



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI PALERMO

DEPARTMENT	Scienze Umanistiche		
ACADEMIC YEAR	2017/2018		
BACHELOR'S DEGREE (BSC)	PHILOSOPHICAL AND HISTORICAL STUDIES		
SUBJECT	HISTORY OF METAPHYSICS		
TYPE OF EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY	C		
AMBIT	10649-Attività formative affini o integrative		
CODE	08947		
SCIENTIFIC SECTOR(S)	M-FIL/01		
HEAD PROFESSOR(S)	LUPO ROSA MARIA	Professore Associato	Univ. di PALERMO
OTHER PROFESSOR(S)			
CREDITS	6		
INDIVIDUAL STUDY (Hrs)	120		
COURSE ACTIVITY (Hrs)	30		
PROPAEDEUTICAL SUBJECTS			
MUTUALIZATION			
YEAR	3		
TERM (SEMESTER)	1° semester		
ATTENDANCE	Not mandatory		
EVALUATION	Out of 30		
TEACHER OFFICE HOURS	LUPO ROSA MARIA Wednesday 9:00 10:00 Ufficio docente, ed. 12 , III piano. Gli studenti sono pregati di contattare prima per mail il docente per confermare il ricevimento o chiedere un orario alternativo, in base alle possibilità del docente.		

PREREQUISITES	The course of lectures requires a basic knowledge of the History of Philosophy which the students have already acquired during the first two years of the first cycle degree. It is also required a basic knowledge of some fundamental notions and concepts of philosophy which the students have already acquired especially through the course of lectures Istituzioni di filosofia during the first year of the first cycle degree.
LEARNING OUTCOMES	<p>ECTS credits for the course are awarded to students who have developed in an at least basic way the following skills referring to Dublin Descriptors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Knowledge and understanding: the student owns the specific disciplinary knowledge and shows to be able to understand in a conscious way the main questions of metaphysics in its historical and theoretical development; he/she is also able to use this disciplinary knowledge in order to extend his/her global learning and in order to improve his/her critical understanding skill concerning the philosophical questions (more specifically metaphysical but also more general ones) also referring to the contemporary philosophical questions and to the contemporary metaphysical debate; 2) Applying knowledge and understanding: the student is able to apply his/her knowledge and is able to use his/her critical understanding skill in relation to still now open metaphysical questions, or in relation to for him/her not familiar problems or to interdisciplinary problems; 3) Making judgements: on the basis of his/her knowledge the student is able to express in an autonomous way judgments and valuations which are supported by a coherent and plausible argumentation and which are concerning metaphysical questions or questions on metaphysics and its history; 4) Communication: the student is able to communicate in a clear and organic way and through the specific terminology the meaning of the metaphysical problems as well as metaphysical theories or doctrines or thesis concerning metaphysics and its history; he/she is also able to elaborate and communicate in a clear way the same topics to a non-scholarly audience, stimulating its critical attention on those topics; 5) Learning skills: the student is able to use a productive method in order to extend his/her knowledge in an autonomous way, finding in his/her research the most useful instruments and being able to coordinate in an organic and interdisciplinary way all that he/she has already learned for improving the specific disciplinary knowledge as well as his/her global philosophical and scientific knowledge as humanist.
ASSESSMENT METHODS	<p>The final evaluation consists in an oral discussion which aims at testing the student's possessing of disciplinary skills and knowledge according to the topic of the course of lectures and the suggested bibliography.</p> <p>Final pass marks go from 18 to 30 points cum laude.</p> <p>The student will begin presenting a theme or question concerning the topic of lectures which he /she freely chooses. Subsequently the head professor will ask at least two-three questions in order to test the knowledge acquired by the student on the topic of the course of lectures referring to the suggested books. Thereby the head professor will verify the student's level of achieving of the following goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) the student has acquired the specific disciplinary knowledge and shows his/her awareness of the development of metaphysics and its determination according to the different historical contexts; 2) the student has understood the general topic of the course of lectures as well as the questions concerning the metaphysical thinking and the theoretical solutions for the metaphysical questions which have been provided during the history of metaphysics; 3) the student is able to work out in an autonomous way the topical problems of the course of lectures and he/she is able also to present in a general manner the coordinates of the metaphysical historical development; 4) the student is able to expose in a clear and organic way and through the specific terminology arguments, topics, problems of the discipline as well as parts of the suggested bibliography; 5) the student is able to formulate his/her own opinion or judgment and to support an interpretive thesis in a satisfactory way and if necessary he/she is able to give an original plausible interpretation of the topics and questions he/she has confronted using the sources of the course of lectures. <p>The head professor will express the evaluation referring to the student's achievement of the five above mentioned goals in the following way:</p> <p>30- 30 cum laude: the five above mentioned goals have been reached in an optimal way 29-27: the five above mentioned goals have been reached in a plenty satisfactory way 26-24: the five above mentioned goals have been reached in a quite satisfactory way 23-21: the five above mentioned goals have been reached in a sufficient way 20-18: the five above mentioned goals have been reached in an elementary and limited way</p>

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES	<p>The course of lectures has as its goal to provide for the students instruments of reading, analysis, interpretation and reflection on the metaphysical thinking according to an investigation which elucidates the peculiar, structural traits of metaphysics and of its topics, especially ontological and gnoseological, elaborated during its history and still current in the contemporary debate.</p> <p>Therefore, the head professor aims at stimulating students in critical awareness, interest for an open, respectful understanding of different opinions and points of view through a dialectical method of analysis of the problems. In this way, the course follows the general educational goals of the First Cycle Course in "Studi filosofici e storici" at the Department "Scienze umanistiche" of the University of Palermo. The course follows also the educational goals of the Scientific Sector (M-Fil/01) to which the discipline pertains. Hence, the course aims at being for the students not only a way of deepening their own preparation in the theoretical-metaphysical field, but also a manner in order to sharpen their own methodology in the historical and critical analysis of the philosophical texts, their own expressive, communicative, critical, argumentative capacities. Therefore, the course wants to provide a wide preparation on metaphysics in its historical development giving general orienting coordinates which can be also assumed as a basis for an eventual deepening of the metaphysical problems during a second cycle degree in Philosophy.</p>
TEACHING METHODS	<p>Frontal teaching</p> <p>Guided discussions on the proposed texts</p> <p>Seminars and presentations held by the students</p>
SUGGESTED BIBLIOGRAPHY	<p>Metafisica fra origine e contemporaneità</p> <p>La domanda sulla metafisica continua a rappresentare ancora oggi una questione aperta, sulla scorta anche di un certo rilancio della metafisica da parte della cosiddetta filosofia analitica odierna. Ogni autore, a partire dall'istituzionalizzazione della "prote philosophia" in Aristotele, ha tentato di determinare l'oggetto, il fine, il metodo della disciplina, determinando così una serie di slittamenti rispetto all'originaria lezione aristotelica, che in verità è materia esegetica non risolta. Il corso intende approfondire il senso di questa questione, cercando di individuare le coordinate storiche della domanda nel corso dello sviluppo storico della metafisica, tenendo così conto delle differenti declinazioni della stessa e guardando ad una delle posizioni più significative in merito oggi, ossia quella di Peter van Inwagen, che sarà peraltro presente durante una parte del corso in qualità di visiting professor nell'ambito del progetto CoRI.</p> <p>Testi in programma:</p> <p>Aristotele, Metafisica, tr. it. di G. Reale, Rusconi (o altra edizione): libri I, IV, VI, XII</p> <p>P. van Inwagen, Metafisica, tr. it. di F. Calemi, Cantagalli, Siena 2011</p> <p>Metaphysics: its origin and today</p> <p>The question on metaphysics is still an open question, referring also to the revival of metaphysics in the debate of the analytic philosophy. During the long metaphysical tradition from Aristotle each thinker tries to determinate the object, the goals and the method of the discipline. That implies a kind of a certain sliding of the original Aristotelian doctrine, which is actually a matter of inexhaustible interpretation. The course of lectures aims at a deep study of the sense of the question through an identification of the historical development of the problem and of the different declinations of the discipline, referring also to one of the most important position, namely Peter van Inwagen's one, who will be present as visiting professor during a part of the lectures.</p> <p>Suggested bibliography:</p> <p>Aristotele, Metafisica, tr. it. di G. Reale, Rusconi (o altra edizione): libri I, IV, VI, XII</p> <p>P. van Inwagen, Metafisica, tr. it. di F. Calemi, Cantagalli, Siena 2011</p> <p>Gli studenti che non hanno la possibilità di frequentare le lezioni dovranno concordare con il docente i testi e gli argomenti che saranno discussi nel corso dell'esame finale. In relazione al programma concordato, varranno i criteri sopra esposti nella valutazione del docente.</p> <p>The students who have not the possibility to attend the lectures are requested to contact the head professor for the texts and the topics which will be discussed during the final evaluation. Referring to the agreement, the above mentioned criteria will be followed by the head professor.</p>

SYLLABUS

Hrs	Frontal teaching
2	<p>Introduction to the discipline with explanation of its objectives and aims and of the methodology which will be applied. Setting of the work method in order to give the student directions for his/her own personal study.</p> <p>General presentation of the topic of the lecture course and intentions. Presentation of the key-questions which will be met during the course.</p>

SYLLABUS

Hrs	Frontal teaching
12	Analysis of Aristotle's "Metaphysics". In particular, the lectures will consider the structure of Aristotle's "first philosophy", trying to understand the connection of its four constitutive components: etiology, ontology, theology, gnosiology.
4	Analysis of Van Inwagen's "Metaphysics" referring to Van Inwagen's metaphysical position and to the ontological and epistemological questions which are fundamental in the debate of the analytic metaphysics.
6	Lectures together with prof. Peter van Inwagen on metaphysics and his own position
2	Final guided discussions with the students on the accomplished results
Hrs	Practice
2	Seminars held by the students on Aristotle's "Metaphysics" under the direction of the head professor
2	Seminars held by the students on van Inwagen's volume. The author will be present.