University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Philosophy of Science, PG_00176671						
Field of study	Philosophy						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026		Academic year of realisation of subject	2028/2029			
Education level	Bachelor's studies		Subject group	Obligatory subject group in the field of study Optional subject group Subject group related to scientific research in the field of study			
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery	at the university			
Year of study	3		Language of instruction	Polish			
Semester of study	5		ECTS credits	2.0			
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form	credit			
Conducting unit	Division of Logic, Philosophy of Science and Epistemology -> Institute of Philosophy -> Faculty of Social Sciences -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Patryk Dziurosz-Serafinowicz				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	0.0	30.0	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	20.0	50	
Subject objectives	This course introduces students to the central problems discussed within contemporary philosophy of science.						

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[FILOZL3_W08] The graduate understands at an advanced level the main trends and approaches of contemporary philosophy.	Students know and understand the main stances within contemporary philosophy of science.	[SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SW3] text preparation/written work
[FILOZL3_W11] The graduate knows and understands the historical character of the formation of philosophical ideas.	Students understand the historical background of the main ideas in the philosophy of science.	[SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SW3] text preparation/written work
[FILOZL3_U04] The graduate knows the methods of interpreting a philosophical text, can read and interpret a philosophical text.	Students know how to interpret papers in philosophy of science.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SU3] text preparation/written work
[FILOZL3_K05] He/she is responsible for effective organization of his/her own work and timely completion of entrusted tasks.	Students know how to prepare a presentation or write an essay.	[SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SK3] text preparation/written work
[FILOZL3_K02] The graduate is open to new ideas and is ready to change his/her opinion in the light of available data and arguments.	Students know how new arguments change their opinions.	[SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SK3] text preparation/written work
[FILOZL3_U06] Using knowledge of the basics of logic, the student is able to analyze and create arguments and argumentative strategies, as well as formulate criticism by referring to the basic premises of a given view.	Analyzing arguments in debates within philosophy of science.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SU3] text preparation/written work
[FILOZL3_W06] The graduate knows the ideas and arguments of selected classical philosophical authors on the basis of independent reading of their writings.	Students know the classical ideas and theories within philosophy of science.	[SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SW3] text preparation/written work

Subject contents

1. Induction and inductivism
2. Falsificationism
3. Kuhns Scientific Revolutions
4. Realism and Anti-Realism in Science
5. Confirmation Theory
6. Bayesian Confirmation Theory
7. Simplicity in Science
8. Observation Selection Effects

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
presentation/project	70.0%	30.0%
essay	70.0%	70.0%

Recommended reading

Basic literature	J. Ladyman. Understanding Philosophy of Science. Routledge, 2002. M. Strevens. The Knowledge Machine. How Irrationality Created Modern Science. Liveright, 2020. I. Hacking. An Introduction to Probability and Inductive Logic. CUP, 2001. P. Godfrey-Smith. Theory and Reality. The University of Chicago Press, 2003. E. Sober. Evidence and Evolution. The Logic Behind the Science. CUP, 2008. A. F. Chalmers. What Is This Thing Called Science. Hackett, 1976.
Supplementary literature	A. Rosenberg. Philosophy of Science: A contemporary introduction. Routledge, 2nd ed., 2005. M. H. Salmon, et al. Introduction to the Philosophy of Science. Hackett, 1999. J. Sprenger, S. Hartmann. Bayesian Philosophy of Science. OUP, 2019.
eResources addresses	

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed

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Work placement

Not applicable

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