

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

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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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