Module code: MOD000749	Version: 2 Date Amended: 14/Jun/2018

1. Module Title

Concepts of Good and Evil

2a. Module Leader

Michael Wilby

2b. School

School of Humanities and Social Sciences

2c. Faculty

Faculty of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences

3a. Level

6

3b. Module Type

Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits

15

4b. Study Hours

150

5. Restrictions

Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:	BA (Hons) Philosophy BA (Hons) Philosophy and English BA (Hons) Criminology and Policing		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description
What role, if any, does the concept of evil play in our moral vocabulary? Is it a narrowly theological notion or does it usefully describe certain kinds of act and/or character? This module examines contemporary accounts of evil, as well as looking at the concept of evil in the history of philosophy from Leibniz to the present. In addition to considering theoretical discussions of evil, the module also treats phenomena such as war and terrorism and asks whether the concept of evil helps us to understand them. The module is taught by lecture and seminar; students are also expected to undertake self-managed learning.

6b. Outline Content
- Theodicy and the problem of natural evil - Kant and 'radical evil' - Evil and wickedness - Terrorism and the morality of war - Weakness of will - Evil and the limits of liberalism - The 'banality of evil'

6c. Key Texts/Literature
The reading list to support this module is available at: https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/

6d. Specialist Learning Resources
http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/evil/ http://www.humanism.org.uk/site/cms/contentViewArticle.asp?article=1213

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)		
No.	**Type**	**On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:**
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Critically assess the usefulness of the concept of evil in moral discourse.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Show proficiency in analysing contemporary perceptions of 'good', 'evil', 'wickedness' and 'vice'.
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Analyse contemporary accounts of evil and evaluate the concept of evil in the history of philosophy from Leibniz to the present.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Work as part of a small team to produce a report to a deadline.

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	**Occurrence**	**Period**	**Location**	**Mode of Delivery**
2025/6	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence

Learning Activities	Hours	Learning Outcomes	Details of Duration, frequency and other comments
Lectures	12	1,2	1hr lecture and 1hr seminar per week.
Other teacher managed learning	12	1,2	1hr lecture and 1hr seminar per week.
Student managed learning	126	1-4	Assessment preparation.
TOTAL:	150		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1,2,3	60 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)

Essay: 2500 words. Choice of essay questions.

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Practical	2,3	40 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)

Report: Results of brief collaborative presentation and discussion, to be written up.

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).

In addition, students are required to:
(a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above
(b) pass any pass/fail elements

[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]