

Module code: MOD009227	Version: 1 Date Amended: 30/Mar/2023
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1. Module Title
Issues in Modern Philosophy

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 Literature		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

In this module you will be studying contemporary issues in twentieth and twenty-first century philosophy. The issues studied may vary from year to year. Such issues may include an introduction to important movements e.g., phenomenology, existentialism, Critical Theory, poststructuralism and/or the study of key themes, e.g., language, nature, mental health, medicine, art, politics, or religion. Through this module you will understand the power of philosophy to inform contemporary debates and to address pressing contemporary concerns.

Through seminar discussion, independent research and assessment, you will learn to adopt flexible and adaptable approaches to problem solving and critical thinking, and to advance your research skills.

6b. Outline Content

This module will draw on key themes in contemporary philosophy and key philosophical movements in the modern period to discuss issues of current philosophical importance and relevance. The specific content will change on a regular basis to keep up-to-date with current trends in the subject. Key themes likely to be discussed include (but are not limited to):

- Phenomenology
- Existentialism
- Frankfurt School Critical Theory
- Poststructuralism
- Ethics
- Religion
- Philosophy of Nature

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	identify and discuss key ideas and concepts in modern philosophy.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	understand the distinctive contribution philosophy can make to contemporary problems.
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	orally articulate philosophical issues in clear and concise way.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	think critically and in an open-minded way about one or more issues of contemporary concern.

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	24	1-4	Weekly, two-hour classes
Other teacher managed learning	0	n/a	n/a
Student managed learning	126	1-4	Activities on Canvas, reading and researching for assignments
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, 4	100 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Essay (2,500 words)					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Practical	3	0 (%)	Pass/Fail	100 (%)
5–10-minute individual Presentation (equivalent to 500 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]