

Philosophy T

Philosophy empowers students to reflect on themselves and the world. They investigate the challenges faced by individuals and society and interrogate approaches used to address questions, and consider solutions to, those challenges. Students critically analyse and deploy philosophical ideas from a range of periods and cultures to understand enduring problems and critique accepted wisdoms and arguments about solutions. They refine analytical and critical thinking skills and learn to question and challenge assumptions about the world around them.

Students develop the skills of philosophical inquiry, such as logic, textual analysis, respectful dialogue, and the precise communication of ideas that allow them to evaluate, apply and communicate philosophical ideas and their conclusions about self, life, and the world logically and coherently. In doing so, students develop general capabilities in thinking, research, literacy, and skills applicable to all areas of study and life. Philosophical skills, knowledge and understanding support students to become engaged, active, and reflexive citizens. As such, the study of Philosophy provides knowledge, skills and understanding to interpret and change the world, and can be utilised in a wide range of pathways and for living an examined life.

Course Patterns

The course is non-sequential with no prerequisites or compulsory units. All units must be studied as T.

Consider studying this course with Economics.

Minor: 2 to 3 units

Major: 3.5 or 4 units

Units

Unit 1: Knowledge and Knowing

Students investigate and interrogate the nature of knowledge claims, and their assumptions and foundations. They evaluate claims to knowledge in a variety of academic and popular contexts. Students critically analyse the epistemologies of knowledge claims by applying established epistemological arguments and their own insights and propositions, including logic and First Nations Australian epistemologies. Students apply their understanding and critical and logical thinking to draw conclusions about epistemological problems and communicate their insights.

Unit 2: Existence and Reality

Students explore the nature of existence and reality. They interrogate the philosophical notions of existence and reality by drawing on philosophies from a range of traditions, including Metaphysics. Students examine their assumption of their own existence, and that of others, and apply their experience of this existence to evaluate claims about the fundamental nature of how they exist and the reality that they exist in, including notions of origin, self, transformation, and death.



Unit 3: Judgement and Value

Students explore the nature of judgement and value. They evaluate these philosophies to universal and particular human dilemmas and consider the significance and effects of their conclusions. They critically analyse the validity of individual and collective judgements around value.

They develop skills relevant to forming philosophical positions and enter into constructive, logical, and critical dialogue with other people, existing scholarship, and popular notions of value, such as ethical or aesthetic judgements, to address the perspectives and ideas of others, and refine their own values and their justification of these commitments.

Unit 4: Philosophy in the World

Students investigate issues in the world, applying significant philosophical theories and methods to better understand the beliefs, judgements and thinking of the actors involved, and to assist in the construction of their own robust and well-informed beliefs. Students relate the issues to their own lived experience to find parallels and give insights into their own conduct, assumptions and thinking.

Independent Study Unit

This research unit is available to students who have demonstrated high conceptual, cognitive and organisational outcomes in **three** previous units.