

**MODULE SPECIFICATION**

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Hellenistic and Neo-Platonist Philosophy		
Module Code	UZRSYJ-15-2	Level	2
For implementation from	Autumn 2017		
UWE Credit Rating	15	ECTS Credit Rating	7.5
Faculty	Health and Applied Sciences	Field	Philosophy
Department	Health and Social Science		
Contributes towards	BA (Hons) Philosophy		
Module type:	Standard		
Pre-requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		
Co- requisites	None		
Module Entry requirements	None		

Part 2: Description
<p>This module examines topics selected from the Hellenistic philosophies of Stoicism, Epicureanism, Academic and Pyrrhonian Scepticism, and/or the Neo-Platonist tradition which all flourished in the period after Plato and Aristotle. The period is marked by the idea that philosophy be conceived as a way of life, in which claims about the nature of the physical world or what we can know are seen to have direct implications for how one lives. It is also a period especially rich for inter-school argument, with Stoics and Epicureans arguing against one another and Sceptics questioning the assumptions of both. We shall examine ideas and arguments concerned with areas such as knowledge, cosmology, psychology, pleasure, virtue, emotions, determinism, politics, death, fortune, and tranquillity.</p> <p>Weekly lectures will be used to introduce students to key arguments and information about a specific topic. Weekly seminars will be used to provide students with the opportunity to discuss, analyse, and debate substantive issues related to the material of the week.</p> <p>In addition to lectures and seminars, web-based resources will be used to support students' learning.</p> <p>To further facilitate and enhance students' learning, prompt, detailed and constructive feedback on all assessment will be given. This will aid students in developing knowledge of the relevant subject matter and research, analysis and communication skills.</p>

### Part 3: Assessment

The assessment for the module will consist in a 1 hour unseen exam (40%) as well as a portfolio (60%).

An example of the portfolio would be: 2000 word Essay (85% of portfolio component), 15 minute spoken exam on the content of the essay (requiring no additional reading or research) allowing students to clarify and develop their points and examiners to probe their understanding, (10%), bringing a discussion question on the essential seminar reading to a minimum of 8 seminars (5%). Portfolio content may vary between years depending on the material but will be set out clearly in the module handbook at the beginning of the module. 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. A presentation element also helps prepare for 3<sup>rd</sup> modules with oral assessment and responds to student feedback requesting this.

Identify final timetabled piece of assessment (component and element)

Component A

% weighting between components A and B (Standard modules only)

**A:**  
40%

**B:**  
60%

#### First Sit

**Component A** (controlled conditions)

**Element weighting**

**Description of each element**

1. Exam (unseen 1 hour)

100%

**Component B**

**Element weighting**

**Description of each element**

1. Portfolio

100%

#### Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)

**Component A** (controlled conditions)

**Element weighting**

**Description of each element**

1. Exam (unseen, 1 hour)

100%

**Component B**

**Element weighting**

**Description of each element**

1. Essay (2,500 words)

100%

### Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods


Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an ability to use a range of logical, analytic and theoretical tools in the analysis of problems from Hellenistic and/or Neo-Platonist philosophy (assessed at all assessment points)

2. Demonstrate knowledge of the work of selected thinkers in the Hellenistic and/or Neo-Platonist traditions. (assessed at all assessment points)
3. Demonstrate transferable skills in the presentation and analysis of arguments (assessed at all assessment points)
4. Demonstrate an ability to assess the validity as well as the force of philosophical arguments (assessed at all assessment points)
5. Demonstrate an awareness of the ways that Hellenistic and/or Neo-Platonist philosophy has influenced subsequent philosophical developments and theories (assessed at all assessment points).

Key Information Sets Information (KIS)

Key Information Set - Module data				
<i>Number of credits for this module</i>				
				15
Hours to be allocated	Scheduled learning and teaching study hours	Independent study hours	Placement study hours	Allocated Hours
150	36	114	0	150
				

Contact Hours

Total assessment of the module:	
Written exam assessment percentage	40%
Portfolio percentage	60%
	100%

Total Assessment

Reading List

<https://uwe.rl.talis.com/lists/6B5AFFC4-45AA-AAB8-6876-0128B8ABE125.html>

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First CAP Approval Date	1 February 2017			
Revision CAP Approval Date		Version	1	<a href="#">RIA 12214</a>