

COURSE DETAIL

PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

Country

Netherlands

Host Institution

Maastricht University - University College Maastricht

Program(s)

University College Maastricht

UCEAP Course Level

Lower Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Philosophy

UCEAP Course Number

10

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

UCEAP Transcript Title

PHIL OF SCIENCE

UCEAP Quarter Units

6.00

UCEAP Semester Units

4.00

Course Description

The first part of this course deals with traditional positions on the objectivity and methodology of science, like those of logical empiricism. The second part focuses on objections to this received view as formulated by critical rationalism and by Thomas Kuhn's paradigm theory. Kuhn's theory revolutionized thinking about scientific knowledge and led to the so-called sociological and historical turn in the philosophy of science. The course then addresses two fundamental problems in the field: do our theories describe reality? (The problem of realism); and do we now have better knowledge than in the past? (The problem of cognitive progress). In the final part of the course, problems in the philosophy of the social sciences take center stage: How do the social sciences explain and predict events? Does the method of understanding present an alternative methodology for social science? What is the role of social science in society?

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

COR1002

Host Institution Course Title

PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

Host Institution Campus

University College Maastricht

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Academic Core

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