Course Code Course Name Semester Theory Practice Lab Credit ECTS Analysis Philosophical

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PH426

Texts

Admission Requirements

Language of Instruction Turkish Course Type Elective

Course Level

Prerequisites

Bachelor Degree

-The primary objective of this course which constitutes the second segment of the "Philosophical Texts" is to further students' in-depth understanding of Adam Smith's Theory of Moral Sentiments through a detailed exploration of the latter sections of the work. Building on the foundational knowledge gained in the first semester, the course will focus on Smith's treatment of moral judgments, the effects of utility, custom, and fashion on moral sentiments, as well as his discussion of virtue and systems of moral philosophy.

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Objective

This semester will guide students in examining complex ideas related to the nature of merit, justice, self-command, and virtue, as well as how Smith's work fits within broader philosophical debates of his time and its relevance to contemporary moral philosophy. Students will critically engage with Smith's thought by analyzing its intersections with thinkers such as Hume, Rousseau, and Kant, while also considering its influence on modern discussions of ethics and political theory.

Through careful textual analysis, discussion, and written assignments, students will continue to develop their skills in deciphering philosophical texts, evaluating moral arguments, and articulating nuanced interpretations. By the end of the course, students will have enhanced their ability to contextualize and critique philosophical ideas, leading to the development of independent philosophical inquiry.

-This course continues the detailed examination of Adam Smith's Theory of Moral Sentiments, focusing on the latter sections of the text. Students will explore Smith's discussions on the influence of utility, custom, and fashion on moral judgments, as well as his reflections on the nature of virtue and the different systems of moral philosophy. Building on the foundations established in the first semester, this part of the course will delve deeper into Smith's treatment of concepts such as justice, prudence, self-command, and the character of virtue.

In addition to the close reading of the text, the course will further examine Smith's place within the philosophical and historical context of the Scottish Enlightenment, considering how his ideas intersect with the thought of contemporaries like Hume and Rousseau. We will also reflect on how Smith's moral philosophy has influenced later ethical and political theory, considering modern applications of his ideas in areas such as moral psychology, economic theory, and political philosophy.

Content

Key topics will include:

- * The role of utility in moral approbation
- * The effects of custom and fashion on moral judgments
- * The influence of fortune on the sense of merit and demerit
- * Smith's systematization of virtue, including prudence, justice, and beneficence
- * Comparative analysis with other moral systems and thinkers
- * Connections between moral philosophy and political economy

The course will combine lectures, interactive discussions, and critical textual analysis, encouraging students to refine their analytical skills and apply philosophical concepts to contemporary moral and societal issues. Through assignments and research projects, students will be able to further develop their understanding of Smith's moral philosophy in relation to both historical and modern contexts.

References

The primary source for this course will be Adam Smith's The Theory of Moral Sentiments, studied in three languages: English (original), French, and Turkish. The English and French versions will be provided to students in PDF format. Students are expected to acquire the Turkish version, available at local bookstores. Additionally, some visual aids, such as images, will be used to contextualize the historical and philosophical background of the text. While the course is centered around this key work, minimal external sources may be required.

Theory Topics

Week **Weekly Contents**

- 1 Introduction to The Theory of Moral Sentiments * Overview of Adam Smith and his era * Key themes and objectives of the text
- Part One: Of the Propriety of Action * Section I: Of the Sense of Propriety * Section II: Of the Degrees of the Different Passions 2 Which Are Consistent with Propriety
- 3 Part One (continued) * Section III: Of the Effects of Prosperity and Adversity on the Judgment of Mankind
- 4 Guest Lecture by Maximilien Kistler * The place of consciousness in a material world

Week	Weekly Contents
5	Part Two: Of Merit and Demerit * Section I: Of the Sense of Merit and Demerit * Section II: Of Justice and Beneficence * Section III: Of the Influence of Fortune on Sentiments of Mankind
6	Guest Lecture by Jean-Baptiste Brenet * Relationship between Sharia and Philosophy in Averroes
7	Part Three: Of the Foundation of Our Judgments Concerning Our Own Sentiments and Conduct * Chapter I - III: Introduction to the sense of duty
8	(Ramadan Feast)
9	Guest Lecture by Pauline Nadrigny * Esthetics
10	Guest Lecture by Marion Vorms * Epistemology
11	Part Three (continued): Of the Foundation of Our Judgments Concerning Our Own Sentiments and Conduct * Chapter IV - VI: Conclusion of Part Three
12	Part Four and Part Five * Part Four: Of the Effect of Utility upon the Sentiment of Approbation * Part Five: Of the Influence of Custom and Fashion upon Sentiments of Moral Approbation
13	Part Six: Of the Character of Virtue * Section I - III: Of Prudence, the Character of the Individual, and Self-Command
14	Part Seven: Systems of Moral Philosophy * Section I - IV: Overview of various moral systems and theories of virtue