Distance Learning Modules

Philosophy

N.B. PY1801, PY1802, PY2801 and PY2801 are available ONLY to distance-learning students or Evening Degree students

PY1801 Ethical Issues (by Distance Learning)				
SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 7	**Semester:**	1
Academic year:	2016/7 & 2017/8			
Availability restrictions:	(subject to sufficient student demand). Non-graduating distance-learning students only.			
Planned timetable:	No traditional classes: e-learning module.			
'Ethical Issues' provides an accessible and comprehensive introduction to the philosophical significance of the most pressing moral problems of today, e.g. euthanasia, world poverty, and the moral status of animals and the environment; as well as a guide to the rival theoretical approaches used to reflect upon these issues: consequentialism, Kantian ethics, virtue theories, and moral skepticism. The module will also address meta-ethical questions concerning the metaphysical and epistemological status of moral claims and judgements (are there moral facts? Is ethical knowledge obtainable?)				
Programme module type:	Distance Learning			
Anti-requisite(s):	PY1901, PY1101, PY1103, PY1105, PY1011			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	**Weekly contact**: Via Moodle - weekly 1-hour scheduled live tutorial chat.			
	Scheduled learning: 15 hours		**Guided independent study:** 185 hours	
Assessment pattern:	**As defined by QAA:** Written Examinations = 0%, Practical Examinations = 0%, Coursework = 100%			
	As used by St Andrews: Coursework = 100%			
Re-Assessment pattern:	1 or more essays totaling no more than 4,500 words			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr L Jones			
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	TBC			

PY1802 Reasoning and Knowledge (by Distance Learning)

SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 7	**Semester:**	2
Academic year:	2016/7 & 2017/8			
Availability restrictions:	(subject to sufficient student demand) Non-graduating distance-learning students only			
Planned timetable:	No traditional classes: e-learning module.			

What should we believe? How should we think? This module provides an introduction to informal modes of reasoning and to philosophical ideas about the differences between good and bad arguments. We will discuss induction and deduction, justification and knowledge, and will study elementary features of logic. The module is an essential foundation for further study in philosophy, and teaches critical and analytic skills central to many other disciplines.

Programme module type:	Distance Learning	
Anti-requisite(s):	PY1006, PY2902, PY1012	
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	**Weekly contact**: Via Moodle - weekly 1-hour scheduled live tutorial chat.	
	Scheduled learning: 15 hours	**Guided independent study:** 185 hours
Assessment pattern:	**As defined by QAA:** Written Examinations = 0%, Practical Examinations = 0%, Coursework = 100%	
	As used by St Andrews: Coursework = 100%	
Re-Assessment pattern:	1 or more essays/critical evaluation totaling no more than 4,500 words	
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr L Jones	

PY2801 Mind and Reality (by Distance Learning)

SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 8	**Semester:**	1
Academic year:	2016/7 & 2017/8			
Availability restrictions:	(subject to sufficient student demand) Non-graduating distance-learning students only.			
Planned timetable:	No traditional classes: e-learning module.			

What am I, and what is reality? Am I part of the scientific, law-governed material world? If so, can I really act freely? How could a material thing be conscious? Am I the same person I was ten years ago? What, fundamentally, are material things and their properties? Can we understand the nature of space and time? Is the human mind capable of proving that God exists? This module will enable students to understand and begin to answer such fundamental metaphysical questions, and to gain valuable skills in reasoning and abstract thought.

Programme module type:	Distance Learning	
Anti-requisite(s):	PY1005, PY2902, PY1010	
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	**Weekly contact**: Via Moodle - weekly 1-hour scheduled live tutorial chat.	
	Scheduled learning: 15 hours	**Guided independent study:** 185 hours
Assessment pattern:	**As defined by QAA:** Written Examinations = 0%, Practical Examinations = 0%, Coursework = 100%	
	As used by St Andrews: Coursework = 100%	
Re-Assessment pattern:	1 or more essays totaling no more than 6,000 words	
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr L Jones	
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	TBC	

PY2802 Modern Philosophy: from Descartes to Kant (by Distance Learning)

SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 8	**Semester:**	2

Academic year:	2016/7 & 2017/8
Availability restrictions:	(subject to sufficient student demand) Non-graduating distance-learning students only.
Planned timetable:	No traditional classes: e-learning module

For the purposes of this module, 'modern philosophy' means philosophy written in Europe from Descartes in the mid-seventeenth century to Kant at the end of the 18th century. This was an extraordinary period in the history of western thought, when a variety of brilliant thinkers devoted themselves to working out the philosophical implications of the 'new science'. This generated questions about the extent of human knowledge, about what can be known with certainty, about perception, and about how we acquire knowledge through the senses. There was also renewed interest in morality, its foundation, and its relation to human nature. This module will critically examine the arguments of major philosophers of the modern period, including Descartes, Locke, Berkeley, Hume and Kant.

Programme module type:	Distance Learning	
Anti-requisite(s):	PY2004, PY2901, PY1013	
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	**Weekly contact**: Via Moodle - weekly 1-hour scheduled live tutorial chat.	
	Scheduled learning: 15 hours	**Guided independent study:** 185 hours
Assessment pattern:	**As defined by QAA:** Written Examinations = 0%, Practical Examinations = 0%, Coursework = 100%	
	As used by St Andrews: Coursework = 100%	
Re-Assessment pattern:	1 or more essays totaling no more than 6,000 words	
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr L Jones	
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	TBC	