Module Specification

Early Modern Philosophy

Version: 2021-22, v2.0, 02 Sep 2021

Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: Early Modern Philosophy

Module code: UZRSYQ-15-2

Level: Level 5

For implementation from: 2021-22

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

Faculty: Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

Department: HAS Dept of Social Sciences

Partner institutions: None

Delivery locations: Frenchay Campus

Field: Philosophy

Module type: Standard

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: This course aims to introduce students to the philosophical developments and theories of the 17th and 18th centuries in Great Britain and

continental Europe, which provide the historical and conceptual background to current philosophical debates.

Outline syllabus: We shall look at central figures in the empiricist and rationalist traditions, from Descartes to Kant. Topics may include: the attempt to provide a conceptual foundation for the mechanical natural philosophy of Boyle and Newton; Leibniz's Monadology; Spinoza's Ethics; the concept of substance; the nature of the mind; the nature and extent of human knowledge; and whether reality is independent of, or dependent on, the mind.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Teaching will be via lectures, seminars, and/or combined lecture/seminar sessions, with additional online learning resources.

Lectures are used to introduce key philosophical thinkers and texts and the problems they address. Seminars are used to examine texts closely, discuss the arguments they contain, and consider their wider philosophical significance. Students may be expected to prepare a presentation on an agreed topic and so actively contribute to the teaching and learning process.

Module Learning outcomes:

>   **MO1** Demonstrate a sound knowledge of the principal philosophers, problems and ideas within early modern philosophy

>   **MO2** Demonstrate the ability to clearly present central arguments within early modern philosophy

>   **MO3** Demonstrate an ability to critically examine material from early modern philosophy using a range of logical and analytical skills

>   **MO4** Demonstrate an awareness of the ways that early modern philosophy has influenced subsequent philosophical developments and theories

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 114 hours

Face-to-face learning = 36 hours

Total = 150

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzrsyq-15-2.html

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The assessment for the module will consist of a Portfolio.

An example of the portfolio would be: 2000 word Essay (80% of portfolio component), and a participation based element, such as submitting a comment or question on the reading on an online discussion board or preparing content for seminar discussion (20%). As portfolio content includes elements that involve ongoing participation in seminars the resit run of the module replaces the portfolio with a 2500 word essay.

A portfolio approach allows module leaders to adapt assessment to different material and readings in different years, diversify assessment methods to increase the range of skills developed such as the ability to give oral presentations, and encourage ongoing student engagement with course material and contact teaching helping them do better on their assessments.

Assessment components:

Portfolio - Component A (First Sit)
Description: Portfolio
Weighting: 100 %
Final assessment: Yes
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Portfolio - Component A (Resit)

Description: Essay (2500 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested:

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Philosophy [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20

Philosophy {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20