COURSE DETAIL

PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS, AND ECONOMICS PERSPECTIVES
Country Netherlands
Host Institution Utrecht University
Program(s) Utrecht University
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Philosophy
UCEAP Course Number 101
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS, AND ECONOMICS PERSPECTIVES
UCEAP Transcript Title PHIL POL & ECON
UCEAP Quarter Units 6.00
UCEAP Semester Units 4.00

Course Description

In this course, the Utrecht University Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE) perspectives are used to reflect on and analyze a concrete societal topic or challenge. During this course, students become acquainted with the methodology used in various disciplines that are part of the PPE community. Students acquire basic knowledge of the quantitative, qualitative, and argumentative methods used in the PPE disciplines and to combine these insights in the generation of an interdisciplinary conclusion. In line with the learning objectives, the course is divided into two parts: (1) disciplinary methodological grounding, and (2) interdisciplinary integration. The first part focuses on introducing students to methods from the four PPE disciplines. The central objective is to enable students to interpret results yielded by the different methods. They know which method is most suited to answer their research question about a PPE topic or challenge. They can answer questions such as: What does a survey tells us about the just treatment of asylum seekers? Do archival findings enable critical reflection on contemporary environmental challenges? Are statistical analyses well suited to determine the causes of populism? They are not expected to be able to apply each method. Students that use particular methods in their home discipline are expected to actively share their insights with their peers. The second part of the course builds on this foundation. Students are introduced to opportunities and challenges of integrating insights from different disciplines. Students walk through the three steps toward interdisciplinary outcomes: (A) perspective taking, (B) discovering common ground, and (C) Integrating Insights. Perspective taking focuses on the ability to develop multiple disciplinary perspective separate from another. This multi-disciplinary perspective is an essential first step in interdisciplinary research. In the context of this course, students assess how the results of different PPE methods contribute to understanding of a challenge or topic. After establishing insights, students are expected to see how findings from different disciplines relate to one another: discovering common ground. Do disciplines share the same assumptions about the society? Or does one discipline conceptualize society as a collective, such as a nation, and another a loose collection of individuals? Do these conceptions clash or enrich each other, and how? In short, how do the different PPE perspectives relate to another? Finally, integrating perspectives is about taking together

the different insights and their relations to answer the research question.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
FI3V19020

Host Institution Course Title
PPE PERSPECTIVES

Host Institution Course Details

Host Institution Campus
Humanities

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
Philosophy and Religious Studies

Course Last Reviewed

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