

Course Syllabus**Academic year: 2025/2026****I. General Information**

Course name	<i>Psyche, anima, mens</i> : Philosophical Reflection on the Nature of Man
Programme	General university courses
Level of studies (BA, BSc, MA, MSc, long-cycle MA)	MA, long-cycle MA
Form of studies (full-time, part-time)	Full-time
Discipline	Philosophy
Language of instruction	English

Course coordinator	Dr. Jacek Jarocki
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Type of class (<i>use only the types mentioned below</i>)	Number of teaching hours	Semester	ECTS Points
tutorial	30	II	2

Course pre-requisites	Knowledge of English at the B2 level
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II. Course Objectives

C1 – Developing communication skills in a foreign language at an academic level, with particular emphasis on the terminology of philosophical anthropology.

C2 – Acquiring knowledge of the most important views in the field of philosophical anthropology.

C3 – Gaining conceptual tools necessary for analyzing contemporary theories concerning human nature, both in philosophy and in the natural sciences.

C4 – Enhancing critical thinking skills in relation to issues discussed within the scope of philosophical anthropology.

III. Course learning outcomes with reference to The Polish Qualifications Framework

Symbol	Description of course learning outcome	Reference to The Polish Qualifications Framework
KNOWLEDGE		
Un_ZJO_W_01	A student understands foreign language utterances, including specialist terminology of philosophical anthropology.	P7S_WG1
SKILLS		
Un_ZJO_U_01	A student is capable of fluent oral and written	P7S_UW3

	communication in a foreign language, including the use of specialist terminology of philosophical anthropology.	
Un_ZJO_U_02	A student actively participates in discussions in a foreign language on general topics and those on philosophical anthropology, understands complex utterances and refers to presented arguments.	P7S_UK1
Un_ZJO_U_03	A student uses a wide range of literature in a foreign language, including specialist literature relevant to philosophical anthropology.	P7S_UW1
SOCIAL COMPETENCIES		
Un_ZJO_K_01	A student recognises the importance of knowledge and skills in a foreign language and the culture of the country whose language they are learning for their professional development and functioning in society.	P7S_KK2

IV. Course Content

<p>The aim of the course is to introduce participants to the most significant philosophical responses to the central question of philosophical anthropology: <i>What is the nature of the human being?</i> During the course, we will examine the most influential philosophical theories addressing this issue. The course will focus on the following topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Two general visions of the human being: naturalism vs. anti-naturalism. 2. The human being as an immortal soul. 3. The human being as an immaterial mind. 4. The human being as a brain (body). 5. The human being as a natural entity and as one who transcends nature. 6. The human being as free / determined. 7. The human being as naturally good / evil. 8. Human life as meaningful / meaningless. <p>The final list of topics may be adjusted in accordance with the participants' interests.</p>

V. Didactic methods used and forms of assessment of learning outcomes

Symbol	Didactic methods (choose from the list)	Forms of assessment (choose from the list)	Documentation type (choose from the list)
KNOWLEDGE			
Un_ZJO_W_01	Essay	Assessed essay	Assessed essay
SKILLS			
Un_ZJO_U_01	Essay	Assessed essay	Assessed essay
Un_ZJO_U_02	Discussion	Observation	Assessment chart
Un_ZJO_U_03	Essay	Assessed essay	Assessed essay
SOCIAL COMPETENCIES			
Un_ZJO_K_01	Discussion	Observation	Assessment chart

VI. Grading criteria, weighting factors.....

The final grade will be based on two components:

1. Participation in discussion

For each session in which a student actively engages in the discussion, they will receive one plus (+). Accumulating three pluses is equivalent to a top mark (5 / “very good”).

2. Final paper

As a culmination of the course, students are expected to write a short final paper (up to 10,000 characters) on a topic of particular personal interest. To ensure the paper is the student’s own work, they will be asked to present it in class as a brief talk. The final grade for the paper will be an average of two equally weighted components: the written text (50%) and the oral presentation (50%).

The overall course grade will be the arithmetic mean of the grades for participation and the final paper.

VII. Student workload

Form of activity	Number of hours
Number of contact hours (with the teacher)	30
Number of hours of individual student work	30

VIII. Literature

Basic literature
Anthony Kenny, <i>A New History of Western Philosophy</i> , Oxford: Oxford University Press 2010.
Thomas Nagel, <i>What Does It All Mean? A Very Short Introduction to Philosophy</i> , Oxford: Oxford University Press 1987.
Julian Baggini, <i>The Pig That Wants to Be Eaten: 100 Experiments for the Armchair Philosopher</i> , London: Granta Books 2005.
Additional literature
Will be delivered during the course.