

PIU 11014 — Topics in Philosophy I B

Module Information	
Module Code	PIU11014
Module Title	Topics in Philosophy I B
Department	Philosophy
Year Group	Junior Freshman
Module Personnel	Dr. James Levine Dr. Jamie Turner
Academic Year	2026-27
Credit Weighting	5 ECTS
Semester	2
Contact Hours	22 hours of lectures and four hours of tutorials

Module Content	
Module Description	Component 1—Intentionality. The purpose of this module is to examine the nature of intentionality—of what it is to think about an entity. We will discuss such issues as: In what sense, if any, can we think of what does not exist? How much do we need to know about an entity, in order to think of it? How is our ability to think about entities properly explained? Component 2—The Good Life. This module aims to examine different philosophical answers to the question of what constitutes the good life; what it means to live well. In examining this central question, we will explore Western traditions such as that of Aristotle, Stoicism, Epicureanism, Christianity, and the non-Western perspectives, including Confucianism and Islam.
Module Learning Aims	The aim of Component 1 is to introduce students to issues and debates regarding the nature of intentionality and the

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	role that views of intentionality have played in the history of philosophy. The aim of Component 2 is to introduce students to different philosophical perspectives and ways of thinking about the nature of the good life and what it means to live well.
Learning Outcomes	Component 1 learning outcomes: —Articulate what the issue of intentionality is. —Critically evaluate competing theories of intentionality. —Identify some ways in which different views of intentionality have figured throughout the history of philosophy. Component 2 learning outcomes: —Understand differing philosophical conceptions of living well. —Articulate competing perspectives on the nature of the good life. —Critically evaluate the different models of living-well found in the traditions explored.
Indicative Reading / Resources	Component 1: The readings, which will be available online, will include a mix of contemporary discussions from earlier figures in the history of philosophy. For a good introduction to some of the issues we will be discussing, see Tim Crane, <i>Objects of Thought</i>, Chapter 1. Component 2:

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	All the reading materials for the module will be made available online. Students will be expected to engage with primary source material on each of the traditions explored, though secondary readings will be recommended throughout. Here is a good place to start in preparation for the module: <i>The Good Life: Hackett Readings in Philosophy</i> (1999).
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Assessment

Assessment Components	One essay (50%). In-person exam (50%).
Assessment Details	While students can choose which component their essay concerns, their exam answer must concern the component on which they did not write their essay. Word-limit for the essay: 1,000 words. Final exam: One hour.

Additional Information

Prerequisites	None.
Co-requisites	None.