

Programa | Course Description 2021/2022

Unidade Curricular | *Course Unit*

Teoria do Conhecimento

Código da Unidade Curricular | *Course ID*

FIL2.920344

ECTS | *Credits*

8

Ciclo de Estudos | *Level*

1º

Semestre | *Semester*

1º

Docente(s) | *Instructor(s)*

David Yates & Domingos Faria

Língua de ensino | *Language of instruction*

Inglês / Português

Programa (na língua de ensino) | *Course description (in language of instruction)*

This course will be delivered in two modules, one in Portuguese and the other in English (although students may write in Portuguese for both modules). Between them, these modules will cover a wide range of issues in the theory of knowledge, including how to analyze knowledge (and how it differs from true belief); the nature of epistemic justification; group knowledge and justification; a range of skeptical arguments that knowledge is impossible, and ways of responding to them; the problem of perception and the issue of how we are able to gain knowledge of the external world via our senses; and finally scientific knowledge, and the problem of how we are able to learn about general laws of nature from particular matters of fact. Some of the topics to be covered are listed below:

Domingos Faria

1. O que é o conhecimento? (Análise tripartida. Casos Gettier. Respostas aos casos Gettier. Teoria do conhecimento primeiro de Williamson).
2. Estrutura da justificação (fundacionalismo, coerentismo, infinitismo).
3. Epistemologia social (testemunho, grupos, desacordo).

David Yates

4. Cartesian scepticism. (Evil demon argument, brain-in-a-vat argument, responses to scepticism based on different theories of knowledge and justification.)
5. The problem of perception. (The argument from illusion, sense-datum theory, Berkeleyan idealism, direct realism, scepticism about perceptual knowledge.)

Programa | Course Description 2021/2022

6. Scientific knowledge. (Hume's riddle of induction, Popper's falsificationism, Kuhn on scientific revolutions, scientific realism vs. antirealism, introduction to Bayesian epistemology.)

Avaliação (na língua de ensino) | Grading and Assessment (in language of instruction)

Assessment will be based on two written tests during term time (one test on each module), and there may also be the opportunity for students to increase their marks with presentations. Students who fail the term time assessments can take the final exam, which is also available for melhoria de nota.

Bibliografia (selection) | Readings (selection)

Readings will be provided for students via the Moodle platform, and the following books are very useful:

Bonjour, L. Epistemology: Classic Problems and Contemporary Responses. Bowman-Littlefield.

Dancy, J., Sosa, E. & Steup, M. (eds.) A Companion to Epistemology 2nd ed. Blackwell.

Pritchard, D. What is this thing called knowledge? 3rd ed. Routledge.

Sosa, E., Kim, J., Fantl, J & McGrath, M. (eds.) Epistemology: An Anthology 2nd ed. Blackwell.

Steup, M. An Introduction to Contemporary Epistemology. Prentice-Hall.