

## *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

### *Syllabus*

## *Philosophy of Science - 15300*

*Last update 18-09-2024*

*HU Credits:* 4

*Degree/Cycle:* 1st degree (Bachelor)

*Responsible Department:* Philosophy

*Academic year:* 0

*Semester:* 1st Semester

*Teaching Languages:* Hebrew

*Campus:* E. Safra

*Course/Module Coordinator:* Arnon Levy

*Coordinator Email:* [orly.shenker@mail.huji.ac.il](mailto:orly.shenker@mail.huji.ac.il)

*Coordinator Office Hours:* By email

*Teaching Staff:*

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Prof. Arnon Levy

Course/Module description:

See course topics, outcomes and methods or instruction

Course/Module aims:

To think about science from a philosophical viewpoint

To get to know core topics of the philosophy of science.

To think about the nature of scientific knowledge and its feasibility.

To think about the role of science in modern society.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

Understand key arguments in the philosophy of science.

Critically evaluate the role of science in society.

Think about science as an exemplar of knowledge.

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: A combination of lectures and open discussion of texts, movies and other materials

Course/Module Content:

Part A: "The scientific Method" - Empiricist, confirmation, Popper, probability.

Part B: Truth explanation and realism - laws of nature, realism and knowledge, explanation causation and understanding.

Part C: The social structure of science: Kuhn and co, sociology of science, feminist phil sci.

Part D: Science and democracy: science funding and agenda setting, science and justice, inductive risk

Required Reading:

A paper/chapter per week (sometimes a movie or podcast instead)

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Additional Reading Material:

TBD

Grading Scheme:

Written / Oral / Practical Exam 70 %

Active Participation / Team Assignment 30 %

Additional information:

no