



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

A Priori Knowledge - 15333

Last update 31-07-2023

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Philosophy

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: English

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Preston Werner

Coordinator Email: pjwerner1@gmail.com

Coordinator Office Hours:

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Preston Werner

Course/Module description:

A priori knowledge is knowledge that is independent of perceptual experience. Both the existence of a priori knowledge, as well as its nature and mechanisms, have been a matter of philosophical controversy for thousands of years. In this course, we will survey several of these debates.

Course/Module aims:

In this course, we will survey several of these debates.

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

-Be able to articulate in clear detail all of the major theories about the existence and nature of a priori knowledge.

Attendance requirements(%):

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction:

Course/Module Content:

- Historical conceptions of a priori knowledge.*
- Contemporary arguments for and against the existence of a priori knowledge.*
- Contemporary theories about the mechanisms and epistemology of a priori knowledge.*
- The scope of a priori knowledge.*

Required Reading:

We will read a variety of contemporary articles from scholarly philosophical journals concerning the nature and scope of a priori knowledge, as well as a few excerpts from historical philosophers.

Additional Reading Material:

Grading Scheme:

Essay / Project / Final Assignment / Home Exam / Referat 60 %
Clinical Work / Lab Work / Practical Work / Workshops 25 %
Attendance / Participation in Field Excursion 15 %

Additional information: