COURSE DETAIL

TRUTH
Country United Kingdom - England
Host Institution University of Cambridge, Pembroke College
Program(s) Summer in Cambridge
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Philosophy
UCEAP Course Number 117
UCEAP Course Suffix S
UCEAP Official Title TRUTH
UCEAP Transcript Title TRUTH
UCEAP Quarter Units 5.00
UCEAP Semester Units

3.30

Course Description
What is it for a statement to be true? Is it required that it correspond to an external reality, or merely that it cohere with our own belief system? What does our conception of truth mean for our chances of attaining it? If truth requires the fitting of our judgements to a mind-independent world, then do we have any reason to suppose we ever succeed in achieving knowledge? These are some of the questions that this course addresses. It presents some of the main historical and contemporary philosophical theories of truth, and incorporate the work of many of the great philosophers from whom these theories derive, from Aristotle through Nietzsche to Wittgenstein. Other questions to be asked include: Is truth sometimes, always, or never relative? If so, relative to what? Is truth in one domain, for example physical science, the same as truth in other domains, for example ethics? Can we know any truths? Are there any unknowable truths? What sorts of thing can be true? Statements? Beliefs? Artworks? What is the relation of truth to meaning? Is the truth merely what it is useful to believe? What is the relation of truth to authority? Is there anything important to be said about truth per se at all? Questions about the nature of truth bear on several fields of philosophy. These include epistemology, metaphysics, philosophy of mind, philosophy of logic and language, ethics and aesthetics. This course range broadly over a variety of inter-related issues, and should appeal to those with a wide range of interests, both philosophical and otherwise.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
670

Host Institution Course Title
TRUTH

Host Institution Course Details

Host Institution Campus

Cambridge

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
Philosophy

Course Last Reviewed

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