

# PHIL 7009 PHILOSOPHY, HISTORY AND INTERPRETATION

**Credit Points** 10

**Legacy Code** 102620

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

**Description** The focus of this subject will be a topic, or range of topics, particularly relevant in philosophy, which will be analysed both in their historical context and through subsequent interpretations by other philosophers or philosophical traditions. The subject will combine the hermeneutic interpretation of texts together with conceptual and argumentative analysis. Close attention will be paid to the language and systematic content of the philosophical issues examined. Moreover, students will be guided in factoring in the historical situation both for the philosopher(s) examined and for us as interpreters.

**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** Postgraduate Coursework Level 7 subject

## Restrictions

Students must be enrolled in a postgraduate program.

## Learning Outcomes

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

1. Demonstrate advanced and integrated knowledge of distinct varieties of Continental philosophy in their respective historical context.
2. Demonstrate depth of reading and understanding of philosophical topics and their interpretation.
3. Synthesize changing theories, methods, and concepts in philosophy through the interpretative activities of other thinkers through time.
4. Write at a high level in a range of critical and philosophical idioms.

## Subject Content

Unit content will include key issues, sets of text, and thinkers that are relevant to the MA in Continental Philosophy. In particular, this subject will be devoted to deepening the students' knowledge of the relation between philosophy, its historical context, and the interpretative/hermeneutic activity.

More specifically, subject content will draw on the following topics:

Philosophy and its historical context

The interpretative nature of philosophy

The transformation of philosophical claims over history

The nature and development of the notion of interpretation

## 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: 4 short responses to questions	2,000 words in total (500 words each)	35	N	Individual	
Essay: 1 long research essay	4,000 words	65	N	Individual	