

PHL315118 Philosophy

15 TCE Points



You will work through the following units as part of Philosophy 3

Unit 1: Epistemology

An introduction to how we know what we know and, importantly, how can we know anything at all?

Unit 2: The Mind/Body Problem

What is your mind made of? How can physical matter cause conscious thoughts?

Unit 3: Free Will

How free are we to choose our own path? How have Philosophers responded to this question?

Unit 4: Contemporary Conflicts in Moral Theory

An introduction to moral philosophy and ethics. What is a 'good' action versus a 'bad' action? How can we use Moral Theory to guide our decisions?

Unit 5: The Good Life

What does it mean to lead a 'Good' life? What have history's famous philosopher said about leading a good life?

How you'll be assessed:

Common types of internal assessments are:

- Short quizzes
- Written dialogues
- Written Essays
- General classroom activities

Create a list of 3 or 4 dot points outlining what students will need to be successful in this subject (examples below)

- Reading and written communication is a key component of this course
- Class discussion is crucial to exploring philosophical ideas. An open mind and a willingness to listen is essential. Being respectful of other views is also crucial.
- Strong attendance is vital in this course, ensure you catch up with your teacher if you miss class

The external assessment for this subject is a 3-hour exam. The dates for external exams in November are non-negotiable.

COMPLETION OF WORK

Assessment due dates are provided in the Program of Learning and on Canvas. Work must be submitted by the due date unless an approved extension has been granted. Unapproved late submissions will incur penalties as outlined in the *Completion of Work Policy*. Students needing extensions should contact their subject teacher before the due date with valid reasons, such as illness or unforeseen circumstances.

For more details refer to the Launceston College: [Completion of Work Policy](#).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All senior secondary students in Tasmania are expected to uphold academic integrity, meaning they complete their work honestly and fairly. This includes properly referencing any ideas, images, or information borrowed from others, allowing teachers to distinguish between original and sourced content.

Assignments will be submitted through Canvas, email, hard copy as directed in the task sheet.

For more details, refer to the Launceston College: [Academic Integrity Policy](#).

REFERENCING

The Harvard referencing system is recommended for Philosophy 3. The standards for criterion 1 state that a student must:

- referencing conventions and methodologies are followed with a high degree of accuracy
- students create appropriate, well-structured reference lists/bibliographies.

COURSE DOCUMENT

The TASC website provides considerable information about the course. [Philosophy - TASC](#)

Week	Date	Program of Learning 2025	Notes / Assessments
1	6 Feb	Unit 1 - Epistemology and Socratic Questioning (Approx 30 hours)	<i>Yr 11s and 12's return February 8 (Thursday)</i>
2	10 Feb		
3	17 Feb		
4	24 Feb	Unit 2 -Mind/Body Introduction – what is the mind/body problem?	<i>Wed 26 Feb – Launceston Cup</i>
5	3 Mar	Substance and Property Dualism	
6	10 Mar	Materialism/Physicalism	<i>Mon 10 Mar – Public Holiday</i>
7	17 Mar	Thought Experiments	
8	24 Mar	Functionalism/AI/ Specific Philosophers – Searle and Dennett.	
9	31 Mar		
10	7 Apr		
Term 1 break – Saturday 12 April – Sunday 27 April			
1	28 Apr	Unit 3 -Free Will Introduction to the Free Will problem/Determinism	
2	5 May	Compatibilism	
3	12 May	Indeterminism/Libertarianism	
4	19 May	Moral Responsibility – Why should anyone be punished?	
5	26 May	Consolidation and revision of free will positions	
6	2 June	Film study – <i>The Truman Show</i> or <i>The Matrix</i>	
7	9 June	Film study	<i>Mon 9 June – Public Holiday</i>
8	16 June	Film Study	
9	23 June	Mid – Year exams TBC	
10	30 June	Introduction to Moral Philosophy	
Term 2 break – Saturday 5 July – Sunday 20 July			
1	21 July	Unit 4.1 – Contemporary Conflict in Moral Theory.	
2	28 July	Introduction to contemporary ethical issues – Genetic Engineering, inequality, animal rights etc	
3	4 Aug	Consequentialism/utilitarianism	
4	11 Aug	Deontology	
5	18 Aug	Moral relativism and Nihilism	
6	25 Aug	Research work on major essay	
7	1 Sep	Unit 5 – The Good Life Introduction	
8	8 Sep	Nietzsche/Montaigne	
9	15 Sep	Simone De Beauvoir	
10	22 Sep	Thoreau – film ‘Into the Wild’	
Term 3 break – Saturday 27 September – Sunday 12 October			
1	13 Oct	Finish the ‘Good Life’	
2	20 Oct	Revision	
3	27 Oct	Revision	<i>Fri 31 Oct - Moderation Day (LC students work from home)</i>
4	3 Nov	Revision	<i>Mon 3 Nov – Public Holiday</i>
Exams begin (Monday 10th November) - Exams end (Thursday 20th November)			

ASSESSMENT

Criterion-based assessment helps students see how well they're meeting course outcomes at the end of their study. While there is continuous feedback to guide learning, final assessments focus on showing what students have achieved by the end. Ratings are given as 'A', 'B', or 'C', based on course standards. A 't' indicates partial achievement below a 'C', and a 'z' means no evidence provided.

Schools follow TASC's quality assurance to keep standards consistent. More details are on the [TASC website](#). Final awards are based on both internal and TASC-supervised external assessments.

Criteria

1. communicate philosophical ideas and concepts*
2. use philosophical ideas and concepts in discussing philosophical arguments*
3. describe and explain philosophical arguments*
4. use evidence to support philosophical arguments*
5. apply philosophical ideas and concepts to contemporary issues*
6. undertake research about philosophical issues
7. use resources and organisational strategies

*Denotes an externally assessed criterion

Award Requirements

EXCEPTIONAL ACHIEVEMENT (EA)

10 'A', 2 'B' ratings (4 'A's, 1 'B' from external assessment)

HIGH ACHIEVEMENT (HA)

5 'A', 5 'B', 2 'C' ratings (2 'A', 2 'B's, 1 'C' from external assessment)

COMMENDABLE ACHIEVEMENT (CA)

6 'B', 4 'C' ratings (2 'B's, 2 'C's from external assessment)

SATISFACTORY ACHIEVEMENT (SA)

10 'C' ratings (3 'C's from external assessment).

PRELIMINARY ACHIEVEMENT (PA)

6 'C' ratings.