 161-310 What is Philosophy? (p.10) a subject specifically intended for aspiring honours students.

## Honours requirements

### Pure honours

Students undertaking pure honours in philosophy must complete:

- 161-504 Philosophy Thesis (p.10) (25 points); and
- six honours subjects in philosophy (totalling 75 points).

<b>Honours subjects</b>		Sem.
161-431	Recent European Philosophy (p.10)	1
161-432	Topics in Moral Psychology (p.10)	1
161-433	Value Theory (p.11)	2
161-434	Epistemology and Metaphysics (p.11)	1
161-435	Topics in Philosophy (p.11)	1
161-436	Issues in Analytic Metaphysics (p.11)	2
161-437	Topics in Applied Ethics (p.11)	2
161-438	Logic and Philosophy (p.11)	2
161-439	Rationality (p.11)	1
161-440	Philosophical Psychology (p.11)	N/A
161-442	Ethical Theory (p.12)	N/A
161-443	Political Philosophy (p.12)	1
161-445	Current Issues in Philosophy (p.12)	2
161-447	Topics in Advanced Logic (p.12)	1
161-457	Legal Philosophy (p.12)	N/A

Students may be permitted to take up to two existing honours subjects offered by the Department of History and Philosophy of Science towards their fourth-years studies in philosophy. Subjects from the following list would normally be approved automatically. Other subjects may be approved on a case-by-case basis. If a student wishes to take more than two subjects then combined honours should be considered. Notwithstanding the above, enrolment is subject to approval by the philosophy honours coordinator.

136-416 Beyond Realism and Relativism (p.9)

136-536 Realism, Relativism and Naturalism (p.10)

136-546 The Critical Imagination (p.3)

### Combined honours

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

- 161-504 Philosophy Thesis (p.10) (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).

\* As the honours thesis in philosophy is 25 points (as opposed to the usual 37.5 thesis in other Arts areas) combined honours students taking their thesis in philosophy take three coursework subjects in both philosophy and the combined area of study.

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 coursework), 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

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## First-year subjects

### 161-101 Morality and its Dilemmas

**Note:** Formerly available as 161-001. Students who have completed 161-001 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

**Availability:** 1st year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Dr Christopher Cordner

**Contact:** Thirty-five contact hours per semester: two 1-hour lectures per week for the whole semester and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the second week of semester (*Semester 1*).

**Description:** This subject explores a number of current issues involving moral conflict, to be chosen from the following: euthanasia, the moral status of animals, capital punishment, abortion, and problems about war. The subject also involves reflection on the origin and nature of morality. Students will develop the ability to recognise philosophical questions raised by these issues, and to explore those questions in increasing depth. Students should also become able both to see the significance of these questions for studies in other disciplines, and to bring philosophical reflection to bear more widely on their lives.

**Assessment:** A written assignment of 500 words 10% (due early in the semester), a written assignment of 1500 words 40% (due mid-semester), a 2-hour written examination (not open-book) 47% (due at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

**Prescribed texts:** A subject reader will be available.

### 161-104 Critical Thinking: The Art of Reasoning

**Note:** Formerly available as 161-003. Students who have completed 161-003 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

**Availability:** 1st year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Assoc Prof Tim van Gelder

**Contact:** Thirty-five contact hours per semester: two 1-hour lectures per week for the whole semester and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the second week of semester (*Semester 2*).

**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:** Four homework sets of up to 12 exercises 45% (due every three weeks), a multiple choice test (not open-book) 20% (held in week 7), a tutorial presentation 3% and a multiple choice final exam (not open-book) 32% (held at the end of semester).

**Prescribed texts:** Reason! Able software, provided by the University of Melbourne Reason! Online Learning Materials (further information available on webraft website).

### 161-106 Existentialism and its Critics

**Note:** Formerly available as 161-005. Students who have completed 161-005 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

**Availability:** 1st year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Dr Marion Tapper

**Contact:** Thirty-five contact hours per semester: two 1-hour lectures per week for the whole semester and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the second week of semester (*Semester 2*).

**Description:** This subject is an introduction to contemporary European philosophy. Its theme is the tension between the freedom implied by consciousness and the constraints imposed by nature, culture and society. Freedom of thought and action arises from our capacity for reflection and imagination. And yet as natural, social and historical beings we appear as selves to be constrained by our biological and psychological needs and our social and historical position. The extent to which these factors constrain or merely influence our lives will be examined. The first half of the subject will be a study of key themes in Sartre's *Being and Nothingness*, particularly his account of human freedom. We will then consider the consequences for such freedom from consideration of Althusser's account of ideology and Foucault's account of power. On completion of the subject, students should be able to recognise the distinctive nature of 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 to apply their philosophical skills in other disciplines.

**Assessment:** A written assignment of 500 words 10% (due early in the semester), a written assignment of 1500 words 40% (due mid-semester), a 2-hour written examination (not open-book) 47% (held at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

**Prescribed texts:** A subject reader will be available.

### 161-108 Reason, Religion and Responsibility

**Note:** Formerly available as 161-006. Students who have completed 161-006 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

**Availability:** 1st year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Dr Douglas Adeney

**Contact:** Thirty-five contact hours per semester: two 1-hour lectures per week for the whole semester and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the second week of semester (*Semester 1*).

**Description:** This subject explores three major and interconnected philosophical issues: (1) The existence of God. Are there good reasons for believing, or for not believing, in God? But should religious belief be seen as a matter not for reason, but for faith, and what does this mean? (2) The meaning of life. Must there be one? Only one? Does it depend on belief in God and/or an afterlife, or on our having values of some kind, and if so what kind and with what basis? (3) The freedom of the will. Is the course of our lives totally determined, if not by divine planning, then by other causes beyond our control, such as factors in our heredity and upbringing? If so, is our important belief that we have genuine freedom and responsibility for our actions a mere illusion?

**Assessment:** A written assignment of 500 words 10% (due early in the semester), a written assignment of 1500 words 40% (due mid semester), a 2-hour written examination (not open-book) 47% (due at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

**Prescribed texts:** A subject reader will be available.

### 161-110 Global Justice and Human Rights

**Availability:** 1st year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Dr Karen Jones

**Contact:** Thirty-five contact hours per semester: two 1-hour lectures per week for the whole semester and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the second week of semester (*Semester 1*).

**Description:** This subject is an introduction to social and political philosophy. It brings a global perspective to bear on traditional problems in political philosophy such as the nature and limits of justice, of freedom, and of human rights. The course examines rival contemporary philosophical accounts of justice within the nation-state as well as attempts to extend such accounts beyond national borders. It evaluates projects grounding human rights in personhood and considers the objection that human rights talk is western-centric. Concrete practical problems, including immigration and international development, provide a context for these theoretical investigations. On completion of the subject, students should (1) have developed skills in critical and theoretical thinking, (2) be able to explain and assess philosophical theories of

justice, freedom, and rights, and (3) understand the philosophical issues raised by globalization.

**Assessment:** A written assignment of 500 words 10% (due early in the semester), a written assignment of 1500 words 40% (due mid semester), a 2-hour written examination (not open-book) 47% (due at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

**Prescribed texts:** A subject reader will be available.

### 161-111 Great Ideas in Philosophy

**Availability:** 1st year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Dr Douglas Adeney

**Contact:** Thirty-five contact hours per semester: two 1-hour lectures per week for the whole semester and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the second week of semester (*Semester 2*).

**Description:** This subject examines some of the most fundamental and original ideas philosophers have introduced. Students will examine a variety of historical periods and philosophical traditions, and study will be based on the writings of the philosophers themselves. Topics will include the theory of Forms of the Ancient Greek philosopher Plato; the sceptical arguments of the 17th century French philosopher Descartes; the ideas advanced by the 18th Century British philosopher Berkeley; and the case for the unconscious advanced by Freud in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Students should develop the ability to read and critically assess a philosophical text, and the ability and background necessary to engage with philosophical ideas at an advanced level.

**Assessment:** A written assignment of 500 words 10% (due early in the semester), a written assignment of 1500 words 40% (due mid semester), a 2-hour written examination (not open-book) 47% (due at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

**Prescribed texts:** A subject reader will be available.

### 161-115 Logic

**Note:** Formerly available as 161-015. Students who have completed 161-015 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

**Availability:** 1st year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Assoc Prof Greg Restall

**Contact:** Thirty-five contact hours per semester: two 1-hour lectures per week for the whole 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 formal logic. One of the most important aspects of analysing an argument is the assessment of its validity: whether the premises really do imply the conclusion. Modern formal logic uses symbolic techniques for an analysis of validity, and related notions such as grammatical form and truth. Students of the subject should attain an understanding of the elements of these techniques and their meanings. This is essential for an understanding of many aspects of contemporary philosophy, mathematics, and information processing.

**Assessment:** Three 1.5-hour quizzes 47% (during the semester), tutorial participation 3%, and a 2-hour closed-book written examination 50% (held at the end of semester).

### 161-134 Asian Philosophies

**Note:** Formerly available as 161-034. Students who have completed 161-034 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

**Availability:** 1st year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Prof Graham Priest

**Contact:** Thirty-five contact hours per semester: two 1-hour lectures per week for the whole semester and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the second week of semester (*Semester 2*).

**Description:** This subject is an introduction to central aspects of Asian philosophy, and especially the philosophical traditions of India, China and Japan. Students can expect to learn the basic elements of the philosophical thought of Hinduism, Buddhism (including Zen), Taoism, and Confucianism. Issues in both ethics and metaphysics will be considered. Some parallels with Western philosophy may be drawn.

**Assessment:** A written assignment of 500 words 10% (due early in the semester), a written assignment of 1500 words 40% (due mid semester), a 2-hour written examination (not open-book) 47% (at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

## Second/third-year subjects

### 161-007 Great Thinkers in Moral Philosophy

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Dr Douglas Adeney

**Prerequisites:** At least one first-year single-semester philosophy subject, or permission from the Head of Department or subject coordinator.

**Contact:** Thirty-two contact hours per semester; two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Not Offered*).

**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:** A written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid-semester), a 2-hour closed-book written examination 47% (held at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

### 161-008 Basic Issues in Moral Theory

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Dr Francois Schroeter

**Prerequisites:** At least one first-year single-semester philosophy subject, or permission from the Head of Department or subject coordinator.

**Contact:** Thirty two contact hours per semester: 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 have acquired a background for their own further philosophical reflection on the nature and ground of morality.

**Assessment:** A written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid-semester), a 2-hour closed-book written examination 47% (held at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

### 161-009 Knowledge, Truth and Relativism

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Dr Bruce Langtry

**Prerequisites:** At least one first-year single-semester philosophy subject or permission from the Head of Department or subject coordinator.

**Contact:** Thirty two contact hours per semester: 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 examines the philosophical thesis that there is no absolute truth, knowledge or rationality; they 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.

**Assessment:** A written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid-semester), a 2-hour closed-book written examination 47% (due at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

### 161-010 Scepticism and Reason

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** To be advised

**Prerequisites:** At least one single-semester first-year philosophy subject, or permission from the Head of Department or the subject coordinator.

**Contact:** Thirty-two contact hours per semester: two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Not Offered*).

**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 written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid-semester), a 2-hour closed-book written examination 47% (held at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

### 161-011 Manners of Meaning

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Dr Allen Hazen

**Prerequisites:** At least one first-year single-semester philosophy, anthropology or linguistics subject, or permission from the Head of Department or subject coordinator.

**Contact:** Thirty-two contact hours per semester: two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Not Offered*).

**Description:** An introduction to central issues in the philosophy of language.

**Assessment:** Two written assignments of 2000 words each, one due mid-semester 47%, the second due at the end of semester 50% and tutorial participation 3%.

### 161-012 Classics of Political Thought

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Dr Douglas Adeney

**Prerequisites:** At least one first-year single-semester philosophy subject or permission from the Head of Department or subject coordinator.

**Contact:** Thirty two contact hours per semester: 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 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.

**Assessment:** A written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid-semester), a 2-hour closed-book written examination 47% (due at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

### 161-013 Contemporary Political Philosophy

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** To be advised

**Prerequisites:** At least one first-year single-semester philosophy subject, or permission from the Head of Department or subject coordinator.

**Contact:** Thirty-two contact hours per semester: two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Not Offered*).

**Description:** This subject examines recent writings and perspectives on some traditional topics in political philosophy, such as the basis and proper extent of equality and of liberty.

**Assessment:** A written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid-semester), a 2-hour closed-book written examination 47% (held at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

### 161-014 Environmental Philosophy

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** To be advised

**Prerequisites:** At least one first-year single-semester philosophy subject, or 121-171 Environmental Change, or permission from the Head of Department or subject coordinator.

**Contact:** Thirty-two contact hours per semester: two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Not Offered*).

**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:** Two written assignments of 2000 words, one due mid-semester 50%, the second due at the end of semester 47% and tutorial participation 3%.

### 161-016 Metatheory

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** To be advised

**Prerequisites:** 161115 Introduction to Formal Logic. Or, with permission from the Head of Department or the subject coordinator, 620-122 Mathematics B (Advanced), or 620-142 Mathematics B, or 433-255 Logic and Computation, or 620-211 Mathematics 2 (Advanced).

**Contact:** Thirty-five contact hours per semester: two 1-hour lectures per week for the whole semester and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the second week of semester (*Not Offered*).

**Description:** This subject deals with selected topics in logic beyond what is covered in 161-115 Logic (*p.4*), 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, eg. mathematics, linguistics, computer science).

**Assessment:** A mark for tutorial presence and participation 3%, two assignments consisting of a selection of short-answer problem sets (due during the semester) (20% in the first half of the semester, and 22% in the second half) and a final two-hour examination 50% (at the end of the semester).

### 161-017 Does God Exist?

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Dr Bruce Langtry

**Prerequisites:** A least one first-year single-semester philosophy subject, or permission from the Head of Department or subject coordinator.

**Contact:** Thirty-two contact hours per semester: two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Not Offered*).

**Description:** This subject is a philosophical examination of whether God exists. What arguments are there in favour of the existence of God? How good are they? What objections are there to the existence of God? How good are they? We'll concentrate on various specific issues, such as whether recent scientific discoveries about the origins and nature of the physical universe count in favour of the view that the physical universe was designed by some intelligent being.

**Assessment:** A written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid-semester), a 2-hour closed-book written examination 47% (held at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

### 161-018 Philosophy of Art

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Assoc Prof John Armstrong

**Prerequisites:** At least one first-year single-semester philosophy subject or permission from the Head of Department or subject coordinator.

**Contact:** Thirty two contact hours per semester: 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 will be concerned with the nature of art and its value for the individual and society. Particular attention will be paid to the critical discussion of representation in art which began with Plato in 5 BC, recurs in the 19th century with Schopenhauer and Nietzsche and again in the 20th century with Duchamp's proposal that art should be for the mind and not the eye.

**Assessment:** A written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid-semester), a 2-hour closed-book written examination 47% (due at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

### 161-019 Greek Philosophy

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** To be advised

**Prerequisites:** At least one first-year single-semester philosophy subject, or permission from the Head of Department or subject coordinator.

**Contact:** Thirty-two contact hours per semester: two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Not Offered*).

**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 written assignments of 2000 words, one due mid-semester 50%, the second due at the end of semester 47% and tutorial participation 3%.

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### 161-020 Classics of Phenomenology

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** To be advised

**Prerequisites:** At least one first-year single-semester philosophy or European studies subject, or permission from the Head of Department or subject coordinator.

**Contact:** Thirty-two contact hours per semester: 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:** A written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid-semester), a 2-hour closed-book written examination 47% (held at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

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### 161-021 From Hermeneutics to Derrida

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Dr Francois Schroeter

**Prerequisites:** At least one first-year single-semester philosophy or European studies subject or permission from the Head of Department or subject coordinator.

**Contact:** Thirty-two contact hours per semester: 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 studies the theories of meaning and interpretation developed in contemporary European thought. It examines questions such as: What is it to interpret a text? How does an interpretation differ from a deconstruction? 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? 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.

**Assessment:** A written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid-semester), a 2-hour closed-book written examination 47% (due at the end of the semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

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### 161-022 Philosophy of Feminism

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Prerequisites:** At least one first-year single-semester philosophy subject, or permission from the Head of Department or subject coordinator. Women's studies students wishing to enrol in this subject would normally have completed first-year women's studies.

**Semester:** Not Offered

**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 sub-

ject, students should have an understanding of the debates about the nature of sexual difference and the location of sexual oppression.

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### 161-023 Medieval Philosophy

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Prerequisites:** At least one single-semester first-year philosophy subject or permission from the Head of Department or the subject coordinator.

**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 centuries and bring to the investigation of certain contemporary philosophical problems an informed sense of the contributions made to their solution in the Middle Ages.

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### 161-024 Issues in Biomedical Ethics

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Mr Andrew Alexandra

**Prerequisites:** At least one first-year single-semester philosophy subject or permission from the Head of Department or subject coordinator.

**Contact:** Thirty-two contact hours per semester: two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Not Offered*).

**Description:** The development and increasing prestige of modern medicine continues to generate ethical controversy. This subject will provide a way of making sense of these controversies: it will consider the nature of health, illness and disease, and discuss a number of particular issues, possibly including the status of mental illness, disability, abortion, genetic screening and modification, euthanasia and death.

**Assessment:** A written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid-semester), a 2-hour written examination 47% (at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

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### 161-027 Practical Ethics

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Mr Andrew Alexandra

**Prerequisites:** At least one single-semester first-year philosophy subject or permission from the Head of Department or the subject coordinator.

**Contact:** Thirty two contact hours per semester: 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, students should develop an appreciation of the relevance of philosophy to issues of public concern by attention to some significant and controversial areas. These will include the following: the enforcement of morals, war and terrorism, privacy versus security, punishment, slavery.

**Assessment:** A written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid-semester), a second written assignment of 2000 words 47% (due at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

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### 161-029 Philosophy and Literature

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** To be advised

**Prerequisites:** At least one first-year single-semester philosophy or first-year European studies subject, or permission from the Head of Department or subject coordinator.

**Semester:** Not Offered

**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:** A written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid-semester), a 2-hour closed-book written examination 47% (held at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

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**161-030 The Rise of Modern Philosophy****Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year**Credit points:** 12.5**Coordinator:** Assoc Prof Barry Taylor**Prerequisites:** At least one single-semester first-year philosophy subject, or permission from the Head of Department or the subject coordinator.**Contact:** Thirty two contact hours per semester: 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 able to indicate awareness of how those issues are related to 20th century work.**Assessment:** A written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid-semester), a 2-hour closed-book written examination 47% (due at the end of the semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

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**161-031 Philosophy of Christianity****Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year**Credit points:** 12.5**Coordinator:** Dr Bruce Langtry**Prerequisites:** At least one first-year single-semester philosophy subject or permission from the Head of Department or the subject coordinator.**Contact:** Thirty two contact hours per semester: 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 contemporary metaphysics and its bearing on the nature of God. The focus for the coming year 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.**Assessment:** A written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid-semester), a 2-hour closed-book written examination 47% (due at the end of the semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

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**161-033 Philosophical Problems of Space and Time****Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year**Credit points:** 12.5**Prerequisites:** At least one single-semester first-year philosophy subject or permission from the Head of Department or the subject coordinator.**Semester:** Not Offered**Description:** The natures of space and time present a wide range of philosophical puzzlements, some of which have been argued over since the ancient Greeks, and some of which stem from 20th century physics. This subject looks at several of them. Some of the issues are foundational for physics and geometry, but the concepts can (and will) be approached in a way that does not presuppose specific mathematical or scientific study beyond Year 10.

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**161-035 Philosophy of Buddhism****Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year**Credit points:** 12.5**Coordinator:** To be advised**Prerequisites:** At least one single-semester first-year philosophy or Asian studies subject (in consultation with the subject coordinator) or permission from the Head of Department or the subject coordinator.**Contact:** Thirty two contact hours per semester: 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 explores the central teachings and concepts of Buddhism as embodied in the Four Noble Truths. It does so by examining such core Buddhist concepts and contrasts as suffering and its cessation, enlightenment and ignorance, impermanence and emptiness and meditation. Reference to the Theravada, Mahayana and Zen traditions is made throughout the course.**Assessment:** A written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid-semester), a 2-hour closed-book written examination 47% (due at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

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**161-052 Ideas of Utopia****Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year**Credit points:** 12.5**Coordinator:** Assoc Prof John Armstrong**Prerequisites:** At least one single-semester first-year philosophy subject or permission from the Head of Department or the subject coordinator.**Contact:** Thirty two contact hours per semester: 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 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:** A written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid-semester), a second written assignment of 2000 words 47% (due at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

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**161-053 The Good Life in Ancient Thought****Note:** This is an intensive two-week subject offered at the beginning of January. Timetabling will be such that this subject and 161-054 Human Life in Modern Thought (*p.7*) can be taken concurrently. To be offered in alternate years.**Strict enrolment deadlines apply to subjects taught during the Summer Semester. Any enrolment in, or withdrawal from, this subject must be made in line with HECS/course fee census dates.****Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year**Credit points:** 12.5**Coordinator:** Dr Douglas Adeney**Prerequisites:** Any two university subjects or equivalent, or permission from the Head of Department or the subject coordinator.**Contact:** Two 1-hour lectures and a 1-hour tutorial per day for 10 days (*Not Offered*).**Description:** The subject examines and critically compares a number of conceptions of good human life to be found in ancient Mediterranean philosophical and religious texts and traditions. These conceptions include those of Plato and Aristotle and their Greek successors the Stoics, Epicureans and Sceptics, and some from other sources such as the Roman, Jewish and Christian. 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 due in March and April 50% each. Provision for earlier assessment can be made in approved cases, by special arrangement with the lecturer.

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**161-054 Human Life in Modern Thought****Note:** This is an intensive two-week subject offered at the beginning of January. Timetabling will be such that this subject and 161-053 The Good Life in Ancient Thought (*p.7*) can be taken concurrently. To be offered in alternate years.**Strict enrolment deadlines apply to subjects taught during the Summer Semester. Any enrolment in, or withdrawal from, this subject must be made in line with HECS/course fee census dates.****Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year**Credit points:** 12.5**Coordinator:** To be advised**Prerequisites:** Any two university subjects or equivalent, or permission from the Head of Department or the subject coordinator.**Contact:** Two 1-hour lectures and a 1-hour tutorial per day for 10 days (*Not Offered*).

**Description:** The subject examines some influential 19th and 20th century conceptions of human life and human nature, including some of 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 due in March and April 50% each. Provision for earlier assessment can be made in approved cases, by special arrangement with the lecturer.

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### 161-210 Philosophy of Logic

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Dr Allen Hazen

**Prerequisites:** 161-115 Logic (*p.4*) or equivalent or permission from the Head of Department or the subject coordinator.

**Contact:** Thirty five contact hours per semester: two 1-hour lectures per week for the whole semester and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the second week of semester (*Semester 2*).

**Description:** This subject examines a number of the philosophical issues that arise in connection with modern formal logic. It introduces students to questions concerning the metaphysical and epistemological status of logic and the machinery connected with it. Students will encounter contemporary views and arguments on these issues. By the end of the subject, students should develop an understanding of these matters, as well as an ability to articulate and defend their own views on the matters covered.

**Assessment:** Weekly exercises totalling 2000 words 30%, a 2-hour examination 67% and tutorial participation 3%.

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### 161-211 Minds and Computers

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** To be advised

**Prerequisites:** At least one single-semester first-year philosophy subject or permission from the Head of Department or the subject coordinator.

**Contact:** Thirty two contact hours per semester: 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 focuses on the view that the mind is a computational device. The subject introduces students to the view in question, its ramifications and problems. Students will encounter not only philosophical issues, but some basic ideas in neuroanatomy, cognitive psychology and artificial intelligence. By the end of the subject, students should understand the debates concerning the computational hypothesis, and also be able to articulate and defend their views on the matter.

**Assessment:** A written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid-semester), a 2-hour closed-book written examination 47% (due at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

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### 161-212 Non-Classical Logic

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Assoc Prof Greg Restall

**Prerequisites:** 161115 Introduction to Formal Logic or with permission from the Head of Department or the subject coordinator, 620-122 Mathematics B (Advanced) or 620-142 Mathematics B or 433-255 Logic and Computation or 620-211 Mathematics 2 (Advanced).

**Contact:** Thirty five contact hours per semester: two 1-hour lectures per week for the whole semester and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the second week of semester (*Semester 1*).

**Description:** This subject concerns non-classical logic, that is, logic that extends or critiques the more orthodox logic normally encountered in a first course in logic. Students will be introduced to some of the more important non-classical logics such as modal, temporal, intuitionistic, paraconsistent, relevant and substructural logics. Details of the semantics and proof-theories of these logics will be considered, as well as the philosophical rationales for the logics. On completion of the subject, students should have a good understanding of the technical details of the logics covered, and of philosophical debates surrounding these logics.

**Assessment:** A number of assignments totalling 4000 words comprising short answer, problem-solving and essay questions 97% and continuous tutorial attendance 3%.

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### 161-213 Thinking in Asian Philosophy

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** To be advised

**Prerequisites:** At least one single-semester first-year philosophy or Asian studies subject (in consultation with the lecturers) or permission from the Head of Department or the lecturers in charge of the subject.

**Contact:** Thirty two contact hours per semester: 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 the nature and process of thinking, as discussed in a range of Asian philosophical traditions. The subject requires students to understand various views on this matter in Indian, Chinese and Japanese thought. Students will study texts on Confucius, Dogen, and Indian philosophy. On completion of the subject students should have developed good knowledge and understanding of the process of thinking, reasoning and reflecting in Asian intellectual cultures, as well as an ability to articulate and evaluate these views.

**Assessment:** A written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid-semester), a 2-hour closed-book written examination 47% (due at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

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### 161-214 The Philosophy of Ludwig Wittgenstein

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Assoc Prof Barry Taylor

**Prerequisites:** At least one single-semester first-year philosophy subject or permission from the Head of Department or the subject coordinator.

**Contact:** Thirty two contact hours per semester: 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 engages students with the major themes in the philosophy of Ludwig Wittgenstein, the Austrian philosopher whose ideas on language, thought, and reality powerfully influenced the shape of 20th century philosophy. It introduces students to Wittgenstein's main themes, and to critical issues which they raise. Specifically, the course concentrates on the views developed in Wittgenstein's mature work, the *Philosophical Investigations*, against the background of an introduction to his earlier views as expounded in his *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*. Students should develop an understanding of Wittgenstein's key themes and the issues they raise, an appreciation of their importance to philosophical inquiry, and the ability to proceed to further work on these topics.

**Assessment:** A written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid-semester), a 2-hour closed-book written examination 47% (due at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

**Prescribed texts:** A subject reader will be available.

Ludwig Wittgenstein, *Philosophical Investigations*, (any edition).

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### 161-215 The Nature of Mind

**Note:** This is an intensive two-week subject offered at the beginning of January. Timetabling will be such that this subject and 161-216 Science, Knowledge and Dogma (*p.9*) can be taken concurrently. Strict enrolment deadlines apply to subjects taught during the Summer Semester. Any enrolment in or withdrawal from this subject for the Summer Semester must be made in line with HECS census dates.

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** To be advised

**Prerequisites:** Any two university subjects or equivalent or permission from the Head of Department or the subject coordinator.

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

**Description:** This subject examines the major theories contemporary philosophers have advanced to explain the nature of the human mind. It introduces students to the problems that theories of the mind attempt to solve, to the ways in which these theories attempt a solution, and to the problems these attempts at solution encounter. Specifically, the subject will address the theories of dualism, epiphenomenalism, behaviourism, physicalism, functionalism, and eliminativism. Students should develop an understanding of these theories, an appreciation of what motivates them, and of their problems. The subject provides the basis for advanced work in the field, and is also designed to provide a solid background for teachers of the Philosophy of Mind at VCE level.

**Assessment:** Two 2000-word essays 50% each (due in March and April). Provision for earlier assessment can be made in approved cases by special arrangement with the lecturer.

**Prescribed texts:** A subject reader will be available.

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### 161-216 Science, Knowledge and Dogma

**Note:** This is an intensive two-week subject offered at the beginning of January. Timetabling will be such that this subject and 161-215 The Nature of Mind (*p.8*) can be taken concurrently. Strict enrolment deadlines apply to subjects taught during the Summer Semester. Any enrolment in, or withdrawal from, this subject for the Summer Semester must be made in line with HECS census dates.

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** To be advised

**Prerequisites:** Any two university subjects or equivalent or permission from the Head of Department or the subject coordinator.

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

**Description:** This subject will address the nature and status of science, and rational belief within and outside science. Specific topics may include the roles of observation, value judgements and conventions in science, and whether science requires untestable metaphysical and epistemological assumptions.

**Assessment:** Two 2000-word essays 50% each (due in March and April). Provision for earlier assessment can be made in approved cases by special arrangement with the lecturer.

**Prescribed texts:** A subject reader will be available.

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### 161-217 Kant's Metaphysics of Experience

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Dr Marion Tapper

**Prerequisites:** At least one single-semester first-year philosophy subject or permission from the Head of Department or the subject coordinator.

**Contact:** Thirty two contact hours per semester: 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 study of Kant's explanation of and arguments for transcendental idealism in *The Critique of Pure Reason*. It examines the arguments that space, time and the categories, together with the transcendental unity of apperception, are the conditions of experience. How the conditions provide the basis for knowledge of the world will be discussed. In the process the role of imagination in experience will be considered. On completion of this subject, students should have a detailed knowledge of the *Critique*, understand Kant's philosophy in relation to his predecessors, and demonstrate an ability to critically examine philosophical theses and arguments.

**Assessment:** A written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid-semester), a 2-hour closed-book written examination 47% (due at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

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### 161-235 Recent French Philosophy

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Prerequisites:** At least one first-year philosophy subject, or permission from the Head of Department or the subject coordinator.

**Semester:** Not Offered

**Description:** This subject is a study of some of the most influential French philosophers from the second half of the 20th century. It introduces students to the various understandings of the nature and history of philosophy which have been articulated. It will examine the range of critical tools and strategies with which these philosophers have challenged traditional philosophy, and explore the alternatives where these are proposed. On completion of this subject students should have a critical understanding of the major movements in recent French philosophy and be able to compare and assess the cogency of the different positions.

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### 161-236 Nietzsche and the Dream of Reason

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** To be advised

**Prerequisites:** At least one first-year philosophy subject, or permission from the Head of Department or the subject coordinator.

**Contact:** Thirty-two contact hours per semester: 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:** Much philosophy in 19th century Europe reflects almost unlimited confidence in the power of reason to master not only the natural world, but the human world as well. Alongside this confidence, however, there exists deep scepticism about reason, even hostility towards it. A central figure in the second camp is Nietzsche. This course explores Nietzsche's attacks on reason in relation to some one other philosopher who centralises reason in a way to which Nietzsche is hostile. The other philosopher will usually be a 19th century figure, such as Kant or Hegel or Schiller, but may also be a figure from elsewhere in the history of philosophy who matters to Nietzsche's radical critique, for example Socrates.

**Assessment:** A written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid-semester), a 2-hour closed-book written examination 47% (due at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

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### 161-237 Analytic Philosophy

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Prerequisites:** At least one first-year philosophy subject, or permission from the Head of Department or the subject coordinator.

**Semester:** Not Offered

**Description:** This subject is a study of the philosophical tradition known as Analytic Philosophy. It will focus on central works by leading figures in this tradition, who include Bertrand Russell, GE Moore, Rudolf Carnap, WV Quine, JL Austin, and SA Kripke. Some variation in contents from year to year is envisaged, but most of the listed philosophers will be included each time the subject is offered. Their work is united by an emphasis on semantic analysis, and the subject will focus on the ways in which they have used semantic concepts to illuminate epistemological and metaphysical issues.

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### 161-238 Body, Time and Spirit in Indian Thought

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** To be advised

**Prerequisites:** At least one first-year philosophy or Asian studies subject (in consultation with the lecturers), or permission from the Head of Department or the lecturers in charge of the subject.

**Contact:** Thirty-two contact hours per semester: two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Not Offered*).

**Description:** The body and the worlds of space and time have often been construed as realms of bondage and illusion in Indian philosophy. Many key Indian philosophical ideas developed out of the desire to escape from these limitations of finitude and constraint. This subject explores selected themes in Indian thought, concerning conceptions of the body, theories of time and spirit, and pathways of liberation. The main areas of focus will be Hinduism, Buddhism and Tantrism, as well as the wider influence of these philosophical themes in some Indian arts and sciences such as Ayurvedic medicine and alchemy. Some Chinese and Japanese traditions influenced by Indian ideas will also be examined.

**Assessment:** A written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid-semester), a 2-hour closed-book written examination 47% (due at the end of semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

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### 161-240 Chinese Philosophy

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Dr Karen Jones

**Prerequisites:** At least one first-year philosophy subject, or permission from the Head of Department, or the lecturer-in-charge of the subject.

**Contact:** Thirty-two contact hours per semester: two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Not Offered*).

**Description:** This course on Chinese Philosophy focuses on the major philosophical schools of Classical China, including Confucianism, Mohism, and Daoism. Works produced in this period (12th century BCE; 221 BCE; Confucius born 551 BCE) exerted a profound influence over subsequent philosophical development in China, Korea, and Japan. In some years, the course may also examine later, neo-Confucian, developments in Chinese thinking and the philosophical legacy of Buddhism in China. A central topic of investigation will be Chinese theories of human nature and the connection between competing claims in moral psychology and competing moral and political theories. On completion of this course, students should be familiar with major thinkers and schools in Classical China; develop skill in comparative philosophy so as to enrich their readings of both Chinese and Western philosophical

texts; be able to critically examine philosophical arguments derived from careful and critical readings of texts.

**Assessment:** The best three of five quizzes on the primary texts 20%, a written assignment of 1500 words 30% (due mid semester), tutorial participation 3% and a 2-hour written examination (not open-book) 47% (at the end of the semester).

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### 161-241 Mathematical Logic

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Dr Allen Hazen

**Prerequisites:** Background in symbolic logic, eg. 161-016 Metatheory (*p.5*) or equivalent, or permission from the Head of Department or subject coordinator.

**Contact:** Thirty-five contact hours per semester: two 1-hour lectures per week for the whole semester and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the second week of semester (*Not Offered*).

**Description:** Continuation of the subject 161-016 Metatheory (*p.5*), looking at issues in the foundations of mathematics and Gödel's incompleteness Theorem.

**Assessment:** Weekly exercises totalling 2000 words 30%, a 2-hour end-of-semester exam 67% and tutorial participation 3%.

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### 161-246 Reasoning and Uncertainty

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Prerequisites:** 161-115 Introduction to Formal Logic or permission from the Head of Department or the subject coordinator, 620-122 Mathematics B (Advanced) or 620-142 Mathematics B or 433-255 Logic and Computation or 620-211 Mathematics 2 (Advanced).

**Semester:** Not Offered

**Description:** The distinction between good and bad reasoning ought to apply whether we are certain of our premises or not. However, many of the important techniques in contemporary logic were developed to model the kinds of proof found in mathematical reasoning, where certainty seems available and proofs guarantee their conclusions. This course examines the different kinds of reasoning appropriate where uncertainty is rife. This course will consider techniques from among elementary probability theory, Bayesian decision theory, inductive inference, game theory, fuzzy logic, non-monotonic reasoning, default inference, dynamic logic and rational belief revision. Students will be given an opportunity to master different formal techniques used to represent and evaluate reasoning under uncertainty; critically reflect on the successes and failings of each proposed account; and analyse the assumptions underlying each different proposal to represent or manage uncertainty.

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### 161-247 The Structure of Reality

**Availability:** 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Assoc Prof Barry Taylor

**Prerequisites:** At least one first-year philosophy subject, or permission from the Head of Department or the subject coordinator.

**Contact:** Thirty-two contact hours per semester: two 1-hour lectures per week for the first 11 weeks and a 1-hour tutorial per week beginning the third week of semester (*Not Offered*).

**Description:** This subject introduces students to contemporary metaphysics, or more precisely to that branch of the subject known as ontology: traditionally described as 'the study of being'. We shall study the subject principally by examining the work of contemporary philosophers in the analytical tradition, such as the Americans W V O Quine and David Lewis, the English philosophers David Wiggins and Derek Parfit, and the Australian D M Armstrong. Typical of the topics discussed are the range of existing things: in what sense, if any, do minds, persons, numbers, fictional entities, and merely possible things exist, side by side with familiar material objects? We shall look at the role of identity criteria and of the possession of causal powers in deciding such issues. A further question concerns the existence of general things ('universals', such as redness) over and above the particular things in which they are instanced. On completing this subject, students should have a critical knowledge of the main issues in contemporary analytical metaphysics, and be in a position to go on to more advanced work in the area.

**Assessment:** A written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid semester), tutorial participation 3% and a 2-hour written examination (not open-book) 47% (at the end of the semester).

## Third-year subject

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### 161-310 What is Philosophy?

**Availability:** 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Prof Graham Priest

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

**Contact:** A 1.5-hour lecture and a 1.5-hour seminar per week (*Semester 2*).

**Description:** This subject examines the nature of philosophy itself. It should encourage students to reflect on the nature and methods of the philosophy they have studied to date. It is intended for students nearing completion of a philosophy major, but may also be taken by others. Students will read what many great philosophers have said about the nature of philosophy. By the end of the topic students should be able to understand and evaluate these ideas, as well as to articulate and defend their own views on the matter.

**Assessment:** A written assignment of 2000 words 50% (due mid-semester), a 2-hour closed-book written examination 47% (due at the end of the semester) and tutorial participation 3%.

**Prescribed texts:** A subject reader will be available.

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## Fourth-year subjects

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### 161-504 Philosophy Thesis

**Availability:** 4th year

**Credit points:** 25

**Coordinator:** Dr Bruce Langtry

**Prerequisites:** Admission to the postgraduate diploma or fourth-year honours in philosophy.

**Contact:** Fortnightly meetings with the supervisor over two consecutive semesters of enrolment plus attendance at a 1.5-hour seminar per week (*Semester 1, repeat 2*).

**Description:** A supervised thesis on a topic to be approved by the Head of Department or the department's honours coordinator. Students will be required to attend weekly seminars and present a class paper based on their thesis topic.

**Assessment:** A thesis of 10,000 words 100% (due at the end of the second semester of enrolment).

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### 161-431 Recent European Philosophy

**Note:** Formerly available as 161-039. Students who have completed 161-039 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

**Availability:** 4th year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**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:** A 5000-word essay 100% (due at the end of semester).

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### 161-432 Topics in Moral Psychology

**Availability:** 4th year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Dr Francois Schroeter

**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 recent philosophical developments in the study of the psychology of moral agents. Topics to be covered may include: (1) the role of reflection and inarticulate dispositions in our grasp of moral concepts; (2) the structure of practical deliberation; (3) the nature of autonomy; (4) the relation between values and the self; (5) the relevance of moral psychology to other areas of philosophy such as metaethics. At the completion of the subject, students should acquire the following skills: 1. a detailed knowledge of some of the main philosophical issues in contemporary moral psychology; and 2. a more sophisticated ability to assess and construct arguments.

**Assessment:** A 5000-word essay 100% (due at the end of semester).

**Prescribed texts:** A booklet of readings will be made available by the department.

### 161-433 Value Theory

**Availability:** 4th year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**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 will involve an advanced study of problems and issues in contemporary value theory, normally concentrating on issues in ethics. In some years the course may instead focus on issues in contemporary aesthetics. On completion of the subject, students should be able to bring philosophical reflection to bear more widely on their lives.

**Assessment:** A 5000-word essay 100% (due at the end of semester).

### 161-434 Epistemology and Metaphysics

**Note:** Formerly available as 161-041. Students who have completed 161-041 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

**Availability:** 4th year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Dr Bruce Langtry

**Prerequisites:** Admission to the postgraduate diploma or fourth-year honours in philosophy.

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

**Description:** Selected issues in contemporary epistemology and metaphysics. The focus for 2005 will be on the problem of evil as an objection to the existence of God.

**Assessment:** A 5000-word essay 100% (due at the end of semester).

### 161-435 Topics in Philosophy

**Note:** Formerly available as 161-042. Students who have completed 161-042 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

**Availability:** 4th year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Prof Graham Priest

**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 examines some topic or topics of interest in current philosophical debate.

**Assessment:** One 5000-word essay due at the end of semester 100%.

### 161-436 Issues in Analytic Metaphysics

**Availability:** 4th year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**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 2*).

**Description:** This subject examines analytical metaphysics, that is, metaphysics as practised by philosophers of the analytic school in the 20th century, making use of concepts and results of modern (symbolic or mathematical) logic. Students will be introduced to one or more topics in this area, such as (the modern version of) the (traditional) problem of universals, which translates the traditional problem into one of the interpretation and legitimation of formalised languages. Original writings by figures such as Bertrand Russell and WV Quine will be considered, as well as subsequent commentary. On completion of the subject, students should have a good understanding of the 20th century debate on the topic, and of the forms of argument characteristic of debates on this and similar topics.

**Assessment:** A 5000-word essay 100% (due at the end of semester).

### 161-437 Topics in Applied Ethics

**Availability:** 4th year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Assoc Prof Igor Primoratz

**Prerequisites:** Admission to the postgraduate diploma or fourth-year honours in philosophy.

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

**Description:** The subject deals with topics from a range of areas in applied ethics, including issues of individual decision-making and public policy. The

subject asks students to use skills in philosophical reasoning and knowledge of philosophical theory in such areas as moral, political, and legal philosophy, along with relevant empirical information, in order to devise solutions and assess proposals concerning selected practical problems. Students will become familiar with the recent literature in such journals as the *Journal of Applied Philosophy* and *Ethics*.

**Assessment:** A 5000-word essay 100% (due at the end of semester).

### 161-438 Logic and Philosophy

**Availability:** 4th year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Assoc Prof Greg Restall

**Prerequisites:** Admission to the postgraduate diploma or fourth-year honours in philosophy, and completion of two second/third-year philosophy subjects. No particular expertise with formal logic will be required beyond 161-115 Introduction to Formal Logic. However, experience in logic at second and third year is desirable together with interests in contemporary research in philosophy.

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

**Description:** This subject will focus on the development of logic and its applications in other areas of philosophy such as philosophy of language, epistemology, metaphysics and ethics. In the work of Frege, Husserl, Russell, Wittgenstein, Carnap and their intellectual descendants, logic has grown hand-in-hand with these topics. The subject will focus on work at these fertile boundaries between disciplines. In 2005, we will concentrate on the nature and structure of *proof* and connections between interference and the theory of meaning. This course will contain both a formal component (where we look at different formal systems and examine their properties) and a discursive component, where we look at implications and applications to philosophical disputes over realism and anti-realism, the nature of quantification and reference to objects, and the connection between modality and equals to the ontology of possible worlds.

**Assessment:** A 5000-word essay 100% (due at the end of semester).

**Prescribed texts:** A booklet of readings will be made available by the department.

### 161-439 Rationality

**Availability:** 4th year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Dr Karen Jones

**Prerequisites:** Admission to the postgraduate diploma or fourth-year honours in philosophy.

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

**Description:** Human agents are often thought to be differentiated from animal agents in virtue of possessing the capacity for rationality. This class examines recent work on the nature of rationality. In some years the focus will be on issues in theoretical rationality, in other years on issues in practical rationality. Topics to be covered will be drawn from but not limited to: (1) Emotion and reason: Are emotions assessable for rationality? What contribution do they make to our rationality? (2) Action explanation: What is a rationalizing explanation? (3) Epistemic and practical norms: What is the significance of empirical work for philosophical accounts of rationality? Do well-entrenched norms of rationality survive scrutiny? (4) Gender and rationality: Does the concept of rationality display gender-bias?

**Assessment:** A 5000-word essay 100% (due at the end of semester).

**Prescribed texts:** A booklet of readings will be made available by the department.

### 161-440 Philosophical Psychology

**Note:** Formerly available as 161-043. Students who have completed 161-043 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

**Availability:** 4th year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** To be advised

**Prerequisites:** Admission to the postgraduate diploma or fourth-year honours in philosophy.

**Contact:** A 2-hour lecture/seminar per week (*Not Offered*).

**Description:** A traditional definition has it that a person is an individual substance of a rational kind. This subject investigates questions arising from these requirements, for example: Could social groups be primary and individual humans secondary? Could a person be a mere bundle of mental items or of atoms, and not an organic unity? Could the vocabulary of thought and sense be dispensed with to suit the requirements of an impersonal scientific world view? How does madness fit into the rationality requirement? Do answers to these questions have anything to do with how we ought to live?

**Assessment:** A 5000-word essay 100% (due at the end of semester).

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**161-442 Ethical Theory**

**Note:** Formerly available as 161-045. Students who have completed 161-045 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

**Availability:** 4th year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Prerequisites:** Admission to the postgraduate diploma or fourth-year honours in philosophy.

**Semester:** Not Offered

**Description:** The major topics to be covered in this subject will be the relation between normative ethics and meta-ethics, the nature and plausibility of moral realism, and the varieties and limitations of consequentialism.

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**161-443 Political Philosophy**

**Note:** Formerly available as 161-046. Students who have completed 161-046 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

**Availability:** 4th year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Mr Andrew Alexandra

**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 will examine topics in political philosophy. These may change from year-to-year, but might include issues concerning the state, war, social justice etc.

**Assessment:** A 5000-word essay 100% (due at the end of semester).

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**161-445 Current Issues in Philosophy**

**Note:** Students who have completed 161-047 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

**Availability:** 4th year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Assoc Prof Barry Taylor

**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:** A 5000-word essay 100% (due at the end of semester).

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**161-447 Topics in Advanced Logic**

**Note:** Formerly available as 161-048. Students who have completed 161-048 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

**Availability:** 4th year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Coordinator:** Prof Priest, Dr Hazen, Ass Prof Restall

**Prerequisites:** Admission to the postgraduate diploma or fourth-year honours in philosophy and completion of two second/third-year philosophy logic subjects or equivalent.

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

**Description:** This subject involves advanced topics in formal logic, the particular topic in any year to be chosen by the coordinators after consultation with the candidate/s. 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:** A 5000-word essay 100% (due at the end of semester).

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**161-457 Legal Philosophy**

**Availability:** 4th year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**Prerequisites:** Admission to the postgraduate diploma or fourth-year honours in philosophy.

**Semester:** Not Offered

**Description:** The subject will cover a selection of topics, which may vary from year to year. They will be drawn from, but not necessarily restricted to, the following: legal reasoning and interpretation, the nature of legal authority, law and morality, the obligation to comply with the law, civil disobedience,

the nature of justice, legal paternalism, and the justification of punishment. The subject will deal with various general theories of law, such as libertarian, socialist, and feminist. The subject may also cover philosophical issues concerning particular branches of law, such as crime, property, and contract.