



## INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY AND PHILOSOPHY OF CONSCIOUSNESS

<b>Credit points</b>	<b>3 CP</b>		
<b>Study course annotation</b>	The course of Philosophy is designed to provide students with an understanding of the subject of Philosophy, its functions, contemporary issues, history and concepts of key ideas, and provides knowledge of the specifics of Philosophy and science.		
<b>Aim of the study course</b>	To introduce students with the fundamental problems of Philosophy and with the directions and traditions of Philosophy, which help to understand the common and the different in Philosophy, natural sciences and social sciences.		
<b>Objectives of the course</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to introduce students to the specifics of philosophy, using similarities and differences in the description of philosophical concepts, and using examples from the fields of science, religion and the arts;</li> <li>• to show the evolution of philosophical ideas, the different stages and directions of philosophy;</li> <li>• to form students' understanding of the specifics of contemporary philosophical analysis in relation to various problems, ideas and theories.</li> </ul>		
<b>Study course results</b>	<b>Knowledge</b>	<b>Skills</b>	<b>Competences</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to know the history of the concepts of the main classical and post-classical philosophy;</li> <li>• to know the specifics of philosophical analysis (analysis of ideals, problems, norms, conceptual models);</li> <li>• to know what is common and what is different in natural and social sciences;</li> <li>• to know the specifics of scientific explanation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to operate with the concepts of Philosophy and to orientate in the evolutionary tendencies of philosophy;</li> <li>• ability to demonstrate the relationship between scientific theory and its empirical substantiation;</li> <li>• to analyze trends in knowledge development based on modern methods and scientific achievements;</li> <li>• to apply philosophical cognitions about the problems of the modern world.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to participate in discussions about asymmetry between everyday and philosophical and theoretical conceptions of professional problems; ability to communicate during discussions and polemics about understanding sociology and consciousness and developing appropriate argumentation.</li> <li>• to participate in discussions about the basis of human and human life in a spiritual-moral understanding within the systemic view of the world.</li> </ul>
<b>Study course content</b>	<b>Topics</b>		
	1	Relationship between philosophy and science. Ordinary, artistic, religious and scientific understanding of the world	
	2	Two models of scientific activity; evolution of cognitive ideals and norms: from antiquity to the present	
	3	Renaissance as an artistic, philosophical, scientific and religious ideological movement.	
	4	The essence of cognition and its method. Two trends in modern Philosophy: Empiricism	



		and Rationalism
	5	The problem of causality and human nature: Rationalism and Mechanism in human understanding in modern Philosophy.
	6	Problems of knowledge and consciousness. Critical method of knowledge analysis. I. Kant on the duality of facts and norms
	7	H. Hegel's logical idealism; a return to pre-Kantian traditions: an essentialist approach and the development of philosophy as a system.
	8	The crisis of classical rationalism in the development of human concepts; irrational Philosophy of the second half of the 19th century. Human problem and "philosophy of life". Philosophy of existentialism
	9	K. Popper's critical rationalism; evolutionary epistemology. True and reliable knowledge.
	10	D. Dennett's philosophy of consciousness; the concept of intentionality as an explanatory strategy for a person.
	11	Social objects (structures and activities) and their complexity: accounting for variability in public opinion, role of individuals and leaders,
	12	Principles and methods of social reality cognition; personality and masses.
<b>Form of assessment:</b>	Exam	
<b>Obligatory literature:</b>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Kosso P. Reading the book of nature: an introduction to the philosophy of science. Cambridge. USA. 1992. P.51-69</li> <li>2. Kūle M., Kūlis R. Filosofija. R., 1996.</li> <li>3. Teichman J., Evans K. Philosophy: A Beginners Guide, 3rd Ed., Wiley-Blackwell. 1999. Parts 1,2,4,6.</li> <li>4. Rasels B. Filozofijas problēmas. Rīga: SIA "Jāņa Rozes apgāds", Rīga, 2008.</li> </ol>		
<b>Further reading list:</b>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Popper K. A. Evolutionary Epistemology // Evolutionary Theory: Paths into the Future /Ed. by J. W. Pollard. John Wiley &amp; Sons. NY, 1984.</li> <li>2. Dennett D. Kinds of Minds: Towards an Understanding of Consciousness. UK, 1996.</li> <li>3. Chalmers D. The Conscious Mind. // Search of a Fundamental Theory. Oxford University Press, 1996.</li> </ol>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Pajares F. A Synopsis from the original. Philosopher's WEB Magazine.</li> <li>2. <a href="http://www.philosophersnet.com">http://www.philosophersnet.com</a></li> </ol>		
<b>Changes and additions to the program and literature list are possible during the study process</b>		