

# PHIL 1006 INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY

**Credit Points** 10

**Legacy Code** 101918

**Coordinator** Mark G. E. Kelly ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Mark G. E. Kelly/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Mark%20G.%20E.%20Kelly/))

**Description** This subject is an introduction to Western philosophical inquiry: it looks at fundamental questions we have about the way we think of the world around us, and the way we act. It presupposes no prior knowledge of philosophy. We will examine philosophical issues by looking at classic statements from the philosophical tradition. The subject will also help students to develop their skills in writing clear arguments. After completion of the subject students will have a critical understanding of some of the fundamental ideas that shape our thinking and our world.

**School** Humanities & Comm Arts

**Discipline** Philosophy

**Student Contribution Band** HECS Band 4 10cp

Check your fees via the Fees ([https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/fees/](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/)) page.

**Level** Undergraduate Level 1 subject

## Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. Discern the different major types of philosophical inquiry
2. Identify major philosophical questions and problems establishing the Western tradition, and the most important philosophers responsible
3. Exercise sound philosophical reasoning to an undergraduate standard
4. Analyse opposing philosophical positions to an undergraduate standard
5. Compose sound philosophical arguments to an undergraduate standard

## Subject Content

- . Introduction to the different types of philosophical inquiry
- . Introduction to some of the major problems and questions guiding philosophers and establishing the Western Philosophical tradition in ancient and early modern times
- . Basic components of philosophical reasoning
- . Basic definitions of key philosophical terms, problems of divergent understandings and interpretive differences
- . The nature of philosophical argument and dialogue between philosophers of differing philosophical views

## Assessment

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

Type	Length	Percent	Threshold	Individual/ Group Task	Mandatory
Quiz	500 words	20	N	Individual	Y
Short Answer	1,000 words	40	N	Individual	Y
Essay	1,200 words	40	N	Individual	Y
Short Answer	50 words	S/U	N	Individual	N

Prescribed Texts

John Cottingham (ed.), *Western Philosophy: An Anthology*, 3rd edition. Oxford: Blackwell, 2020.

Teaching Periods

## Autumn (2025)

### Bankstown City

**On-site**

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View timetable ([https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject\\_code=PHIL1006\\_25-AUT\\_BK\\_1#subjects](https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=PHIL1006_25-AUT_BK_1#subjects))

### Parramatta - Victoria Rd

**On-site**

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