

# 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 Course Details**

<https://www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/file/course-catalogue-2025-2026pdf>

## **Host Institution Campus**

University College Maastricht

## **Host Institution Faculty**

University College Maastricht

## **Host Institution Degree**

## **Host Institution Department**

Academic Core

**Course Last Reviewed**

2025-2026

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