

SPECIALITY PHILOSOPHY

MASTER PROGRAM: PRACTICAL PHILOSOPHY– non-specialists

Educational and qualification degree: MASTER

Professional qualification: MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY AND PSYCHOANALYSIS

Study period: 2 /TWO/ YEARS / 4 /FOUR/ semesters

Study mode: FULL-TIME

QUALIFICATION CHARACTERISTIC

1. General characteristics and educational objectives of the Master's program

The division of philosophy into “theoretical” and “practical” follows a tradition that can be traced back at least to Aristotle. Since the 1980s, in a number of countries around the world, a trend of intensive and purposeful development of practical philosophy has been observed, with a particular emphasis on the so-called “philosophical counseling”. The Master’s program has an interdisciplinary character and is a step in the process of including the “Philosophical and Political Sciences” department to this modern trend of practical use of philosophical knowledge, methods and techniques in everyday life. The program aims to deepen, enrich and supplement the theoretical training of bachelors from various specialties by providing knowledge and skills with a wide range of practical applicability. In this way, it prepares specialists for successful implementation in various spheres of public life, as well as personal development and guidance consultants. The training provides in-depth scientific-theoretical and specialized training in the specialty; mastering skills and capacity for scientific research and/or scientific and applied activity; formation of personal qualities necessary for work in the conditions of the complicated and rapidly changing modern world.

2. Professional competence and realization

The purpose of the master’s program “Practical Philosophy” is to respond to the ever-expanding need for the practical applicability of theoretical knowledge both personally and socially. Graduates of this master’s degree acquire knowledge, competences and practical skills for successful personal development, for philosophical counseling, as well as abilities and attitudes for consulting activities in various national and international institutions and non-governmental organizations. The training prepares for professional realization in educational institutions and consulting centers, in state and local government bodies, in international organizations, in non-governmental organizations, in mass media. Special emphasis is placed on the study of the procedural side of any human endeavor: setting goals (goal setting), assessment of resources such as time, knowledge, experience, level of intelligence, etc., mobilization, cohesion and motivation for the achievement of goals through the techniques of rhetoric, debate, discussion, argumentation, etc. Graduates of this master's program can work as experts and consultants in educational institutions and psychological centers, work as analysts and experts in governmental and non-governmental organizations, mass media, companies and schools.

The training creates opportunities and educational prerequisites for continuing studies in the doctoral degree.

3. Organisation and structure of education

The developed study documentation is in accordance with the latest trends in the academic training of specialists in the practical dimensions of philosophy. During its preparation, both national and international experience in this field was taken into account. It corresponds to the accepted standards for professional training of masters.

Curriculum for non-specialists

The curriculum is divided into four semesters with a total horary of 825 hours, which are equal to 120 ECTS credits. The horary is distributed by semesters as follows: first semester – 225 hours, second semester – 225 hours, third semester – 225 hours, fourth semester – 150 hours. The relatively small share of the horary in the fourth semester is due to the fact that in this semester the main learning activity is related to the preparation of a master's thesis or a state exam.

The curriculum is structured in three modules: History of Philosophy, Philosophical Anthropology and Political Philosophy. Compulsory and optional subjects are included. Compulsory subjects (585 hours) give a total of 75 ECTS credits. They provide in-depth scientific-theoretical and specialized training. Optional subjects (120 hours) give a total of 30 ECTS credits. Through them, the knowledge, skills and competences obtained within the framework of the compulsory academic disciplines are enriched. Students choose eight out of eighteen possible optionals.

Any student can study any subject taught at the university, regardless of the faculty in which it is studied / in accordance with Art. 2, Paragraph 5 of the Ordinance on State Requirements for the Acquisition of Higher Education, published in SG no. 76/2002/. Total horary of the selected optional disciplines – up to 10% of the total horary.

Students graduate with a written state exam or with the defense of a master's thesis, for which 15 ECTS are acquired with a positive result.

4. Conformity with the mission of SWU “NEOFIT RILSKI”

The implementation of the master's program “Practical Philosophy” corresponds to the mission of the “SWU Neofit Rilski” and the Faculty of Philosophy, their goals and strategies, and stems from the new dimensions of higher education in Bulgaria and the tasks for the full inclusion of the country in international educational processes. The program is in accordance with national and European standards, as well as with the requirements and specifics of the region in which SWU “Neofit Rilski” is located.

The qualification characteristics of the specialty “Practical Philosophy” for the educational-qualification degree “Master” with the professional qualification “Master in Practical Philosophy” is a basic document that determines the development of the curriculum and study programs. It complies with the Higher Education Act, the Classifier of Higher Education Fields and Professional Fields, the Ordinance on the State Requirements for the Acquisition of Higher Education at the Bachelor's, Master's and Specialist Degrees (SG No. 76 of 6.08.2002), the National Classification of Positions and Professions, the Rules for the Organization and Activities of the SWU “Neofit Rilski”, the Rules for Educational Activities, etc. normative documents of the university.

STRUCTURE OF THE CURRICULUM

First year			
First semester	ECTS credits	Second semester	ECTS credits
Western Philosophy: Doctrines and Representatives (Antiquity and Middle Ages)	6	Western Philosophy: Doctrines and Representatives (Modern Philosophy and Contemporary philosophy)	6
History of Eastern philosophy	4	Logic and rhetoric	6
Social philosophy (Man and society)	6	Philosophy of politics	6
Classical and applied ethics	6	Philosophical anthropology	4
Optional subject from first group	4	Optional subject from second group	4
Optional subject from first group	4	Optional subject from second group	4

	TOTAL 30		TOTAL 30
Optional subjects / first group / <i>(Students choose two subjects)</i>	ECTS credits	Optional subjects /second group/ <i>(Students choose two subjects)</i>	ECTS credits
Philosophy of the virtual reality	4	Philosophy of law	4
Philosophy and fiction	4	Conflictology /posing and solving problems/	4
Living in harmony with nature	4	History and national identity	4
Social change	4	Working with texts /text, context, understanding/	4
Second year			
First semester	ECTS credits	Second semester	ECTS credits
Men and their body	6	The rights of man	3
The 'self' and the 'other' – identity and multiculturalism in modern society	6	The risk society	3
The strengthened man /man and technology/	6	The Artificial Intelligence – political and ethical problems and solutions	3
Science, religion and ethics /on Truth, God and the Good/	4	Optional subject from fourth group	3
Optional subject from third group	4	Optional subject from fourth group	3
Optional subject from third group	4	Graduation	15
	TOTAL 30		TOTAL 30
Optional subjects /third group/ <i>(Students choose two subjects)</i>	ECTS credits	Optional subjects /fourth group/ <i>(Students choose two subjects)</i>	ECTS credits
Bioethics	4	Social justice (right, freedom, equality)	3
Philosophical counseling	4	The construction of the state	3
Freedom and responsibility	4	Political psychology	3
Internet communications and action in the modern world	4	Elite and leadership	3
		Political utopias	3
TOTAL FOR TWO ACADEMIC YEARS: 120 CREDITS			

ANNOTATION OF COURSES

COMPULSORY COURSES

WESTERN PHILOSOPHY: DOCTRINES AND REPRESENTATIVES (ANTIQUITY AND MIDDLE AGES)

ECTS credits: 6

Assessment: exam

Semester: I

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Iva Manova, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Hours: 30 l + 15 s

Type of exam: written

E-mail: iva.manova@swu.bg@swu.bg

Annotation:

The aim of the course is to acquaint students with the main directions, schools and philosophers of ancient and Medieval philosophical thought, with the main philosophical ideas and problems, with the laws and tendencies of the development of philosophy in Antiquity and Middle Ages; to form an understanding of historicity and logic, a skill for a critical and creative attitude to the ancient philosophical heritage; to develop the ability to work on individual texts and entire works of the classics of Greek philosophy.

Course content:

Factors for the emergence of philosophical thought in ancient Greece, the teachings of Heraclitus, understanding the essence of movement as a basic philosophical category. Comprehension of the essence of Democritus' views on man and society, detailed introduction and assimilation of the main concepts of classical ancient Greek philosophy with representatives of Socrates, Plato and Aristotle. The place of medieval philosophy in the history of world philosophical thought, Metaphysical problems in the teaching of Augustine, Teachings of Boethius, Philosophy of Anselm of Canterbury, Ethics of Pierre Abelard, Theoretical Dimensions of Islam.

Teaching and assessment:

The evaluation of the results achieved by the students in the learning process in the various academic disciplines is carried out in accordance with the system of transfer and accumulation of credits. The final grade for each academic discipline is formed at the end of the course of study based on the grade received on a written answer to a question on a topic studied in the lecture course, and the grade from the student's individual (extracurricular) work.

HISTORY OF EASTERN PHILOSOPHY

ECTS credits: 4

Assessment: exam

Semester: I

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Antoaneta Nikolova-Georgieva, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: anikolova@swu.bg

Hours: 30 lectures

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

Teaching in the discipline is focused on the philosophical ideas of Ancient China and India. It presents the features of the ancient Eastern way of philosophizing and philosophical understanding of the world, emphasizing both its specificity in relation to the Western way of philosophizing and its place in today's world, which rethinks the traditions. Particular attention is paid to the contemplative-practical nature of ancient Eastern philosophy, which is not just abstract theoretical knowledge, but an experienced understanding of the world and action in accordance with this understanding.

Course content:

The syncretic (mythological-philosophical-religious-scientific-poetic-practical) nature of this philosophy is emphasized – a testimony not to its underdevelopment, but to the synthetic ability of human knowledge, which found a relatively complete expression here. The

highlight of the course is the comparative analysis: on the one hand, the parallel between the two main traditions in Eastern philosophy: Chinese and Indian, on the other – between Western philosophy and Eastern philosophy in general.

Teaching and assessment:

The evaluation of the results achieved by the students in the learning process in the various academic disciplines is carried out in accordance with the system of transfer and accumulation of credits. The final grade for each academic discipline is formed at the end of the course of study based on the grade received on a written answer to a question on a topic studied in the lecture course, and the grade from the student's individual (extracurricular) work.

SOCIAL PHILOSOPHY (MAN AND SOCIETY)

ECTS credits: 6

Assessment: exam

Semester: I

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Gergana Popova, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: gerp@swu.bg

Hours: 30 l +15 s

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

The course aims to acquaint students with important theories and ideas for the development of society, social life and personality. Students to form skills for the most general orientation in the social phenomena of the modern world. The student who has successfully completed the course is expected to possess competence and skills for professional interpretation of contemporary social situations, while at the same time having interest and skills for deep analysis of current phenomena from the social life of Bulgaria and the world.

Course content:

The training is based on the history and development of basic social theories. Man and society, Plato's ideal state, Aristotle's theory of polis, theories of natural law and the social contract: Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Max Weber: The Protestant Ethic and Capitalism, Frankfurt School – Criticism of Industrial Society and Mass Culture, Escape from Freedom and Consumer Life in Erich Fromm's views, Totalitarianism, Globalization, Multiculturalism

Teaching and assessment:

The evaluation of the results achieved by the students in the learning process in the various academic disciplines is carried out in accordance with the system of transfer and accumulation of credits. The final grade for each academic discipline is formed at the end of the course of study based on the grade received on a written answer to a question on a topic studied in the lecture course, and the grade from the student's individual (extracurricular) work.

CLASSICAL AND APPLIED ETHICS

ECTS credits: 6

Assessment: exam

Hours: 30 l +15 s

Type of exam: written

Semester: I

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Antoaneta Nikolova-Georgieva, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: anikolova@swu.bg

Annotation:

The discipline is closely related to the general philosophical solutions given by epistemology and ontology, as well as to the problems of the essence of man, considered by philosophical anthropology. The ethical aspects of these decisions place the course in close relation to philosophy of religion and aesthetics. This underscores the importance of an ethics course that acquaints students with the historical development and current state of ethical scholarship. Objectives of the course: 1. Enrichment of students' theoretical foundation of knowledge and their modern way of thinking, which includes adequate orientation in the many faces of morality. 2. A comprehensive representation of the moral world in its quality (rather than quantitative exhaustiveness) to serve as a key to adequately navigating the many faces of morality. 3. Stimulating interest and forming an attitude towards ethical concepts and issues, without necessarily pursuing educational goals and making the ethics course dependent on them. 4. Building students' skills for independent development and interpretation of ethical issues, as well as the application of these skills in solving professional tasks.

Course content:

Essence of the ethical relations. History of ethics. General ethical categories: good, evil, etc. The moral world of man. Emphasis in the course is placed on the conditioning of ethics by the socio-cultural features of the eras and the empirical drift they leave in moral teachings. Ethical categories such as "good" and "evil", "duty" and "due", "freedom", "choice", "behavior", etc., apart from their theoretical presence, are also sought at the level of practical validity in certain situations that also set the subject of the so-called applied ethics.

Teaching and assessment:

The evaluation of the results achieved by the students in the learning process in the various academic disciplines is carried out in accordance with the system of transfer and accumulation of credits. The final grade for each academic discipline is formed at the end of the course of study based on the grade received on a written answer to a question on a topic studied in the lecture course, and the grade from the student's individual (extracurricular) work.

**WESTERN PHILOSOPHY: DOCTRINES AND REPRESENTATIVES
(PHILOSOPHY OF THE NEW AGE AND CONTEMPORARY PHILOSOPHY)**

ECTS credits: 6

Hours: 30 l + 15 s

Assessment: exam

Type of exam: written

Semester: II

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Iva Manova, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: iva.manova@swu.bg

Annotation:

The modern philosophy covers a period with chronological boundaries of the 17th – 19th centuries and presents the ontological, epistemological, cosmological and socio-political views of some of the most significant philosophers. All this is the own philosophical and methodological basis of modern philosophy. The course expands the philosophical horizon by giving a more complete picture of the views of particular philosophers and schools, but also presents a palette of worldviews about the history of humanity and its possibilities for future development. Studying the course aims to introduce students with the history of philosophy in the modern era and to prepare for the study of German classical philosophy and also traces the ideas of contemporary philosophy. The course also acquaints students with notions as duration (duree), intellect and intuition (Bergson), being-in-the-world, discarded-being (Geworfenheit), intentionality of consciousness, phenomenological reduction (Husserl), existence etc. In a general plan, behind the wealth of schools and currents in modern philosophy, the course highlights the “eternal” philosophical trends – rationalism and irrationalism – and ultimately affirms the role of philosophy as a methodology of theoretical activity.

Course content:

The study course is composed of four modules. The first examines the transition from Renaissance philosophy to early modern philosophy. In the second, the development of rationalist philosophy /Descartes, Spinoza, Leibniz/ is examined. The third module traces the development of the philosophy of empiricism /Bacon, Hobbes, Locke, Berkeley, Hume/, Enlightenment philosophy and French materialism. The fourth module introduces important philosophers and ideas from 19th century – Schopenhauer, Kierkegaard, Nietzsche.

Teaching and assessment:

The evaluation of the results achieved by the students in the learning process in the various academic disciplines is carried out in accordance with the system of transfer and accumulation of credits. The final grade for each academic discipline is formed at the end of the course of study based on the grade received on a written answer to a question on a topic studied in the lecture course, and the grade from the student's individual (extracurricular) work.

LOGIS AND RHETORIC

ECTS credits: 6

Assessment: exam

Semester: II

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Silviya Kristeva, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: silvia_kristeva@swu.bg

Hours: 30 l + 15 s

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

The study course is aimed at highlighting the essential aspects that unite logic and rhetoric in the context of oratorical argumentative practices. Students are provided with general theoretical knowledge and opportunities to master practical skills while achieving an effective impact, related to both personal and professional culture in the process of verbal

communication. In the lecture course, basic theoretical concepts of rhetoric are revealed; the communicative aspects of persuasive impact; main determinants of persuasive communication, the effects of argumentation and manipulation in the persuasive act are interpreted. In the seminar exercises, the types of rhetorical performances, the types of resistance and argumentation in the art of oratory are examined in detail. Various rhetorical models are brought out, with the main emphasis being placed on the skill of logical and purposeful conduct of verbal activity.

Course content:

Basic concepts of logic and rhetoric in the “science and art” dyad, Persuasion as a communication effect, Basic components and stages in rhetorical performance, Specific characteristics and structural components of oratorical performance, Theory of resistance and Theory of argumentation, Logical fallacy in logic and rhetoric, Organicity and normativity in rhetorical verbal expression, Techniques for persuasive impact.

Teaching and assessment:

The evaluation of the results achieved by the students in the learning process in the various academic disciplines is carried out in accordance with the system of transfer and accumulation of credits. The final grade for each academic discipline is formed at the end of the course of study based on the grade received on a written answer to a question on a topic studied in the lecture course, and the grade from the student's individual (extracurricular) work.

PHILOSOPHY OF POLITICS

ECTS credits: 6

Assessment: exam

Semester: II

Methodical guide:

Department “Philosophical and Political Sciences”

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Chief Assist. Prof. Tatyana Petkova, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: tpetkova@swu.bg

Hours: 30 l +15 s

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

The purpose of training in this course is to acquaint students with the subject matter and content of the main categories developed in the field of political philosophy, including the differences between political philosophy and political science; to gain knowledge about political ideologies; to acquire skills to recognize the political ideologies in the programs of different parties and in their practical politics.

Course content:

The study course is composed of two thematic rounds. In the first, the main categories of political philosophy (power, violence, politics, geopolitics, freedom, justice) are considered. In the second, the main political ideologies are presented.

Teaching and assessment:

The evaluation of the results achieved by the students in the learning process in the various academic disciplines is carried out in accordance with the system of transfer and accumulation of credits. The final grade for each academic discipline is formed at the end of the course of study based on the grade received on a written answer to a question on a topic studied in the lecture course, and the grade from the student's individual (extracurricular) work.

PHILOSOPHICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

ECTS credits: 4

Assessment: exam

Semester: II

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Chief Assist. Prof. Nevena Krumova, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: nevena_krumova@swu.bg

Hours: 30 lectures

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

A major aim of the course is to be understood that philosophical anthropology and psychoanalysis are related both by the nature of the problems facing man in the "modern age" and to a large extent by the general cultural and scientific context in which they have been located since the end of the 19th and in the 20th century. Such sciences as biology, cultural anthropology, linguistics, etc., played a major role during this period for both philosophy and psychoanalysis.

Course content:

The course "Philosophical Anthropology" introduces students to the philosophical context of the birth and development of psychoanalysis in the 19th and 20th centuries, as well as the influence of psychoanalytic ideas of Freud, Jung, Lacan on the understanding of the human "situation" and "existence" in philosophical anthropology. Both the thematic connections between the two directions, as well as the criticism of psychoanalysis from the side of existentialism, the Frankfurt School, hermeneutics, and postmodern philosophy, are examined.

Teaching and assessment:

Achieving the necessary culture and knowledge to enable students to orient themselves in the problematic field of 20th century ideas about man, as well as their understanding of the influence on contemporary thinking. Extracurricular employment includes students' individual work with texts, preparation for conferences, student publications and exams. It implies creative development, preparation of author's texts. An organization of the evaluation was developed, including a written exam and the interview, complex evaluation criteria, conditions for admission to the exam, a detailed six-point system for evaluating knowledge.

MAN AND THEIR BODY

ECTS credits: 6

Assessment: exam

Semester: III

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Gergana Popova, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: gerp@swu.bg

Hours: 30 l + 15 s

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

The human body is understood as a condition and element of human existence. Practical conclusions are drawn from the philosophical study of the human body.

Course content:

Ontology and history of the human body. Human existence as an “extremity”. The body as a natural and cultural phenomenon. A history of the senses. Pain as an existential event. Illness and health. Medicalization. Human ages. Body and technique. Body techniques. Body and fashion. Man and mask. The playing man. The artist and the use of the body. Sports as strengthening of the body. The man in the risky society. Consumerism. Body and power. Life and death.

Teaching and assessment:

The evaluation of the results achieved by the students in the learning process in the various academic disciplines is carried out in accordance with the system of transfer and accumulation of credits. The final grade for each academic discipline is formed at the end of the course of study based on the grade received on a written answer to a question on a topic studied in the lecture course, and the grade from the student's individual (extracurricular) work.

THE “SELF” AND THE OTHER – IDENTITY AND MULTICULTURALISM IN MODERN SOCIETY

ECTS credits: 6

Assessment: exam

Semester: III

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Prof. Valentina Milenkova, D.Sc., Department of Sociology

E-mail: vmilenkova@swu.bg

Hours: 30 l +15 s

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

The lecture course aims to develop and upgrade the basic theoretical and empirical knowledge, attitudes and skills for analyzing and arguing the development of the personality and its place in culture. Special emphasis will be placed on building an independent and critical analytical attitude of the students towards the topics under consideration.

Course content:

Identity. Concepts of identity. Self-concept. Concept of culture. Culture as a moral act. Typology of culture. Culture and personal development. Culture and communication. Religion in the genesis of culture and personality. Ecological culture and personal behavior. Democratization of culture and personality. Cultural aspects of globalization.

Teaching and assessment:

The evaluation of the results achieved by the students in the learning process in the various academic disciplines is carried out in accordance with the system of transfer and accumulation of credits. The final grade for each academic discipline is formed at the end of the course of study based on the grade received on a written answer to a question on a topic studied in the lecture course, and the grade from the student's individual (extracurricular) work.

THE STRENGTHENED MAN /MAN AND TECHNOLOGY

ECTS credits: 6

Assessment: exam

Semester: III

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturers: Assoc. Prof. Gergana Popova, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences,

Assist. Prof. Nikolay Tzenkov, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: gerp@swu.bg, n_tsenkov@swu.bg

Hours: 30 l +15 s

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

The course proceeds within a framework of 30 lecture hours and 15 seminar hours distributed in two modules. The first module deals with different aspects of the modern notion of human self-realization through human activity. It analyses the complicated relation of modern person to the nature, rationalized as an object of changes pursuing pragmatic ends and also reflects on the modern labour ethos. The second module considers some problematical respects of the the connection man-technics.

Course content:

The birth of the human-machine, Labour as a calling – genealogy of the modern sanctification of labour, Karl Marx – the labour as a fundamental human activity. The problem of alienation. The human and the machine labour, Vita activa – the labour, the producing, the action, Notion of technics, Scientific and technological world outlook of modernity, Science and technics in the conceptual frame of phenomenology and existentialism, The philosophy of technics of Hose Ortega-y-Gaset, Technics in the age of the decline of the West, Technics as an instrument of the development of human abilities, Technics and the brave new world, Bioethical aspects of the scientific and technological progress, The visions of trans humanism – the artificial intellect and the cyborg.

Teaching and assessment:

The evaluation of the results achieved by the students in the learning process in the various academic disciplines is carried out in accordance with the system of transfer and accumulation of credits. The final grade for each academic discipline is formed at the end of the course of study based on the grade received on a written answer to a question on a topic studied in the lecture course, and the grade from the student's individual (extracurricular) work.

SCIENCE, RELIGION AND ETHICS /ON TRUTH, GOD AND THE GOOD/

ECTS credits: 4

Assessment: exam

Semester: III

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Antoaneta Nikolova-Georgieva, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: anikolova@swu.bg

Hours: 30 lectures

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

The course “Science, religion, ethics seeks to unite and summarize key statements from the three “philosophies” – of science, religion and morality, presenting the most discussed and current problems related to them relationships. The science-religion-morality complex is the subject of examination from various points of view, but in the course the perspective is mostly historical-philosophical, i.e. science, religion and morality are understood as specific but very important spheres of life of society and the individual. These spheres form the most important components of a person’s worldview, and therefore their harmonious connection should be considered as a condition and basis for a full-fledged, conflict-free and meaningful personal and social life. A number of questions have been left unanswered, debates on them continue to this day.

Course content:

The lecture content gives expression to today’s hottest and discussed topics related to the limits of applicability of scientific and technical achievements and their “legitimacy” from the point of view of ethics and religion. Students acquire knowledge about the essence of science, religion and ethics and their interrelationship in the conditions of the modern world. This knowledge is the necessary basis for independent thinking, evaluation and, if necessary, action in the conditions of contradictions in personal collisions and public debates regarding the observance or non-observance of certain ethical principles and religious prohibitions concerning the applications of high-tech achievements, constantly changing the living environment of man and society as a whole.

Teaching and assessment:

The evaluation of the results achieved by the students in the learning process in the various academic disciplines is carried out in accordance with the system of transfer and accumulation of credits. The final grade for each academic discipline is formed at the end of the course of study based on the grade received on a written answer to a question on a topic studied in the lecture course, and the grade from the student’s individual (extracurricular) work.

THE RIGHTS OF MAN

ECTS credits: 3

Assessment: exam

Semester: IV

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assist. Prof. Nikolay Tzenkov, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: n_tsenkov@swu.bg

Hours: 30 lectures

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

Human rights topics are characterized by their permanent relevance. They are associated with culture, politics, the level of social economic development of society, the quality of legislation, the relationship between man and state, etc. This, in turn, shows the need to study human rights and freedoms. Students will form knowledge about the essence of not only human rights and freedoms, but also about the duties associated with them, as well as the specifics of their legal institutionalization.

Course content:

The idea of human rights; Concept of human rights and freedoms; Generations of Human Rights; Human and citizen rights; Natural rights and positive law; Human rights in the

sources of law; European Convention on Human Rights; European Convention on Human Rights and National Law; Rights Guaranteed; Right to life; Prohibition of torture and inhuman or degrading treatment; Prohibition of slavery, forced servitude and forced or compulsory labour; Right to liberty and security; Right to a fair trial; Defense against retroactivity of offenses and penalties; Right to respect for private and family life, residence and confidentiality of correspondence; Freedom of thought, conscience and religion; Freedom of expression; Freedom of assembly and association; Right to marry and start a family; Right to effective domestic remedies; Human Rights and Duties; Derogation; Limitation of rights; Judicial protection of human rights; Court of Human Rights; Protection of human rights according to the legislation of the Republic of Bulgaria; Crimes against human rights; Bioethics and human rights.

Teaching and assessment:

The evaluation of the results achieved by the students in the learning process in the various academic disciplines is carried out in accordance with the system of transfer and accumulation of credits. The final grade for each academic discipline is formed at the end of the course of study based on the grade received on a written answer to a question on a topic studied in the lecture course, and the grade from the student's individual (extracurricular) work.

THE RISK SOCIETY

ECTS credits: 3

Assessment: exam

Semester: IV

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Chief Assist. Prof. Tatyana Petkova, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: tpetkova@swu.bg

Hours: 30 lectures

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

The transition from an industrial to a risky society is analyzed. The risk society is interpreted as an inevitable structural condition of modern forms of industrialization. The factors and manifestations of the risky society are considered.

Course content:

Society and nature. The transition from an industrial to a risk society. Hazards and risks. Risk as a historical concept. Allocation of risks. Global threats. The Age of Speed. The Mobile Man. Magical thinking. The culture of fear. Reflexive modernization. The science: how to use it. The information explosion. The hybridization of man. Illness and health. Norm, sanity and madness. The risk society: scenarios of possible futures.

Teaching and assessment:

The evaluation of the results achieved by the students in the learning process in the various academic disciplines is carried out in accordance with the system of transfer and accumulation of credits. The final grade for each academic discipline is formed at the end of the course of study based on the grade received on a written answer to a question on a topic studied in the lecture course, and the grade from the student's individual (extracurricular) work.

THE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE – POLITICAL AND ETHICAL PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

ECTS credits: 3

Assessment: exam

Semester: IV

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Silviya Kristeva, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: silvia.kristeva@swu.bg

Hours: 30 lectures

Type of exam: written

Anotation:

The course will introduce students to the overall genesis of AI and the problems of its methodologizing and implementation in all spheres of modern life. The problems have direct anthropological dimensions and are the culmination of the current digital era and the transition to a new level of technological development. The questions of the essence and models of AI, the relationship between natural and artificial intelligence and the types of increasingly autonomous AI that bring it closer to general AI will be raised for consideration. The synchronization of AI with human capabilities, with the spheres of life and social relationships, of the economy, creativity and education requires the humanization of AI. Its parameters have an ethical and value aspect, which will be considered through social policies and the normative regulation of the entry of AI into modern society

Course content:

The course will lay the foundations of the genesis and methodologizing of AI, of the ontology of information and of interaction with AI. The topics of ethics and axiology of design and use of AI, of creativity and authorship in the use of AI, and the possibilities of AI in modern education will be raised. The course also introduces the main normative documents that have so far set the legal regulation and normalize the use of AI in a sustainable, benevolent and creative way.

Teaching and assessment:

The evaluation of the results achieved by the students in the learning process in the various academic disciplines is carried out in accordance with the system of transfer and accumulation of credits. The final grade for each academic discipline is formed at the end of the course of study based on the grade received on a written answer to a question on a topic studied in the lecture course, and the grade from the student's individual (extracurricular) work.

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

PHILOSOPHY OF THE VIRTUAL REALITY

ECTS credits: 4

Assessment: exam

Semester: I

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Gergana Popova, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Hours: 30 lectures

Type of exam: written

E-mail: gerp@swu.bg

Annotation:

The course proceeds within a framework of 30 lecture which try to give relevant definitions of the notion “virtual reality”; to present some aspects of the opposition virtual-real and to analyse the afterwards upon human being that residence in the virtual reality causes. The course deals also with the concepts “digital” and “communication” society, cyber reality, “simulation” and “simulacrum”.

Course content:

The notion “virtual” and “virtual reality”; Anthropological ambivalence of the virtual reality; The submergence into virtuality – social webs and computer games; The concept of “communication society”; Politics, virtual and real in the communication society; The relation virtual-real in religions; The virtual nature of art; The digital technologies and fine arts; The symbol as a virtual object; The concept of simulacrum in the age of virtual reality; The topic of simulation in the literature and cinema; The man-simulacrum; Philosophy of “virtual reality”, post-modern society and the globalized world.

Teaching and assessment:

The evaluation of the results achieved by the students in the learning process in the various academic disciplines is carried out in accordance with the system of transfer and accumulation of credits. The final grade for each academic discipline is formed at the end of the course of study based on the grade received on a written answer to a question on a topic studied in the lecture course, and the grade from the student’s individual (extracurricular) work.

PHILOSOPHY AND FICTION

ECTS credits: 4

Assessment: exam

Semester: I

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Gergana Popova, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: gerp@swu.bg

Hours: 30 lectures

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

The discipline Philosophy and fiction aims to thematize the kinship of philosophical issues with the world of art, which should prove to be fertile ground for the students’ interpretation of acquired professional knowledge and skills in a significant sphere of public life – art. The problems of literary works are diverse, which can be explained by the fact that artists choose different directions, but at all times the author’s interest is provoked by philosophical questions: about the meaning and value of human life, the nature of man, good and evil, beautiful, freedom.

Course content:

The study of the literary text will move in the direction of revealing its internal contradictions, the hidden and imperceptible, not only for “not tempted” readers, but also sometimes for the author himself “residual”, “hidden” meanings. The world has always been an object of explanation, but it was believed that for this purpose it was necessary to discover only the truth that would unravel the concrete phenomena. Modern reality, however, gives

birth to a wealth of meanings, both in their expression and in their interpretation. The content of the curriculum will lead to the construction of a conceptual expression of the principle of “poetic thinking”, which is the basis of the so-called “postmodern sensibility” as a specific form of world attitude and its corresponding mode of theoretical reflection. It is the postmodern sensibility that affirms the significance of literary thinking and its genre forms for any type of knowledge.

Teaching and assessment:

The evaluation of the results achieved by the students in the learning process in the various academic disciplines is carried out in accordance with the system of transfer and accumulation of credits. The final grade for each academic discipline is formed at the end of the course of study based on the grade received on a written answer to a question on a topic studied in the lecture course, and the grade from the student's individual (extracurricular) work.

LIVING IN HARMONY WITH NATURE

ECTS credits: 4

Assessment: exam

Semester: I

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Antoaneta Nikolova-Georgieva, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: anikolova@swu.bg

Hours: 30 lectures

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

Training in the discipline presents ancient and modern ideas about living in harmony with nature, starting from the premise of proximity between the ideas of modern science and ancient wisdom.

Course content:

The understanding of nature in Eastern and Western cultures; A magical-mythical understanding of nature; Man and rituals as a way of external and internal harmonization; Ecological meaning of calendar systems; Man and Time; Man and space; Unity of micro and macrocosm according to Eastern thought; Achieving inner harmony according to Indian thought; Man in the Dynamic Universe: The View of Chinese Thought; Man and nature as God's creations; Dimensions of Harmony in Western Thought; Man and Nature in Poetry; Oneness with nature according to holistic thinking; Modernity ideas about harmony with nature; Principles of deep ecology; Sustainable development and prosperity.

Teaching and assessment:

The evaluation of the results achieved by the students in the learning process in the various academic disciplines is carried out in accordance with the system of transfer and accumulation of credits. The final grade for each academic discipline is formed at the end of the course of study based on the grade received on a written answer to a question on a topic studied in the lecture course, and the grade from the student's individual (extracurricular) work.

SOCIAL CHANGE

ECTS credits: 4

Hours: 30 lectures

Assessment: exam

Type of exam: written

Semester: I

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Chief Assist. Prof. Tatyana Petkova, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: tpetkova@swu.bg

Annotation:

The course proceeds within a framework of 30 lecture which try to give relevant definitions of the notion “social change”; to present some of the most significant models of social change and to analyse the problems bound up with this process. The course deals with the concepts “traditional” and “modern” society, “totalitarianism” and “democracy”, “modern” and “postmodern” society and also reflects on the transitions from one social system to another.

Course content:

The notion “social change”; Social action, social activity, sense; Significant models of transition; The concept of “evolution”. Evolutionary theories of social development; Cycle theories of history – Oswald Spengler, Arnold Toynbee; Karl Marx – the dialectical materialism and the revolutionary change; Characteristics of the traditional and modern society; Problems of the transition to modern society; The conception of the historical crises of Hose Ortega-y-Gaset, Alvin Toffler – the three waves; Aspects of the transition modern – postmodern society; The social change and the globalized world; Totalitarianism and democracy. Bulgarian communism; The social change in Bulgaria during the transition from totalitarianism to democracy.

Teaching and assessment:

Lectures are conducted using a projector and Power point presentations. Extracurricular employment includes students’ work with texts, preparation for conferences, student publications and exams. It implies creative development, preparation of individual author's texts. An organization of the evaluation was developed, including a written exam, complex evaluation criteria, conditions for admission to the exam, a detailed six-point system for evaluating knowledge.

PHILOSOPHY OF LAW

ECTS credits: 4

Hours: 30 lectures

Assessment: exam

Type of exam: written

Semester: II

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assist. Prof. Nikolay Tzenkov, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: n_tsenkov@swu.bg

Annotation:

The discipline, covering 15 topics, distributed in 30 academic hours, aims to familiarize students with the main problems in examining the foundations of law and the connections of legal reality with a number of ethical and political ideas. The discipline

provides an analytical review of a number of philosophical theories of law, as well as fundamental issues that are directly related to law, but go beyond it in their scope and consequences. The scope of the discipline includes various theories of justice, the ontological and epistemological foundations of law, the relationships between law, nature and history.

Students who successfully complete the course should:

1) know:

- The main problems and concepts in the philosophy of law.
- The most important theories in the philosophy of law.
- The interrelationships between law, morality and politics.

2) be able to:

- To implement different theories and concepts for understanding the legal reality.
- To have orientation in the context of different eras, philosophical schools and theories in law.
- To make connections and draw distinctions between normative systems of different orders.

3) acquire the following competencies:

- To understand the meaning of basic legal concepts and be able to use them in the analysis and search for solutions to specific practical problems.
- To improve their communicative and social competences.
- To develop professional competences: collecting, classifying, evaluating and interpreting data in order to solve specific scientific and research tasks, applying the knowledge and skills acquired in training in new and unfamiliar conditions, the ability to analyze philosophical problems in the broadest interdisciplinary context, using new strategic approaches and forming and expressing one's own opinion on key social and public problems.

Course content:

The course is oriented towards familiarizing students with the philosophical foundations of law as a form of social regulation. The subject and method of the philosophy of law, its emergence, its Roman roots, the relationship with religion are examined. The characteristics of natural law doctrines, as well as the subjects of law, are discussed. Particular emphasis is placed on values in law and law as a value, legal principles and philosophical foundations. The conceptual apparatus related to the sources of law, legal norms, subjective rights, legal facts and offenses is studied. Other topics related to the curriculum content are the concept of the rule of law, law as an instrument of social repression, law as an instrument of social change, the normative force of the factual. Issues that concern the relationships between freedom and law, law and interest, law and purpose, law and justice, law and power are discussed.

Teaching and assessment:

The lecture course is conducted in the traditionally established manner, using multimedia. Self-study involves solving control tasks and developing topics with a theoretical orientation. The final grade for the course is formed after a written exam is passed.

CONFLICTOLOGY /POSING AND SOLVING PROBLEMS/

ECTS credits: 4

Assessment: exam

Semester: II

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Chief Assist. Prof. Tatyana Petkova, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Hours: 30 lectures

Type of exam: written

E-mail: tpetkova@swu.bg

Annotation:

The main goal of training in this discipline is to provide knowledge about conflictology. It includes the study of the main theoretical views, concepts and mechanisms regarding the resolution of conflicts.

Course content:

Understanding and analyzing conflict. Conflict Solving. Negotiations and conflicts. Introduction to Peace Operations. Highlights of UN peacekeeping operations. Human security in post-conflict interventions. Peace building and political system. Crisis management in the political process. Economy and conflicts. Intercultural, ethnic and social conflict and diversity management.

Teaching and assessment:

Lectures are conducted using a projector and Power point presentations. Extracurricular employment includes students' work with texts, preparation for conferences, student publications and exams. It implies creative development, preparation of individual author's texts. An organization of the evaluation was developed, including a written exam, complex evaluation criteria, conditions for admission to the exam, a detailed six-point system for evaluating knowledge.

HISTORY AND NATIONAL IDENTITY

ECTS credits: 4

Assessment: exam

Semester: II

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Chief Assist. Prof. Rumyana Popova, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: r.popova@swu.bg

Hours: 30 lectures

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

Over the past quarter century, the politics of collective national memory has established itself as a fruitful field of interdisciplinary research. They consider the production of meaning about the past, its construction and reconstruction with a view to its service to new generations; the continuous contestation of collective memory; the selective nature of history's memory and forgetting; making up a story; the relationship between the politics of the present and the shaping of ideas about the past. The present course will begin with a theoretical introduction related to the main problems related to policies towards history with a view to national identity, introducing concepts and issues related to history and memory; collectivity of memory; the memory of the nation; the national consciousness and the national idea; the role of historiography and folklore for memory; the relationship between tradition and memory.

Course content:

Politics, History and Memory; Places of memory; History and National Identity in Romania, Hungary and Slovakia – Celebration of the Revolution of 1848 in 1998; Memory of origins and national identity (among Slavs, Bulgarians and Thracians); Batak 1876 and politics of memory; The “creation” of the national hero Vasil Levski; Stambolov after Stambolov – “The Life” of a revolutionary, politician and statesman (1895-2011); Bulgarian

national and public holidays – history and memory; Bulgarian everyday life and places of memory.

Teaching and assessment:

Lectures are conducted using a projector and Power point presentations. Extracurricular employment includes students' work with texts, preparation for conferences, student publications and exams. It implies creative development, preparation of individual author's texts. An organization of the evaluation was developed, including a written exam, complex evaluation criteria, conditions for admission to the exam, a detailed six-point system for evaluating knowledge.

WORKING WITH TEXTS /TEXT, CONTEXT, UNDERSTANDING/

ECTS credits: 4

Hours: 30 lectures

Assessment: exam

Type of exam: written

Semester: II

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Chief Assist. Prof. Nevena Krumova, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: nevena_krumova@swu.bg

Annotation:

The course covers 15 topics spread over 30 academic hours. They build the basic knowledge required in the discipline. The aim is to deepen the knowledge of the students in the field of hermeneutics, as well as the general historical and philosophical context in which the relation between author and text takes place. The general direction of the course follows the theoretical problematic context of the specialty, as well as the specific and practical direction. Thus, the main task of the students will be familiarization with different types of philosophical texts, as well as writing a philosophical text.

Course content:

In general, the lectures deal with the historical-philosophical genesis of hermeneutic ideas from Antiquity to the modern foundational understanding of hermeneutics as an independent direction in philosophical science. The characteristics of different types of texts are outlined, as well as the specifics of systematic philosophizing (Aristotle, Leibniz-Wolf, German classical philosophy) and its alternative – the aphoristic-dialogical form (Heraclitus, Plato and irrational philosophizing from the 19th century – Nietzsche, Kierkegaard) are explained. The aim of the course is for students to theoretically learn the genesis of the philosophical text, as well as to be able to practically apply this knowledge in the creation of their own problematic text.

Teaching and assessment:

Lectures are conducted using a projector and Power point presentations. Extracurricular employment includes students' work with texts, preparation for conferences, student publications and exams. It implies creative development, preparation of individual author's texts. An organization of the evaluation was developed, including a written exam, complex evaluation criteria, conditions for admission to the exam, a detailed six-point system for evaluating knowledge.

BIOETHICS

ECTS credits: 4

Assessment: exam

Semester: III

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Gergana Popova, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: gerp@swu.bg

Hours: 30 lectures

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

The course "Bioethics" is devoted to the ethical problems posed mainly by the development of biology, medicine and more generally the life sciences with their technological applications in health care. The subjects of attention in the lectures are the inevitable ethical conflicts related to the patient-doctor relationship, the protection of secrecy in medical practice, the limits of the applicability of biotechnology, informed consent when participating in research, the distribution of resources in social health care, etc.

Course content: The course is oriented to the most discussed and current problems related to the relationship between science and morality in the field of medicine and health care. The complex of moral conflicts is considered mostly from an analytical and evaluative point of view, involving the basic principles of professional morality and codes of conduct in medicine. The specifics of the life sciences are outlined, looking for the limits of applicability of bio-technological achievements in individual and social life, as well as their "legitimacy" from a more general ethical point of view.

Teaching and assessment:

Lectures are conducted using a projector and Power point presentations. Extracurricular employment includes students' work with texts, preparation for conferences, student publications and exams. It implies creative development, preparation of individual author's texts. An organization of the evaluation was developed, including a written exam, complex evaluation criteria, conditions for admission to the exam, a detailed six-point system for evaluating knowledge.

PHILOSOPHICAL COUNSELING

ECTS credits: 4

Assessment: exam

Semester: III

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Gergana Popova, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: gerp@swu.bg

Hours: 30 lectures

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

The course includes 30 hours of lectures, in which it attempts to present various aspects of philosophical counseling. It examines the issue of philosophical counseling as an alternative to psychotherapy, paying attention to the aspects of critical thinking, dialogicity, and personal responsibility.

Course content:

Personality; The I-Thou Dialogue, Freedom and Responsibility; Reflection and Self-Reflection; Values; To Have or to Be; Choice; Duty, The Problem of Happiness, Love, Freedom, The Meaning of Life and Professional Realization.

Teaching and assessment:

Lectures are conducted using a projector and Power point presentations. Extracurricular employment includes students' work with texts, preparation for conferences, student publications and exams. It implies creative development, preparation of individual author's texts. An organization of the evaluation was developed, including a written exam, complex evaluation criteria, conditions for admission to the exam, a detailed six-point system for evaluating knowledge.

INTERNET COMMUNICATION AND ACTION IN THE MODERN WORLD

ECTS credits: 4

Hours: 30 lectures

Assessment: exam

Type of exam: written

Semester: III

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Chief Assist. Prof. Tatyana Petkova, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: tpetkova@swu.bg

Annotation:

The relevance of the lecture course is conditioned by the highlighting of the Internet as an important stage in information transformations. In the modern conditions of the implementation of ICT in the life and work of a person, a new situation is emerging, which puts him in front of other, different from traditional understandings, priorities. The role of man's creative and intellectual abilities is growing. The lecture course aims to reveal the main methodological and general theoretical problems related to the formation of the world computer network (Internet). The course outlines the specifics of the Internet as a means of communication, the characteristic features of Internet communication, in which the participants enter into new, previously unknown communication relationships.

Course content:

Europe in the age of the Internet. The knowledge society – a source of development; Emergence and development of the global network; Specificity and basic characteristics of Internet communication; Internet, new media, new opportunities; Social networks; Facebook as a means of social communication; Safety on the Net; The Internet and Europe's Cultural Heritage; The Virtual Museum; E-libraries; The new information and communication technologies in the education of the 21st century; Problems of regulation and self-regulation of the Network.

Teaching and assessment:

Lectures are conducted using a projector and Power point presentations. Extracurricular employment includes students' work with texts, preparation for conferences, student publications and exams. It implies creative development, preparation of individual author's texts. An organization of the evaluation was developed, including a written exam, complex evaluation criteria, conditions for admission to the exam, a detailed six-point system for evaluating knowledge.

FREEDOM AND RESPONSIBILITY

ECTS credits: 4

Assessment: exam

Semester: III

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Antoaneta Nikolova-Georgieva, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences”

E-mail: anikolova@swu.bg

Hours: 30 lectures

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

Training in the discipline “Freedom and Responsibility” presents the meaning and interrelationship of two basic ethical-philosophical concepts, emphasizing their understanding and practical application at different levels: spiritual, epistemological, ontological, axiological, economic, political, presenting both their Western, as well as eastern interpretations. Particular attention is paid to the ratio in their individual, group and societal applicability and significance.

Course content:

What is freedom and responsibility. Approaches to the subject; Mythological and religious premises in the understanding of freedom and responsibility, Eastern and Western reading; Predestination and fate in the mythological-religious context of Ancient Greece; Freedom and Responsibility in Christianity; Hinduism: karma – predestination and freedom; Freedom and Responsibility in Buddhism; Freedom and Responsibility in Ancient Philosophical Thought: Greece, India and China; Personality and activity; Freedom, necessity, causality; The Problem of Free Will; Freedom as the meaning of existence; The two types of freedom; Creative freedom; Freedom and responsibility in the modern world.

Teaching and assessment:

Lectures are conducted using a projector and Power point presentations. Extracurricular employment includes students’ work with texts, preparation for conferences, student publications and exams. It implies creative development, preparation of individual author's texts. An organization of the evaluation was developed, including a written exam, complex evaluation criteria, conditions for admission to the exam, a detailed six-point system for evaluating knowledge.

SOCIAL JUSTICE /RIGHT, FREEDOM, EQUALITY/

ECTS credits: 3

Assessment: exam

Semester: IV

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Prof. Boris Manov, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: bmanov@swu.bg

Hours: 30 lectures

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

The lecture course “Social justice /right, freedom, equality/” explores the possibilities for fair distribution of goods, benefits and burdens in society. It also analyzes the connections between ideals of justice, realities of injustice, and practical political science solutions that

help bridge the differences between them, placing questions about the meaning and causes of injustice and movements for social change at the core of the curriculum. The Master's course uses a broad literature in the fields of political sociology, social movements and political philosophy to build a sociological foundation of knowledge and skills in the field of social values and social change. "Social Justice" provides a variety of critical perspectives on these challenges and the opportunities to overcome unjust and unsustainable ways of life, thus providing an academic foundation for understanding our problems and to explore alternative perspectives on human civilization. The program does not seek to promote only an individual approach to the problems of social justice, but rather to develop creative and practical thinking from different perspectives in order to increase the level of civic education of students.

Course content:

Definition of the term "social justice". Founders and first theories. Justice and law. Freedoms and Responsibilities. Theory of liberalism – basic institutions and values. The idea of freedom and justice. Utilitarian theories and economic analysis of law. The communitarian idea of freedom. Social inequality. Socio-political aspects of labor relations. Justice as a property of political systems. Freedoms and equality in the former "socialist" countries and during the transition – common and different. Access to resources. Inequality and distribution of world wealth. Market economy and social justice. Contradiction and compatibility. Social justice in the age of globalization. Social Justice and Terrorism. Ethnic peace and migration waves.

Teaching and assessment:

Lectures are conducted using a projector and Power point presentations. Extracurricular employment includes students' work with texts, preparation for conferences, student publications and exams. It implies creative development, preparation of individual author's texts. An organization of the evaluation was developed, including a written exam, complex evaluation criteria, conditions for admission to the exam, a detailed six-point system for evaluating knowledge.

THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE STATE

ECTS credits: 3

Assessment: exam

Semester: IV

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assist. Prof. Nikolay Tzenkov, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: n_tsenkov@swu.bg

Hours: 30 lectures

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

The subject of the discipline "The construction of the state" is the question of the essence of state power, of the relationship between legislative, executive and judicial power in the modern state. The discipline provides fundamental knowledge to the political system of the society.

Course content:

The main aim of the course is to raise the political culture of Practical Philosophy students, which is a necessary basis both for "philosophizing" and for real professional, civil and personal life.

Teaching and assessment:

Lectures are conducted using a projector and Power point presentations. Extracurricular employment includes students' work with texts, preparation for conferences, student publications and exams. It implies creative development, preparation of individual author's texts. An organization of the evaluation was developed, including a written exam, complex evaluation criteria, conditions for admission to the exam, a detailed six-point system for evaluating knowledge.

POLITICAL PSYCHOLOGY**ECTS credits:** 3**Assessment:** exam**Semester:** IV**Methodical guide:****Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences**

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assist. Prof. Nikolay Tzenkov, Ph.D., Department of Philosophical and Political SciencesE-mail: n_tsenkov@swu.bg**Hours:** 30 lectures**Type of exam:** written**Annotation:**

The political psychology course includes basic topics related to uncovering people's political behavior. Emphasis is placed on political leadership, political parties, and political interactions between people. A political party is seen as a social group that arises, develops and influences the behavior of its members. Within the framework of the course, a psychological portrait of a political leader is developed.

Course content:

The Political Psychology course is structured so that students can gain information about: 1. The subject and object of political psychology. 2. Scientific approaches in political psychology explaining people's behavior in different political situations. 3. The personality as a subject of political relations. 4. Structure and formation of political attitudes and their influence on human behavior. 5. Psychology of mass behavior in politics. 6. Psychology of the political group. 7. The leader in politics. 8. Psychological concepts in the political behavior of leaders. 9. Psychology of rational political choice. 10. Political socialization. 11. Psychological aspects of international politics. 12. Psychological aspects of terrorism and its dimensions.

Teaching and assessment:

Lectures are conducted using a projector and Power point presentations. Extracurricular employment includes students' work with texts, preparation for conferences, student publications and exams. It implies creative development, preparation of individual author's texts. An organization of the evaluation was developed, including a written exam, complex evaluation criteria, conditions for admission to the exam, a detailed six-point system for evaluating knowledge.

ELITE AND LEADERSHIP**ECTS credits:** 3**Assessment:** exam**Semester:** IV**Methodical guide:****Hours:** 30 lectures**Type of exam:** written

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Adjunct Assoc. Prof. Petya Pachkova, D.Sc., Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: pachkova@swu.bg

Annotation:

The subject of the discipline “Elite and Leadership” are the most important questions surrounding the character of the elite as a basic stratum in the social structure. Its internal relationships, structuring, subordination between different types of subdivisions are analyzed. The relations of the elite with the non-elite, with the masses, the distribution of power resources between them are interpreted. The main aspects of his political behavior are analyzed – economic, political, cultural, psychological. Students also learn about the essence of a leader, the types of leaders, his relationships with the elite and the masses.

Course content:

Basic concepts – classes, castes, elite, non-elite. Theories about the elite. Types of elites. Political behavior of different types of elites. Elite reproduction and transformation. Elite-non-elite relations. Subordination of global elites, dominant elites. Modern Bulgarian elite. Essence of the leader. Types of leaders. New technologies and leadership. Leadership and gender equality.

Teaching and assessment:

Lectures are conducted using a projector and Power point presentations. Extracurricular employment includes students' work with texts, preparation for conferences, student publications and exams. It implies creative development, preparation of individual author's texts. An organization of the evaluation was developed, including a written exam, complex evaluation criteria, conditions for admission to the exam, a detailed six-point system for evaluating knowledge.

POLITICAL UTOPIAS

ECTS credits: 3

Assessment: exam

Semester: IV

Methodical guide:

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Nikolay Popov, Ph.D., Department of International law and international relations

E-mail: npopovilir@law.swu.bg

Hours: 30 lectures

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

The main goal of training in this discipline is to provide knowledge about the nature and social role of political utopias, about their place in the system of human knowledge.

Course content:

Nature and main features of the policy. Utopia as a phenomenon. Historical prerequisites for the emergence of utopias. Politics and utopias. Economy and utopias. Ecology and utopias. Religions and utopias. Science and utopias. A dystopia. Utopias and theories of international relations.

Teaching and assessment:

Lectures are conducted using a projector and Power point presentations. Extracurricular employment includes students' work with texts, preparation for conferences, student publications and exams. It implies creative development, preparation of individual author's texts. An organization of the evaluation was developed, including a written exam, complex evaluation criteria, conditions for admission to the exam, a detailed six-point system for evaluating knowledge.