

Module code: MOD007284	Version: 2 Date Amended: 27/Jan/2025
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1. Module Title
Happiness and the Good Life

2a. Module Leader
Tristan Moyle

2b. School
School of Humanities and Social Sciences

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences

3a. Level
4

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
30

4b. Study Hours
300

5. Restrictions			
Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:			

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

This module on Happiness and the Good life in the Ancient Greek World introduces the ideas of important Western philosophers, from Socrates, through Plato and Aristotle, to the Stoics and other Hellenistic thinkers. Our focus will allow us to think about ethical issues that are as relevant today as they were in ancient Greece and Rome. How should we live? How should we relate to others? Should we focus on developing certain kinds of skill or knowledge, or aim to become a 'whole person'? The module will also introduce the wider historical and cultural context in which such debates developed, and link them to other key ideas, such as the nature of reality, the philosophy of the emotions, and theories about politics and society as well as the nature of the individual.

Through studying this module, you will develop the ability to learn independently and also work as a team. You will have the opportunity to develop verbal communicative skills in creating presentations and the use of group homework questions and class debates will enhance your capacity to build rapport and work collaboratively. You will be encouraged to apply topics from ancient philosophy to issues in contemporary culture, to build your awareness of resources for social and emotional resilience.

6b. Outline Content

Ancient philosophy, including the archaic, classical and Hellenistic periods

Ethics

Metaphysics

Epistemology

Philosophy of emotion

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: <https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/>

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

None.

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	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the basic concepts of Ancient philosophy.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate understanding of the historical context of classical texts.
3	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate understanding of key similarities and differences between ancient philosophers.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Analyse and construct arguments at an introductory level.
5	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Demonstrate the ability to work collaboratively and constructively as a team.
6	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Apply ideas and concepts from the ancient world to contemporary culture.

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2026/7	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	24	1-5	1 x two hour lecture per week through the trimester
Other teacher managed learning	12	6	1 x two hours fortnightly workshop per week through the trimester
Student managed learning	264	1-6	Scaffolded activities through Canvas, researching and preparing assignments
TOTAL:	300		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence

The assessment for some modules includes a presentation (see below for details on how this particular module is assessed). We recognise that presenting, especially to a large group, can cause significant anxiety or distress for some students. If this may affect you, please contact your Module Leader or the Disability and Neurodiversity Service as early as possible. We will work with you to consider appropriate reasonable adjustments. Depending on your individual needs, these might include, for example, presenting to a smaller group or presenting only to a member of academic staff.

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-4	50 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)

Essay 2,500 words on philosophers in context

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Coursework	4-6	50 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)

Essay 2,500 words, contemporary perspectives on ancient thinkers

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
012	Practical	1-6	0 (%)	Pass/Fail	100 (%)

10-minute presentation offering a critical, inclusive, and contemporary perspective on one of the module's themes - equivalent to 1,000 words

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]