

Nottingham Trent University

Module Specification

	Basic module information	
1	Module Title:	Advanced Topics in Applied Philosophy
2	Module Code:	PHIL30808
3	Credit Points:	20
4	Duration:	Year Long
5	School:	Arts and Humanities
6	Campus:	Clifton
7	Date this version first approved to run:	September 2017

8 Pre, post and co-requisites:

These are modules that you must have studied previously in order to take this module, or modules that you must study simultaneously or in a subsequent academic session

<u>Pre, Co, Post</u>	<u>Module Code</u>	<u>Module Title</u>
Pre (normally)	Phil 202	Applied Philosophy II

9 Courses containing the module

<u>Level</u>	<u>Core/Option</u>	<u>Mode</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Course Title</u>
6	Option	FT		BA Joint Honours Humanities
6	Option	PT		BA Joint Honours Humanities
6	Option	SW		BA Joint Honours Modern Languages
6	Option	FT		BA Joint Honours Modern Languages
6	Option	PT		BA Joint Honours Modern Languages
		FT	EURX001	European Exchange (First Half Year)
		FT	EURX003	European Exchange (Full Year)
		FT	INTX001	International Exchange (First Half Year)
		FT	INTX003	International Exchange (Full Year)

10 Overview and aims

The overall aim of this module is to show how philosophical modes of inquiry can allow you to make sense of the personal experiences and professional practices that have become central to many aspects of human life in western societies today.

In part 1 of the module, you will explore the role that Philosophy can play dynamic

role in the processes of personal transformation – with specific reference to ideas of human flourishing and resilience, especially as practiced in ancient Aristotelianism and Stoicism. In this section of the course you will also explore how both ancient and modern philosophical ideas have been involved in the development of many contemporary therapeutic techniques, especially those associated with mindfulness, CBT and Gestalt therapies. This will lead to a more general discussion of the relationship between philosophy and happiness in contemporary contexts.

In part 2 you will explore the significance of contemporary theories of ethics and human agency in relation to a number of professional practices. Here we will discuss how contemporary philosophers have deployed a number of critical philosophical perspectives in order to make sense of the importance of corporate responsibility, the nature of work and its significance as a source of meaning and value, the role of creativity at work, philosophy's role in construction of the modern city as well the nature of contemporary global experience

This section will conclude with an examination of the extent to which philosophy is experiencing something of revival in relation to a number of aspects of professional life today. However, we will also show the way in which contemporary forms of work pose significant challenges the classical ideals of philosophy, and in the concluding lectures will address the relationship between philosophy and the meaning of work at the beginning of the 21st century

11 **Module content**

- Aristotle on the virtues – and the difference between ancient and modern conceptions of ethics.
- Ancient philosophy as a philosophy of personal transformation
- Stoic ideas of the good and their relationship to ideas of nature, time and eternity. .
- The relationship between philosophy and psychotherapy. The philosophical origins of the idea of mindfulness, cognitive behavioural therapy and existential therapy.
- Philosophy and the continuing importance of wisdom in relation to everyday life.
- Philosophy, business ethics and corporate responsibility
- Philosophy in and of the creative industries

- Philosophy in and of the city: the modern city and its critics
- Philosophy and architecture
- The role of philosophy in the modern world

12 Indicative reading

Hadot, P. (1995) *Philosophy as a Way of Life* Oxford: Blackwell

Klein, S.E. (ed.) (2015) *Steve Jobs and Philosophy* Open Court

LeBon, T. (2007) *Wise Therapy: Philosophy for Counsellors* Los Angeles: Sage

Mandanipour, A. (2007) *Designing the City of Reason: Foundations and Frameworks* London; Routledge

Roochnik, D. (2004) *Retrieving the Ancients* Oxford: Blackwell

Smeyers, P. (ed.) (2010) *The Therapy of Education: Philosophy, Happiness and Personal Growth* London: Palgrave Macmillan

13 Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes describe what you should know and be able to do by the end of the module

Knowledge and understanding. After studying this module you should be able to:

- Demonstrate an awareness of the ideas of key philosophers, encountered in their own writings
- Evaluate the significance of some of the central philosophical problematics facing today's decision-makers
- Apply doctrines from the history of philosophy in order make sense of contemporary philosophical debates
- Grasp the relevance of philosophical ideas and forms of questioning in order to better understand the nature of professional life

- Demonstrate a clear grasp of both classical and modern ethical theories as they pertain to practices professional life and their importance in relation to key sustainability goals.
- Demonstrate competence in a broad range of philosophical techniques – such as systems thinking.
- Assess the and the limitations of other disciplines whilst being sensitive and empathic to a variety of opinions, practices and ways of life.

Skills, qualities and attributes. After studying this module you should be able to:

- Assess the status of the key assumptions underlying contemporary philosophical and other intellectual debates.
- Understand the contemporary significance of philosophical problems and the arguments for and against their solutions.
- Apply specialised philosophical terminology
- Articulate an appreciation of expertise and professionalism in relation to contemporary social and political philosophy
- Show generalisations can be supported or weakened by detailed discussion
- Understand unfamiliar ideas and ways of thinking, and to examine critically pre-suppositions and methods within the discipline itself.
- Be able to manage your time and work effectively and efficiently
- Identify textually based arguments and subject their structure and implications to rigorous assessment

14 **Teaching and learning**

Range of modes of direct contact

This indicates the range of direct contact teaching and learning methods used on this module, e.g. lectures, seminars

The module will normally be delivered using a weekly 1 hour interactive lecture followed by a 1 hour seminar. Further support and tutorial guidance will be available on the basis of the tutor's 'office hours' drop in system.

Total contact hours:

48

Range of other learning methods

This indicates the range of other teaching and learning methods used on this module, e.g. directed reading, research

Alongside the standard package of lecture / seminar sessions, you will be invited to participate in a number of more independent learning exercises. For example, you will be asked to read chapters and sections from books and articles, and use this as the basis for preparing for seminars as well as the final essay. Reading is an essential learning activity for this module. Additionally, you might be asked to provide an analysis of a social phenomenon or process that you encounter in your everyday life to help you learn to apply complex philosophical ideas to understanding real-world practical situations.

Total non-contact hours:

152

15 **Assessment methods**

This indicates the type and weighting of assessment elements and sub-elements in the module

<u>Element number</u>	<u>Weighting</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Description (include any sub-elements)</u>
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1	70%	Coursework	Essay of 2,500 words
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2	30%	Professional report	Report of 1,500 words
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Diagnostic/formative assessment

This indicates if there are any assessments that do not contribute directly to the final module mark

Reading exercise with accompanying study questions
Book review

Further information on assessment

This section provides further information on the module's assessment where appropriate

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Document management												
16	Module Title:	Advanced Topics in Applied Philosophy										
17	Module Code:	PHIL30808										
18	Subject (JACS) Code:	V500										
19	Cost Centre:	141										
20	School:	AAH										
21	Academic Team:	EMC										
22	Campus:	Clifton										
23	Other institutions providing teaching:	<i>Please complete in box 23 a-d - if applicable</i>										
		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Institution</th> <th>%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>23a Other UK Higher Education or Further Education Institution- Please name Percentage not taught by NTU</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>23b Other public organisation in the UK- Percentage not taught by NTU</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>23c Other private organisation in the UK - Percentage not taught by NTU</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>23d Any other Non-UK organisation - Percentage not taught by NTU</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Institution	%	23a Other UK Higher Education or Further Education Institution- Please name Percentage not taught by NTU		23b Other public organisation in the UK- Percentage not taught by NTU		23c Other private organisation in the UK - Percentage not taught by NTU		23d Any other Non-UK organisation - Percentage not taught by NTU	
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24	Date this version was formally approved by the School Academic Standards and Quality Committee (SASQC) or Development Approval Group (DAG):	January 2017										