The course consists of a weekly session of two hours and will be run as a research seminar. Sessions will typically have the following format:

1. 10-15 min: Short introduction to the topic by the teacher.
2. 20 min: Oral presentation by a student.
3. 90-85 min: Open discussion of the text.

You are expected to prepare for the seminars by having closely read the assigned readings and also to attend and participate in the sessions.

What should you have achieved by the end of the course?

- **Knowledge:** You should possess a profound knowledge of the current state of the art concerning the three main topics of the course.
- **Independence in Research:** You should be able to formulate an original/creative research question, develop a well-defined research approach and set up a well-organized research plan concerning one or several aspects of the topics.
- **Written Skills:** You should be able to write an original, clearly written and well-structured research paper following your research plan.
- **Oral skills:** You should be able to present and systematically defend orally the results of your research, stating with clarity your personal standpoint concerning the topics.

**Previous Knowledge**

Knowledge of analytic philosophy and especially of epistemology will be useful, but by no means required. If students without enough background in analytic philosophy have difficulty in following the contents or the style of the course texts, individual or group tutoring sessions will be scheduled during office hours.

**Evaluation**

**Grade:**

- 70% Research paper.
- 30% Presentation and participation.

**Presentation:**

You are expected to give a presentation on the topic of one of the scheduled sessions. The presentation will be 20 min long, where approximately half of the presentation must be devoted to presenting the topic and the other half to giving original arguments for or against some of the thesis or accounts related to the topic.

There are two main motivations for making you give this kind of presentation: (1) this is a standard format of presentation in analytic philosophy, especially during PhD; (2) the presentation may serve as a starting point for the research paper.

You may choose the topic/session you want. The schedule of the presentations will be decided during the first sessions of the course.
Research paper:
You are expected to write a research paper (min. 3000 – max. 3500 words long) on one or several topics of the seminar. In your research paper you may:

(1) Give positive arguments for a philosophical thesis.
(2) Critically assess one or several theories seen during the course.

In both cases, you are expected to present original arguments written with rigor and clarity. Papers will be graded according to the following three criteria:

(1) **Originality** (whether the main points or arguments are novel).
(2) **Argumentative rigor** (whether the paper shows philosophical rigor, e.g., does it have a sufficiently identifiable structure?, is it well-reasoned?).
(3) **Clarity of exposition** (whether the main points and arguments can be understood).

The main motivation for making you write a research paper according to these three criteria is that you develop an argumentative style when writing philosophy (keep in mind that analytic philosophy aims to enhance rigor and clarity in thought and to avoid obscurantism).

Although not mandatory, it is highly advisable that before starting to write the research paper you discuss with me the chosen topic and the planned structure of the paper.

**Note on evaluation:**
If you don't attend the course as required or don't give a presentation, you will receive the result 'not taken' (NA). In case you cannot, for well-founded reasons, attend class as required, you will be given a make-up assignment (for example, a reading report on the material covered in the seminar session which you missed). In the case you cannot, for serious reasons and regularly or for a long period of time, attend class as required or in case you cannot, for serious reasons, give a presentation on a scheduled date, you need to inform the examination ombudsperson.

**Course Sessions & Readings**

A reader will be available for purchase from NFK's *cursusdienst*. In addition, you will receive electronic copies of complementary course material.

**Session 1. Introduction: The Analysis of Knowledge and the Gettier Problem**

**Part I. Luck (Sessions 2-4)**

**Session 2. The Modal Account of Luck**

*Mandatory reading:*


**Session 3. The Lack of Control Account of Luck**

*Mandatory reading:*


**Session 4. Skill and Luck**

*Mandatory reading:*


*Complementary readings for Part I:*


Part II. Epistemic Luck (Sessions 5-6)

Session 5. The Notion of Epistemic Luck

Mandatory readings:

Session 6. Against the Anti-Luck Intuition

Mandatory reading:

Complementary readings for Part II:

Part III. Epistemic Agency (Sessions 7-13)

Session 7. The Notion of Intellectual Virtue

Mandatory reading:

Complementary readings:
Session 8. The Situationist Challenge to Virtue Epistemology

**Mandatory readings:**


**Complementary readings:**


Session 9. The Credit Theory of Knowledge

**Mandatory reading:**


**Complementary readings:**


Session 10. Pragmatic Virtue Epistemology

**Mandatory reading:**


**Complementary readings:**


Session 11. Bi-Level Virtue Epistemology

**Mandatory reading:**


**Complementary readings:**


Session 12. Modal and Virtue Epistemologies Combined

**Mandatory reading:**


**Complementary readings:**

**Session 13. The Achievement Account of Knowledge**

*Mandatory reading:*


*Complementary readings:*


**Background Readings in Epistemology**


(Finite exhaustive and useful companion to epistemology; available at HIW Library)


(An accessible encyclopedia of philosophy)


(If you are looking for an introduction to epistemology, check this one; all the basics you need are there)


(Journal that publishes survey articles for the non-specialist)


(The most exhaustive encyclopedia of philosophy)

**Readings that Will Save You Time**

*Before reading the first assigned paper:*

➢ Pryor, J. Guidelines on Reading Philosophy

*Before preparing your presentation:*

➢ Koksvik, O. Giving a Talk in Philosophy

*Before starting to write your paper:*

➢ Pryor, J. Guidelines on Writing a Philosophy Paper

*After writing your paper:*

➢ Proofreading Checklist

*During the whole course (and especially when writing your paper):*