



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

EPISTEMOLOGY OF METAPHYSICS - 15965

Last update 03-10-2018

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: Philosophy

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Aaron Segal

Coordinator Email: aaron.segal1@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Wednesday 12:30-14:00

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Aaron Segal

Course/Module description:

The past half-century has witnessed a significant revival of metaphysics. But questions about how and whether we can have knowledge (or even justified belief) about metaphysical matters still abound. In this course we will examine:

- (1) arguments for skepticism about metaphysics generally, ontology more specifically, and other particular metaphysical issues even more specifically;
- (2) positive proposals for how we might come to know certain metaphysical claims;
- (3) the epistemological status of intuitions, folk beliefs, the a priori, and appeal to theoretical virtues; and
- (4) Proper metaphysical methodology

Course/Module aims:

Familiarity with the central issues surrounding our knowledge (or lack thereof) of metaphysics

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

See above

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lecture + discussion

Course/Module Content:

- 1) Introduction
- 2) Metaphysical Skepticism
- 3) Positive Epistemological Proposals
- 4) Metaphysical Methodology

Required Reading:

We will read articles and book selections by (among others): Karen Bennett, Herman Cappelen, Bryan Frances, Tamar Szabo Gendler, Dan Korman, Uriah

Kriegel, Rae Langton, David Lewis, Colin McGinn, Daniel Nolan, L.A. Paul, Eric Schwitzgebel, Tuomas Tahko, Amie Thomasson, Peter van Inwagen, Timothy Williamson, and the instructor.

Additional Reading Material:

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %

Presentation 20 %

Participation in Tutorials 0 %

Project work 80 %

Assignments 0 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information: