1. **Title of the module**

PHIL6640/PHIL6650 (PL664/PL665) – Understanding Causality and Probability

1. **School or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module**

School of European Culture and Languages

1. **The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**

Level 5 (PL664); Level 6 (PL665)

1. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**

30 Credits (15 ECTS)

1. **Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)**

Autumn or Spring

1. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**

None

1. **The programmes of study to which the module contributes**

Optional for BA Philosophy (Single and Joint Honours)

Also available as a ’Wild’ module choice

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module Level 5 students will be able to:**

8.1 Understand the major controversies in this area;

8.2 Engage critically with some of the central issues in this field, through their study of the relevant arguments;

8.3 Demonstrate their understanding of the proposed solutions to the issues in this area, through their study of these arguments;

8.4 Demonstrate the ability to engage in a close critical reading of some of major texts in the field.

**On successfully completing the module Level 6 students will be able to:**

8.5 Demonstrate systematic understanding the major positions and arguments in this area;

8.6 Engage critically with some of the central issues in this field, and ultimately support a solution to a particular issue, through their study of the relevant arguments;

8.7 Demonstrate their critical understanding of multiple theories in this area and a recognition of the implications of these theories for problems within associated areas, all through their study of these arguments;

8.8 Demonstrate the ability to engage in a close critical reading of some of major texts in the field, and refer to major texts to support their own position.

1. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module Level 5 students will be able to:**

9.1 Demonstrate their skills in analysis;

9.2 Engage in argument, both oral and written;

9.3 Demonstrate their skills in critical analysis and argument through their engagement with relevant texts, through their reading, writing and discussion;

9.4 Show ability to work alone and to take responsibility for their own learning;

9.5 Demonstrate their ability to clarify complex ideas and arguments, and to express them orally and in writing.

**On successfully completing the module Level 6 students will be able to:**

9.6 Demonstrate their skills in analysis and articulating a coherent position;

9.7 Engage in both oral and written argument and use such arguments to support a coherent position;

9.8 Demonstrate their skills in critical analysis, argument, and supporting a particular position through their engagement with major texts, through reading, writing and discussion;

9.9 Work well alone and to take responsibility for their own learning;

9.10 Demonstrate their ability to clarify complex ideas and arguments, to develop their own ideas and arguments, and to express them orally and in writing.

1. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

This module will introduce students to philosophical theories of causality and philosophical theories of probability. The module will provide a broad background to the range of available interpretations of causality and probability. Topics to be covered will vary from year to year, in light of the expertise of the person convening it and student feedback from previous years. Students will gain a good understanding of the complementary and in some cases conflicting perspectives and methodologies on causality and probability. The module will enable students to evaluate contemporary issues in a manner that’s informed by a comprehensive set of relevant traditions.

1. **Reading list (Indicative list, current at time of publication. Reading lists will be published annually)**

Eagle, A. (2011) *Philosophy of Probability: Contemporary Readings*, ed. London: Routledge

Gillies, D.A. (2000) *Philosophical Theories of Probability*. London: Routledge

Illari, P. & Russo, F. (2014) *Causality: Philosophical Theory Meets Scientific Practice*, Oxford: OUP

Illari, P., Russo, F. & Williamson, J. (2011) *Causality in the Sciences*, eds. Oxford: OUP

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total Contact Hours: 40

Private Study Hours: 260

Total Study Hours: 300

1. **Assessment methods**
   1. Main assessment methods

* Presentation (15 minutes) – 20%
* Mid-term Essay (1,000 words) – 20%
* Final Essay (3,000 words) – 60%
  1. Reassessment methods
* Reassessment Instrument: 100% Coursework

1. **Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section12) and methods of assessment (section 13)**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | *8.1 / 8.* | *8.2 / 8.6* | *8.3 / 8.7* | *8.4 / 8.8* | *9.1 / 9.6* | *9.2 / 9.7* | *9.3 / 9.8* | *9.4 / 9.9* | *9.5 / 9.10* |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Private Study | **x** | **x** |  | **x** |  |  | **x** | **x** |  |
| Lecture/Seminar | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Presentation | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Mid-term Essay Plan | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** | **x** |  | **x** | **x** |
| Final essay | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The School recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/ declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

a) Accessible resources and curriculum

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

1. **Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered**

Canterbury

1. **Internationalisation**

Throughout the module we will cover a wide range of topics of international relevance in analytic philosophy. By completing the various assessments students will be in a position to discuss interpretations of causality and probability with their peers around the world.

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**Revision record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of the delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet) |
| 05/09/17 | Minor | September 2017 | 12, 14 | No |
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| Revised FSO Jan 2018 |