

Course Description

Course Unit

Advanced Topics in Philosophy: Philosophy of Language, Logic and Mind

UC Code

FIL8.920610

ECTS Credits

12 ECTS

Work Hours

336H (12 ECTS)

Level

PHD

Academic year and Semester

2024/2025, S1

Faculty

Ricardo Santos

Class

TP 1

Language of instruction

English

Class Description

The course will be taught in three separate modules.

Module A: Central issues in philosophical logic

1. Propositional and predicate logic
2. Modal logic
3. Conditionals: from the material conditional to Stalnaker's semantics
4. Vagueness and the sorites: fuzzy logics and supervaluations

Module B: Central issues in philosophy of language

1. Frege's semantic theory
2. Russell's theory of definite descriptions
3. Kripke on rigidity and direct reference
4. Kaplan's theory of indexicals
5. Semantics and pragmatics, radical and moderate contextualism

Module C: Central issues in philosophy of fiction

1. Fiction and the role of imagination
2. Fictional content, truth in fiction and the cognitive role of fiction
3. Reference in fiction: the nature of fictional entities

Grading and Assessment

An essay (up to 3,000 words) based on one of the modules, chosen by the student (weighted at 60%) and one in-person written test with questions concerning the other two modules (weighted at 40%). Students must attend to at least 2/3 of the classes.

Bibliography

Currie, G. 1990. *The Nature of Fiction*. Cambridge University Press.

Engisch, P. and J. Langkau (eds). 2023. *The Philosophy of Fiction: Imagination and Cognition*, New York and London: Routledge.

MacFarlane, J. 2021. *Philosophical Logic: A Contemporary Introduction*, New York and London: Routledge.

Martinich, A. (ed.). 1996. *The Philosophy of Language*, 3rd edition. Oxford University Press.

Sainsbury, R. M. 2001. *Logical Forms: An Introduction to Philosophical Logic*, 2nd edition. Oxford: Blackwell.

Soames, S. 2010. *Philosophy of Language*. Princeton University Press.

Prerequisites (if applicable)

No requirements.