

WEA Course information sheet

2019-20



Adult Learning Within Reach

Course title: Philosophy - What Can We Know?		Course ID: C2342632
Start date: 24/04/2020	End date: 19/06/2020	Day(s)/time(s): Fri 13:15
Number of sessions: 7	Hours per session: 2	Tutor Bettina Lange
Additional hours:	Online Learning Hours: 0	
Specific funder/partner requirements:		
Awarding body (if any):		Level: Level 2
Title of qualification to be gained:		
Fee: £56.00 or Free if you are in receipt of an income related benefit (only SFA funded) Accreditation Fee (if applicable):		
Venue: WEA, The Mill, Lodge Lane, Derby, Derbyshire, DE1 3HB		
Theme(s): The WEA has four themes it uses for planning its provision. Employability – helping students to get a job or to make progress in their employment Health and Wellbeing – making a positive contribution to their own or others health and wellbeing Community Engagement – encouraging students to be positively involved in their communities Culture – learning about diverse cultures, identities and environments The Theme(s) used in planning your course is/ are: 1. Culture Education 2.		

<p>Course Aim</p> <p>Most people have asked themselves what we can really know. This course introduces students to key philosophical debates about what we can know and gives them the opportunity to practise and refine their thinking and debating skills.</p>
<p>Course Description</p> <p>This course gives students the opportunity to explore philosophical debates what we can know and some of the attempted answers. Knowledge of philosophy is not expected, only curiosity and a willingness to think. The course will cover: the meaning of “I don’t know” – subject, person, practical task; observational knowledge – experiential learning and philosophical analysis; influential philosophical theories of knowledge – scepticism, realism, phenomenism, idealism; knowledge as “justified true belief” and critiques; Popper and falsifiability; types of knowledge: from experience; abstract; knowledge as pattern or habit; practical knowledge; wisdom; the limits of (human) knowledge – to include theories arguing that limits are socially constructed (e.g. Sara Hardin) and theories positing structural limitations to human knowledge (logical – self-referential systems problem – or neurological); wisdom – to start from Aristotelian understanding.</p>
<p>Do I need any particular skills or experience?</p>
<p>What will I achieve?</p> <p>By the end of the course I will be able to:</p>

1. Explain at least two different meanings of 'knowledge'.
2. Give an outline of at least two different philosophical theories of knowledge.
3. Give examples of at least two different types of knowledge.
4. State which arguments regarding what we can know you find more and less convincing – one each, with reasons for your view.
5. Give an account of an insight gained or a view or judgement better expressed or expressed differently as a result of the course.

What teaching methods will be used and will there be work outside of the class?

- The WEA tutor will use a range of different teaching and learning methods and encourage you and the group to be actively involved in your learning

What kind of feedback can I expect from the tutor?

- A range of informal activities will be used by the tutor to see what you are learning which may include quizzes, question and answer, small projects and discussion
- You will be encouraged to share your work with the group and discuss your learning
- You will be encouraged to consider other students work and give your opinions and suggestions

What else do I need to know? Is there anything I need to bring?

- It would be helpful if you had access to the internet (Mobile phone, tablet or computer at home or through a library etc.)

Pre-course work, reading and information sources

- No pre reading or pre course work is required
- suggested :

B Dupre, 50 Philosophy Ideas you really need to know (Quercus) chapters 1 – 6, 33

N Fearn, Philosophy. The latest answers to the oldest questions ((Atlantic Books 2005), ch 5 a 10

Possible next steps after this course (including career opportunities if appropriate)

- Progress to another WEA course
- Progress to a course with another provider
- Become involved with the WEA in a range of voluntary work and other activities including campaigning as a WEA member
- Internet Encyclopaedia of Philosophy (online), 'knowledge' and 'epistemology'
- Stanford Encyclopaedia of Philosoph (online), 'knowledge', 'epistemology', 'wisdom'

Learning with the WEA

WEA courses increasingly make use of the rich variety of educational tools and material available on the internet and from digital devices. The WEA's digital learning platform, Canvas will play an increasing role in all WEA courses to provide resources or support, or to conduct lessons, enable assessment, provide learner feedback and for other activities for individuals away from the course. It is helpful, although not essential if you have access to a computer or smartphone to support your course.

You can read about your entitlements and responsibilities as a WEA student in our leaflet, Student Handbook here <http://www.wea.org.uk/learn-wea/student-support> This includes information on fees,

learning support and financial support. As part of your course you accept our Learning Agreement and Privacy Notice. Full details of the Learning Agreement and privacy notice can be found on our website at <http://www.wea.org.uk/policies>. This applies to all courses you take in this academic year.

You can enrol online for some courses <http://www.wea.org.uk/learn-wea/course-search> or contact: WEA Support Services, Suite 10B Joseph's Well, Hanover Way, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS3 1AB
Tel: 0300 303 3464 Email: courseenquiries@wea.org.uk



Education & Skills
Funding Agency



European Union
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