

COURSE OUTLINE

(1) GENERAL

UNIVERSITY / Department	• NATIONAL AND KAPODISTRIAN UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS / Department of History and Philosophy of Science		
STUDY LEVEL	Postgraduate		
COURSE CODE		SEMESTER OF STUDY	2nd
COURSE TITLE	MA Dissertation		
INSTRUCTOR(S)			
TEACHING ACTIVITIES	TEACHING HOURS PER WEEK	ECTS	
Supervision	1,5	15	
COURSE TYPE	Specialization		
PREREQUISITE COURSES	–		
LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION and EXAMINATIONS	English		
COURSE OFFERED TO ERASMUS STUDENTS	No		
COURSE WEBSITE (URL)			

(2) LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learning Outcomes
<p>For their MA thesis, students must become acquainted with the literature on its topic, which will be a relatively narrow topic in contemporary philosophy or philosophy of science, critically assess the views and arguments that can be found in the literature and produce what is in effect an extended philosophical essay on that topic.</p> <p>Upon successful completion of the thesis, students will have</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • known various views, opposed to one another, on the topic of the thesis • studied the arguments put forward by those who support the various views • written down their own thoughts about the topic and their own assessment of the extant views.
General Skills
<p>Upon successful completion of the thesis, students will have developed their critical abilities and be in a position to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • handle concepts that are widely used in contemporary philosophy • know the way in which philosophical discussion is carried out in our time • evaluate opposed arguments • know how one organizes one's thought in order to tackle an issue rationally and systematically (by analyzing it into various aspects, comparatively assessing the alternative possibilities, etc.)

(3) COURSE CONTENT

The content will depend on the topic of the thesis and so be different from thesis to thesis.

(4) TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS – ASSESSMENT

TEACHING FORMAT	Individual study combined with discussion with the supervisor of the thesis.	
USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES	Use of the e-class online platform.	
TEACHING STRUCTURE	Activity	Semester Workload
	Studying on one's own	430
	Meetings with the supervisor	20
	Total (30 hours of work per credit unit)	450
STUDENT EVALUATION	<p>After submitting the thesis of 20000 words (approx.), the student makes a public presentation of it in the presence of the examinations committee (which differs from thesis to thesis and, in each case, consists of the supervisor and two more people). The student is assessed on the basis of both the thesis itself and the presentation.</p> <p>The criteria of assessment include: the degree to which the student understands the views and arguments found in the literature; the extent to which he or she covers the essential aspects of the topic; the ability to write clearly and succinctly; the ability to organize his or her thoughts in a well-defined structure; the originality in the treatment of the topic; the wealth of ideas that the student has come up with.</p>	

(5) RECOMMENDED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- J. Baggini and P. Fosl, *The Philosopher's Toolkit: A Compendium of Philosophical Concepts and Methods*, 3rd edition, Wiley Blackwell, Hoboken, NJ, 2020.
- G. Foresman, P. Fosl and J. Watson, *The Critical Thinking Toolkit*, Wiley Blackwell, Chichester, West Sussex, 2017.
- T. Williamson, *Philosophical Method: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2020.
- D. Papineau, *Philosophical Devices: Proofs, Probabilities, Possibilities, and Sets*, Oxford

