UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI BARI ALDO MORO

Scienze Pedagogiche

General information	
Academic subject	Philosophy of Mind
Degree course	Master
Academic Year	2021-2022
European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)	9
Language	Italian
Academic calendar	Start: 2021, October 18th End: 2022, January 31st
Attendance	Optional

Professor/ Lecturer	
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Tutoring (time and day)	By agreement, in person or via Skype or Microsoft Teams (TEAMS code: 9kxsubr)

Syllabus	
Learning Objectives	The course aims to provide students with basic knowledge in the field of logic and argumentation theory. These will be useful for the analysis and understanding of the mind/body problem in classical and modern philosophy.
Course prerequisites	None
Contents	The course explores the main issues concerning the mind-body-problem in philosophy of mind and guides the students through an analysis of the main argument pro et contra the dualistic hypothesis. In the first part, students will acquire the fundamental elements of argument analysis and get acquainted with notions such as (a) the distinction between arguments, explanations, and descriptions; (b) deductive and inductive inferences; (c) fallacies. In the second and in the third part of the course, participants will acquire the basic knowledge of the philosophical discussion on mental phenomena. Furthermore, the students will be led to analyze some classic topics addressed by the philosophical and by the scientific literature from a theoretical, logical, and argumentative point of view.
Books and bibliography	A. A. Iacona, *L'argomentazione*, Einaudi, Torino 2010; F. Paoli, C. Crespellani Porcella, G. Sergioli, *Ragionare nel quotidiano*, Mimesis, Milano 2012 B. M. Di Francesco, *Introduzione alla filosofia della mente*, Carocci, Roma (qualsiasi edizione) C. Platone, *Fedone* (qualsiasi edizione); R. Descartes, *Meditazioni metafisiche* (qualsiasi edizione); J.J.C. Smart, *Sensazioni e processi cerebrali*; T. Nagel, *Com'è essere un pipistrello?*; F. Jackson, *Ciò che Mary non sapeva*; D.J. Chalmers, *Come affrontare il problema della coscienza*, in: A. De Palma, G. Pareti (a cura di), *Mente e corpo*, Bollati Boringhieri, Torino 2004, pp. 27-45, 164-180 e 181-188
Additional materials	

Work schedule			
Total	Lectures	Hands on (Laboratory, working groups, seminars, field trips)	Out-of-class study hours/ Self-study hours
Hours			
225	60		165
ECTS			
9			

Teaching strategy	
	Traditional lecture and exercises. In some of the classes students will have the possibility to assess the capacities and the contents they acquired through the course. Students will analyze texts in order to identify and to assess the arguments offered by the authors. These exercises will be done by students individually and in group and they will be then discussed with the teacher in class. These activities will not be considered as part of the final evaluation.
Expected learning outcomes	
Knowledge and understanding on:	Students will learn basic notions in the field of philosophy of mind, especially concerning the so-called mind-body-problem and the philosophical perspectives on mental phenomena. Moreover, they will get acquainted with the main arguments pro et contra dualistic theories in philosophy of mind. Furthermore, students will acquire basic notions in the field of general and applied logic: they will become acquainted with fundamental logical concepts such as inference, induction, deduction, validity, argumentative fallacy.
Applying knowledge and understanding on:	Students will develop the ability to critically analyze the logical structure of philosophical and scientific texts. They will also acquire the means to recognize different kinds of arguments and to evaluate their consistency and force as well as their formal and semantic limitations.
Soft skills	*Making informed judgements and choices*: By developing the capacity to analyze argumentation structures, they will also acquire the means to critically assess theoretical and empirical alternatives, research designs and intervention projects. *Communicating knowledge and understanding*: Students will learn to optimize their ability to present their own proposals of empirical interventions or research results both in written and oral form. *Capacities to continue learning*: Students will develop the capacity to carry out logical and conceptual analyses. This will allow them to optimize their learning skills also at a later stage of their education.
Assessment and feedback	
Methods of assessment	Written exam based on open questions and exercises solutions.
Evaluation criteria	Students will be asked to solve problems of deductive logic and argumentation theory. The assessment will take into account correctness and soundness of the solutions. Moreover, the exam will also include open questions concerning the conceptual issues discussed during the course. As for these issues, the accuracy of conceptual mastery, the correct use of technical language, the clarity of writing, and the completeness of the answers will be taken into consideration for the final scoring.
Criteria for assessment and attribution of the final mark	Considering the above mentioned criteria, a final score in 30-points will be given.
Additional information	