



Module Specification

Philosophy of Science and Nature

Version: 2023-24, v4.0, 30 Jun 2023

Contents

Module Specification	1
Part 1: Information	2
Part 2: Description	2
Part 3: Teaching and learning methods	3
Part 4: Assessment.....	4
Part 5: Contributes towards	6

Part 1: Information

Module title: Philosophy of Science and Nature

Module code: UZRSTU-15-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

Faculty: Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

Department: HAS Dept of Social Sciences

Partner institutions: None

Field: Philosophy

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: Not applicable

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: See Learning Outcomes.

Outline syllabus: This module aims to introduce students to some of the fundamental philosophical issues encountered in philosophy of science and philosophy of nature. These two topics are surprisingly not usually studied together,

the assumption being that philosophy of science or science itself has replaced philosophy of nature. This course will examine to what extent this may or may not be the case.

The course will also may greater attention to developments in philosophy of science occurring outside of the dominant Anglo-American tradition.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The student can expect a minimum of two contact hours per week through a mixture of lectures, seminars or combined lecture/seminar sessions. A further one hour per week will be provided through a mixture of online activities, module specific one to one discussion, assessment point advice and feedback sessions, and guest speaker sessions. The total scheduled contact time for the module will be 36 hours.

Teaching will be via lectures, seminars, and/or combined lecture/seminar sessions. Lectures are used to introduce key technological developments and the problems they address. Seminars are used to further develop and understand the philosophical significance and ethical implication of the issues and problems being studied.

Significant use will be made of the Blackboard online learning environment for the provision of learning resources.

Students are expected to engage with essential reading, and assignment preparation and completion etc.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Demonstrate a good knowledge of the issues in philosophy of nature and philosophy of science and the relation (if any) between these two fields

MO2 Demonstrate an ability to critically analyse the relevant historical and contemporary texts in philosophy of science and philosophy of nature using a range of logical and analytical skills

MO3 Demonstrate appropriate transferable skills

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 117 hours

Face-to-face learning = 33 hours

Total = 150

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzrstu-15-3.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzrstu-15-3.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The module employs a combination of 2500 word coursework essay and an online oral examination (30 mins max).

Coursework essays have been chosen as a means for assessing the students' ability to engage with a particular thinker, series of texts, or problem, in some depth.

Coursework essays and online oral examinations will form the basis for summative assessment. Verbal feedback on student presentations, seminar participation, and through one to one discussions will form the basis for additional formative assessment.

Assessment criteria (for all tasks):

Level of engagement with particular philosophical positions and problems
Ability to present philosophical argument

Ability to critically assess philosophical argument

Clarity of presentation including referencing etc
Levels and adequacy of research.

Assessment tasks:

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: 2500 word essay

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Examination (First Sit)

Description: Oral online exam (30 mins)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: 2500 word essay

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Examination (Resit)

Description: Oral online exam (30 mins)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study: