1. **Title of the module**

PHIL6420 PL642) – Feminist Philosophy

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

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 in Philosophy (Single and Joint Honours)

Also available as a ‘Wild’ module

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

8.1 Outline and show understanding through clear expression of the issues of feminism in relation to liberal politics;

8.2 Outline show and understanding through clear expression of the application of feminist thought to the following areas of legal and political philosophy: contract, multiculturalism, autonomy, and identity;

8.3 Outline and show understanding through clear expression of the application of feminist thought to the following areas of ethics: sexual ethics and the construction of the body.

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

9.1 Demonstrate skills in critical analysis and argument through an engagement with these issues, both through their reading and by listening to others;

9.2 Demonstrate an ability to make complex ideas clearly understandable in their philosophical writing;

9.3 Demonstrate an ability to make complex ideas clearly understandable in their public speaking;

9.4 Demonstrate an ability to work autonomously and to take responsibility for their learning.

1. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

Many people today are reluctant to identify themselves as ‘feminist’: either because they see feminism as a useful political movement that has essentially served its purposes; or because they view feminism as a ‘single-issue’, militant ideology that they cannot identify with. This module is intended to give students an opportunity to reflect philosophically on what claims like this could mean: if we live in a post-feminist era, why do women earn, on average, two thirds of what their male counterparts earn? If we live in post-feminist era, why are women still under-represented in many fields (including politics, science and academic philosophy?). If feminism is a ‘single-issue’ ideology, why is it that feminists have proposed such a variety of solutions to the above problems, and from such a wide range of political standpoints?

The module explores some key debates in contemporary feminist philosophy, with particularly emphasis on its uncomfortable relationship with liberalism. The course draws attention to feminist critiques of key liberal concepts, such as consent, the social contract, autonomy, universal rights, and the private/public distinction. We go on to apply theoretical debates in feminist thought to the following political issues: prostitution, pornography, feminine appearance, multiculturalism, and human rights.

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

Berenstain, N. (2016). “Epistemic Exploitation”, *Ergo: Journal of Philosophy*3(22).

de Beauvoir, S. (1949). *The Second Sex,* Trans. H.M. Parshley (1993), London: Everyman’s Library.

Manne, K. (2018). *Down Girl: The Logic of Misogyny*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Nussbaum, M. (1998). “‘Whether from reason or prejudice’: Taking money for bodily services”, *The Journal of Legal Studies* 27(2).

Penny, L. (2011). *Meat Market: Female Flesh Under Capitalism*, Winchester: Zero Books.

Tong, R. (2009). *Feminist Thought: A More Comprehensive Introduction*, Boulder, CO: Westview Press.

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total Contact Hours: 40

Private Study Hours: 260

Total Study Hours: 300

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

* Essay 1 (1,500 words) – 30%
* Essay 2 (1,000 words) – 30%
* Essay 3 (2,000 words) – 30%
* Seminar Performance – 10%

13.2 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)***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 / 8.4 | 8.2 / 8.5 | 8.3 / 8.6 | 9.1 / 9.5 | 9.2 / 9.6 | 9.3 / 9.7 | 9.4 / 9.8 |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Private Study | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Lecture | **x** | **x** | **x** |  |  |  |  |
| Seminar | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Essay 1 | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** |
| Essay 2 | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** |
| Essay 3 | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** |
| Seminar Performance | **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**

The topic of feminism is by nature an international issue and concern. The philosophical concepts and ideas explores what feminism means as a political, universal, and culture-specific movement, exploring issues as diverse and international as Muslim dress to the preoccupation with feminine thinness in Western culture.

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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.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet) |
| 13/12/16 | Major | September 2017 | 8-11, 13 | No |
| 01/12/19 | Major | September 2020 | 1, 3, 8, 9, 11, 12 | No |

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| Revised FSO Feb 2020 |