

## Scienze dell' Educazione e della Formazione

General information	
Academic subject	Theoretical Philosophy
Degree course	Bachelor
Academic Year	2023-2024
European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)	9
Language	Italian
Academic calendar	Start: 2023, October End: 2024, January
Attendance	Optional

Professor/ Lecturer	
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Virtual headquarters	Teacher's home page: <a href="https://www.uniba.it/docenti/pastore-luigi">https://www.uniba.it/docenti/pastore-luigi</a> Microsoft TEAMS Virtual Room Code: hmq1ojk
Tutoring (time and day)	By agreement (via email), in person or via Skype or Microsoft TEAMS (TEAMS code: 9kxsubr)

Syllabus	
<b>Learning Objectives</b>	The course aims to introduce students to philosophy as critical and rational knowledge through the analysis of the main methodological and epistemological aspects of Socrates' and Plato's thought. Students will gain familiarity with the foundations of epistemology, logic, and conceptual analysis, with particular attention paid to the ability to recognize and evaluate arguments.
<b>Course prerequisites</b>	None
<b>Contents</b>	Students will become familiar with the basic lexicon and notions of logic and epistemology (distinction between arguments, descriptions, and explanations; theory of truth and definitions; the structure of arguments; inductive and deductive inferences; validity). Subsequently, students will be introduced to philosophy as critical thinking and rational knowledge through an analysis of the main theoretical and methodological aspects of Socrates' and Plato's thought. Particular attention will be paid to Socratic and Platonic notions like truth, logic, linguistic meaning, knowledge and communication. These topics will be considered in relation to the relativistic conception of truth, language, and communication developed by thinkers such as Protagoras and Gorgias.
<b>Books and bibliography</b>	F. Paoli, C. Crespellani Porcella, G. Sergioli, <i>Ragionare nel quotidiano. Argomentare, valutare informazioni, Prendere decisioni</i> , Mimesis, Milano 2012; M. Timpanaro Cardini, <i>I sofisti. Testimonianze e frammenti</i> , Laterza, Bari 1954, pp. 24-28 e pp. 70-86; Platone, <i>Tutti gli scritti</i> , a cura di G. Reale, Rusconi, Milano 1992, pp. 2-20 ( <i>Eutifrone</i> ); pp. 22-50 ( <i>Apologia di Socrate</i> ); pp. 68-130 ( <i>Fedone</i> ); pp. 806-858 ( <i>Protagora</i> ); pp. 860-936 ( <i>Gorgia</i> ); N.

	<p>Abbagnano, <i>Storia della filosofia</i>, vol. I, UTET, Torino 2003, pp. 3-141.</p> <p>Foreign students can prepare the final exam on the following texts:  A. Varzi, J. Nolt, D. Rohatyn, <i>Logic</i>, McGraw-Hill, New York 1998, chapters 1-3;  Plato, <i>Euthyphro</i>; <i>Apology</i>; <i>Phaedo</i>; <i>Protagoras</i>; <i>Gorgias</i> (text selection to agree);  G.B. Kerferd, <i>The sophistic movement</i>, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge 1981 (text selection to agree);  W.K.C. Guthrie, <i>Socrates</i>, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge 1971 (text selection to agree);  A. Long, <i>Greek models of mind and self</i>, Harvard University Press, Berkeley 2015.</p>
<b>Additional materials</b>	<p>Further reading recommendations will be given during the course (guidance on specific passages of Plato's dialogues as well as suggestions for further and integrative readings). The information provided during the course will be available on the Microsoft TEAMS platform (cf. the virtual classroom of the course).</p>

<b>Work schedule</b>			
Total	Lectures	Hands on (Laboratory, working groups, seminars, field trips)	Out-of-class study hours/ Self-study hours
<b>Hours</b>			
225	44	16	165
<b>ECTS</b>			
9			
<b>Teaching strategy</b>			
	<p>Lectures and practical classes. In the first and second part of the course there will be supervised activities in which students will have the opportunity to test the knowledge acquired in the field of logic and argumentation theory. The practical classes provided in the second part of the course the knowledge acquired in the field of logic will be applied to the analysis of passages drawn from Plato's dialogues, in order to identify and evaluate the inferences and argumentative strategies used by the author. The practical classes will be conducted by the students both individually and in groups. The results will be discussed with the teacher. These activities will not be considered part of the final assessment.</p>		
<b>Expected learning outcomes</b>			
<b>Knowledge and understanding on:</b>	<p>Students will acquire basic notions in the field of logic and argumentation theory: inference, induction and deduction, validity, persuasive force, argumentative fallacy; argumentative, explanatory, and descriptive use of speech. This knowledge will be used in the analysis, critical understanding and evaluation of Protagoras', Gorgias', Socrates', and Plato's thought.</p>		
<b>Applying knowledge and understanding on:</b>	<p>Students will develop the ability to recognize and critically analyze the logical structure of different kinds of texts and speeches, whether they belong to the corpus of philosophical literature or whether they come from other scientific fields or from ordinary use of language. Student will develop the ability to recognize different types of arguments and evaluate their consistency, persuasive force, formal limitations and semantic problems.</p>		
<b>Soft skills</b>	<p><i>Knowledge and understanding:</i>  Students will acquire basic notions in the field of logic and argumentation theory. Students will become acquainted with fundamental concepts in logic and argumentation theory such as inference, induction, deduction, validity, and argumentative fallacy. Furthermore, students will learn to distinguish argumentative, explicative, and descriptive patterns in discourse analysis.</p> <p><i>Applying knowledge and understanding:</i>  Students will develop the ability to critically analyze the logical structure of different types of text, coming from the philosophical and non-philosophical tradition. They will also develop the ability to recognize different arguments and to properly evaluate their consistency and/or force as well as their formal and semantic limitations.</p> <p><i>Making informed judgements and choices:</i>  By developing the capacity to analyze argument structures, students will acquire the means to critically assess alternative positions, research designs and intervention projects. Moreover, they will improve their capacity to</p>		

	<p>understand different cultural and social contexts.</p> <p><i>Communicating knowledge and understanding:</i> Students will be able to optimize their ability to present the results of their research, their proposals for intervention or their opinions both in written and oral form in any context, both formal and informal</p> <p><i>Capacities to continue learning:</i> Students will be able to carry out logical and conceptual analyses of any kind of argument. This will allow them to optimize their learning skills also at a later stage of their education.</p>
<b>Assessment and feedback</b>	
Methods of assessment	Written exam (open questions and exercises)
Evaluation criteria	The assessment is based on the final exam that consists of two parts. The first concerns the verification of the acquisition of the basic notions of logic and the argumentation theory. This part of the final exam contains open questions and exercises. The assessment shall take account of the correctness of the solutions proposed. This will assess the theoretical knowledge and the ability to apply the acquired logical notions. A second part of the final exam focuses on the historical, epistemological and methodological aspects of Protagoras', Gorgias', Socrates's, and Plato's thought. This part consists of open questions. The assessment shall take account of the accuracy of language use and conceptual understanding; the ability to construct coherent arguments; the completeness of the information provided; the clarity of the exposure. These elements constitute the set of factors on the basis of which will be evaluated the autonomy of judgment, communication ability, and learning ability achieved by students.
Criteria for assessment and attribution of the final mark	The final exam will be assessed and scored as a whole (using the above mentioned criteria). The vote will be expressed in thirtieth and the exam is passed by taking a vote equal or higher to eighteen thirty (18/30).
<b>Additional information</b>	