1. **Title of the module**

PHIL6620/PHIL6630 (PL662/PL663) – Philosophy and Film

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 (PHIL6620) and Level 6 (PHIL6630)

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 the BA Philosophy (Single and Joint Honours)

Also available as a ‘Wild’ module

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

8.1. Demonstrate critical understanding of a range of philosophical issues that have been presented through film, and a range of philosophical issues about the medium of film itself;

8.2. Engage critically with some of the central issues in philosophy, and in philosophy of film, orally, and in writing, through their study of the relevant arguments;

8.3. 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:**

8.4. Demonstrate a systematic understanding of key aspects and the acquisition of coherent and detailed knowledge of a range of philosophical issues that have been presented through film, and a range of philosophical issues about the medium of film itself;

8.5. Engage critically with, and defend a position with respect to some of the central issues in both Philosophy generally, and philosophy of film in particular, orally, and in writing, through their study of the relevant arguments;

8.6. Demonstrate the ability to accurately deploy established techniques of analysis and enquiry when reading of some major arguments in the field, and to refer to major philosophical 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, making use of scholarly reviews and primary sources;

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**

The course will begin by looking at various philosophical problems, as presented in films. This will involve discussing a range of different philosophical topics, from different areas of philosophy. Film here is presented as a way into the philosophical discussion, which will be supplemented by appropriate primary and secondary texts. The course will then consider ways in which the medium of film itself presents philosophical problems.

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. Philosophical issues presented through film will include, but will not be restricted to, time travel, existentialism and Philosophy of art. Philosophical Issues concerning film will include, but will not be restricted to ‘is film art?’, ‘what is film?’ and ‘can film be philosophy?’.

Through these and related topics, students will gain a good understanding of both a number of issues in philosophy, and the way that the medium in which philosophy is done is potentially a constraint on or a complement to the aims of the philosophy. The module will enable students to evaluate issues, both timely and timeless, in a manner that’s informed by an interdisciplinary approach to philosophy.

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

Films:

*Total Recall* (dir. Paul Verhoeven, 1984)

*The Seventh Seal* (dir. Ingmar Bergman, 1957)

*Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure* (dir. Stephen Herek, 1989)

*Rashômon* (dir. Akira Kurosawa,1950)

*Arrival* (dir. Denis Villeneuve, 2016)

*Groundhog Day* (dir. Harold Ramis, 1993)

*La Jetée (dir. Chris Marker, 1962)*

Books:

Litch M.M. and Karofsky, A. (2015) *Philosophy through film*, London: Routledge

Schneider, S. (2016) Science Fiction and Philosophy, Oxford; Wiley Blackwell

Carroll, N. and Jinhee C., (2006) *The Philosophy of Film and Motion Pictures* Oxford: Blackwell

Wartenberg, T.E. and Smith, M. (2006) *Thinking through Cinema*, Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell

Cox, D. and Levine, M. (2012) *Thinking Through Film*, Oxford: Wiley Blackwell

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 (20 minutes) – 20%
* Mid-term Essay (2,000 words) – 40%
* Final Essay (2,000 words) – 40%
  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 / 8.4* | *8.2 / 8.5* | *8.3 / 8.6* | *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 | **x** | **x** | **x** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Seminar | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** |
| Film Screening | **x** | **x** |  | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Presentation | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Mid-term Essay | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** | **x** |
| Final Essay | **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 students’ comprehension of a wide range of topics of international relevance. By completing the various assessments students will learn to navigate an increasingly interconnected 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) |
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| Revised FSO Jan 2018 |