

Subject card

Subject name and code	, PG_00179414						
Field of study	Philosophy						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025		Academic year of realisation of subject		2025/2026		
Education level	Master's studies		Subject group		Obligatory subject group in the field of study Optional subject group		
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery		at the university		
Year of study	1		Language of instruction		Polish		
Semester of study	1		ECTS credits		2.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		credit		
Conducting unit	Division of Metaphysics, Philosophy of Religion and Contemporary Philosophy -> Institute of Philosophy -> Faculty of Social Sciences -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Marek Pepliński				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						
Learning activity and number of study hours	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours		Self-study	SUM
	Number of study hours	30		0.0		0.0	30
Subject objectives	Introducing students to the contemporary philosophical discussion on the so-called problem of evil and theodicy, with a particular emphasis on Paul Macdonald Jr.s recent Thomistic theodicy, presented in the context of other Thomistic and analytic positions. The aim is to prepare students to understand the latest developments in theodicean discourse and to acquire basic skills in critical reflection on evil in relation to theism.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[FILOZMU2_U10] The graduate formulates precisely, orally and in writing, complex philosophical problems, puts forward theses and critically comments on them.	[FILOZMU2_U10] Formulates complex philosophical problems precisely in speech and writing, presents theses, and critically comments on them.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[FILOZMU2_U04] The graduate independently interprets a philosophical text, comments, and confronts theses originating from various texts.	[FILOZMU2_U04] Independently interprets philosophical texts, provides commentary, and compares theses from different sources.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[FILOZMU2_W01] The graduate has a comprehensive knowledge and deep understanding of the role of philosophical reflection in shaping culture.	[FILOZMU2_W01] Has knowledge and understanding of the role of philosophical reflection in shaping culture.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[FILOZMU2_W10] The graduate has a comprehensive knowledge and deep understanding of the views of a selected leading philosophical author or of the current state of research in a selected philosophical issue.	[FILOZMU2_W10] Has comprehensive knowledge and deep understanding of the views of a selected leading philosophical author or the current state of research in a chosen area of philosophical inquiry.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[FILOZMU2_U01] The graduate searches for, analyses, evaluates, selects, and integrates information from written and electronic sources.	[FILOZMU2_U01] Searches for, analyzes, evaluates, selects, and integrates information from written and electronic sources.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[FILOZMU2_K07] The graduate has deepened awareness of the importance of humanistic reflection for the formation of social bonds.	[FILOZMU2_K07] Has an advanced awareness of the significance of humanistic reflection in the formation of social bonds.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SK4] test/exam - oral or written
Subject contents	General Introduction to the Problem of Evil and Its Relation to the God of Theism Terminological Issues: the problem of evil, theodicy, theodicean discourse, defense. A Brief Overview of Theodicean Positions in Analytic Philosophy The Existence of Evil and the Existence of God God, Evil, and the Good Creation Free Will, the Fall, and Original Sin God the Redeemer and Redemptive Suffering Heaven, Hell, and the Perfection of the Universe Hoping in the Face of Evil		
Prerequisites and co-requisites	Due to ECTS compliance, a condition that prevents qualification (i.e., participation in the exam or course completion) is absence from 8 or more classes out of a total of 15. This applies regardless of whether the absences are due to illness, unforeseen events, or organized activities, etc. In exceptional cases, the instructor reserves the right to determine how the absences may be made up. Attendance is mandatory and monitored. Absence from three or more classes will automatically result in a reduction of the qualification score by ½ or 1 point (for a 15-class course: 45 absences = -½; 67 absences = -1).		
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	0	51.0%	100.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	Macdonald Jr., P.A. (2023). God, Evil, and Redeeming Good: A Thomistic Theodicy (1st ed.). Routledge. https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003298847	

	Supplementary literature	Hubaczek K., Bóg a zło. Problematyka teodycealna w filozofii analitycznej, Wrocław 2010. Leibniz G.W., Teodycea. O dobroci Boga, wolności człowieka i pochodzeniu zła, tłum. M. Frankiewicz, PWN, Warszawa 2001. Pabjan T., Świat najlepszy z możliwych O dobroci Boga i pochodzeniu zła, Kraków 2018. Tooley, Michael, "The Problem of Evil", <i>The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> (Winter 2021 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = .
	eResources addresses	Basic https://www.taylorfrancis.com/books/mono/10.4324/9781003298847/god-evil-redeeming-good-paul-macdonald-jr - This book offers an original contribution to debates about the problem of evil and the existence of God. It develops a Thomistic, Christian theodicy, the aim of which is to help us better understand not only why God allows evil, but also how God works to redeem it. In the author's view, the existence of evil does not generate any intellectual problem that theists must address or solve to vindicate God or the rationality of theism. This is because acknowledging the existence of evil rationally leads us to acknowledge the existence of God. However, understanding how these two facts are compatible still requires addressing weighty, wide-ranging questions concerning God and evil. The author draws on diverse elements of Aquinas's philosophy and theology to build an argument that evil only exists within God's world because God has created and continues to sustain so much good. Moreover, God can and does bring good out of all evil, both cosmically and within the context of our own, individual lives. In making this argument, the author engages with contemporary work on the problem of evil from analytic philosophy of religion and theology. Additionally, he addresses a broad range of topics and doctrines within Thomistic and Christian thought, including God, creation, providence, original sin, redemption, heaven and hell, and the theological virtues. Supplementary https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/evil/ - Tooley, Michael, "The Problem of Evil", <i>The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> (Winter 2021 Edition) https://monografie.fnp.org.pl/monografie/images/Files/X5WbMwLx8JYQleKDrEVFZBINpSfaUTCH.pdf -
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	n.d.	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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