**COURSE OUTLINE**

**(1) GENERAL**

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| **UNIVERSITY / Department** | * NATIONAL AND KAPODISTRIAN UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS / Department of History and Philosophy of Science   in collaboration with:   * ARISTOTLE UNIVERSITY OF THESSALONIKI / Department of Philosophy and Education * UNIVERSITY OF PATRAS / Department of Philosophy * UNIVERSITY OF CRETE / Department of Philosophy and Social Studies | | | | |
| **STUDY LEVEL** | Postgraduate | | | | |
| **COURSE CODE** | 109 | | **SEMESTER OF STUDY** | 1st or 2nd | |
| **COURSE TITLE** | Topics in Ancient Philosophy | | | | |
| **INSTRUCTOR(S)** | Panos Dimas | | | | |
| **TEACHING ACTIVITIES** | | **TEACHING HOURS PER WEEK** | | | **ECTS** |
| Seminars | | 3 | | | 10 |
| **COURSE TYPE** | specialization, skills development | | | | |
| **PREREQUISITE COURSES** | – | | | | |
| **LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION and EXAMINATIONS** | English | | | | |
| **COURSE OFFERED TO ERASMUS STUDENTS** | N/A | | | | |
| **COURSE WEBSITE (URL)** | ++ | | | | |

**(2) LEARNING OUTCOMES**

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| **Learning Outcomes** |
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| Upon successful completion of the course, students:   * will have gained familiarity with close reading and interpretation of a philosophical text; * will be able to apply their knowledge and understanding within the broader context of philosophy; * will be able to form judgments about the social and moral issues raised in the text; * will be familiar with translation theory and practice (as the text will be studied in a new translation prepared by the instructor) * will be able to communicate clearly their conclusions and the reasoning and logical assumptions on which they are based to both specialist and non-specialist audiences; * will have strengthened the necessary skills to continue their studies independently |
| **General Skills** |
| * Independent work * Teamwork * Work in an international environment * Work in an interdisciplinary environment * Generating new research ideas * Exercise criticism and self-criticism * Promotion of free, creative and inductive thinking |

**(3) COURSE CONTENT**

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| **Pleasure and the Human Good in Plato**  Pleasure is a central theme throughout Plato’s work. He discusses, it and it’s connection to human virtue and happiness, in many of his dialogues, spanning from the early *Protagoras* all the way to his last work, the *Laws*. Still, the role and importance of pleasure in Plato’s psychology and ethical thought is little discussed and even less understood. In this seminar we attempt to bring to light what Plato understands by pleasure and its place in his overall thinking. We will do so by looking carefully into dialogues and passage where he discusses it. The texts to which we will focus on are listed below. A detailed program of the work that will be expected from the participants during the seminar is also listed, and will be specified further in the course of the meetings.  A further central theme on which we will be focusing is whether Plato’s views on pleasure and its place in his ethical thinking changes in the course of his career, and if it does, how.  The dialogues and parts of dialogues mentioned in this document will be the reading material for the course. We will be working mainly if not exclusively with primary literature, which consists of the Platonic dialogues mentioned. And we will feel free to expand to other passages from the Platonic corpus, if appropriate. The participants are welcome, indeed advised, to consult secondary literature, as they see fit.  The format of our meetings will be that of a seminar. Though the professor is the one mainly responsible for the progress of the seminar, the participants are expected to participate with questions and suggestions, as well as proposals regarding additional texts. They will also be expected to give presentations on selected passages from the syllabus. In addition, prior to each meeting, each participant will be expected to produce a page long written assignment on issues and problems in the designated reading(s) for the meeting that they find interesting, and hand it in to the seminar leader. |

**(4) TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS – ASSESSMENT**

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| **TEACHING FORMAT** | Face to face, in classroom. |
| **USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES** | Learning process support through the e-class online platform. |
| **TEACHING STRUCTURE** | |  |  | | --- | --- | | ***Activity*** | ***Semester Workload*** | | Lectures, Seminars | 39 | | Presentation preparation | 21 | | Independent study | 120 | | Project (paper preparation and submission | 120 | | **Total**  (30 hours of work per credit unit) | ***300*** | |
| **STUDENT EVALUATION** | 1. Active participation in the course and presentation (50%)  2. Final essay (50%)  [Assessment for the course will be based on performance throughout the semester, including participation and presentation, as well as a final essay. The presentations may serve as the foundation for the final essay, which is expected to be 6,000-9,000 words in length (including notes, but not the bibliography).] |

**(5) RECOMMENDED BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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| **Α. Primary Sources:**  **Aristippus** source: **D**iogenes **L**aertius **II,** 65-97.  **Plato**  *Protagoras*  *Hippias Minor*  *Euthydemus* (278e-281e)  *Gorgias*  *Phaedo* (64a-84b)  *Republic* 9  *Philebus* (20b-23b; 36c-55c  *Laws*1 & 2  **Β. Secondary Bibliography:**  **C. Resources on the Web:** |