

COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY

Institute/Division Social Science Centre

Erasmus subject code: 08.1

Number of contact hours: 15

Course duration: 1 semester

ECTS credits: 2

Course description: This course introduces students to the fundamental

ideas and problems of Western philosophy. What is philosophy? — its subject, aims and methods; historical and systematic approach. Philosophy and sciences; what is left for philosophy today. An outline of the main problems of the theory of knowledge (epistemology). Metaphysics as the widest theory of reality. The idea of Cosmos, the idea of soul and the idea of God. Conscious mind, self and their place in the universe. Ethics and the art of living. Three kinds of ethical theory: virtue ethics, deontology and consequentialism. Happiness, good

life and the meaning of life.

Literature: Stroll A., Popkin R., Introduction to Philosophy,

London 1990

Nagel T., What Does It All Mean?, Oxford 1987. Solomon R. C., A Short History of Philosophy, 1996.

Course type: Lectures and seminars

Assessment method: Active attendance and final essay/presentation

Prerequisites: none

Primary target group: all students

Lecturer: Marek Pyka, Assoc. Prof., PhD

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Remarks: