

# PHIL 2014 THINKERS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

**Credit Points** 10

**Legacy Code** 102571

**Coordinator** Dimitris Vardoulakis ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Dimitris Vardoulakis/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Dimitris%20Vardoulakis/))

**Description** This subject involves detailed study of a thinker whose work has had a significant influence on how we understand the world. The subject will focus on the thinker's important primary texts, and any other writings that aid an understanding of their contribution to philosophical tradition, ethics, politics, and culture in general. Students will study how the philosopher's ideas have been original, and influenced others to see the world and themselves in new ways. A different philosopher will be the focus of study each year. Thinkers that may be studied in depth include Plato, Aristotle, Hume, Locke, Spinoza, Kant, Kierkegaard, Hegel, Marx, Nietzsche, Arendt, Foucault, Derrida and Girard.

**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 2 subject

**Equivalent Subjects** PHIL 2006 - Key Philosophers PHIL 2005 - Case Studies in Philosophy Thinker

## Restrictions

Successful completion of 40 credit points of study in currently enrolled program.

## Learning Outcomes

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

1. Identify the major philosophical arguments in the texts studied.
2. Discuss the philosophical reasoning employed
3. Outline the importance of the philosopher and texts to philosophical tradition
4. Evaluate the major achievements and any significant problems generated from the philosopher's contributions
5. Identify relevant cultural and social contexts of the philosopher and texts
6. Compose sound philosophical argument to undergraduate standard

## Subject Content

Concentrated engagement with a Western Philosophical thinker  
 Close reading of philosophical texts by a single philosopher  
 Study of relevance of the philosopher to philosophical tradition, culture, society  
 Critical study of achievements and/or problems of their philosophical position  
 Situating the philosopher in relevant cultural and social contexts

## 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
Portfolio	1,000 words	30	N	Individual	Y
Essay	1,000 words	40	N	Individual	Y
Portfolio	1,000 words	30	N	Individual	N

Teaching Periods

## Autumn (2025)

### Bankstown City

#### On-site

**Subject Contact** Dimitris Vardoulakis ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Dimitris Vardoulakis/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Dimitris%20Vardoulakis/))

View timetable ([https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject\\_code=PHIL2014\\_25-AUT\\_BK\\_1#subjects](https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=PHIL2014_25-AUT_BK_1#subjects))

### Parramatta - Victoria Rd

#### On-site

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