

PIU11022 — Central Problems in Philosophy B (Knowledge & Reality)

Module Information	
Module Code	PIU11022
Module Title	Central Problems in Philosophy B: Knowledge & Reality
Department	Philosophy
Year Group	Junior Freshman
Module Personnel	Dr. Julian Bacharach
Academic Year	2026-27
Credit Weighting	5 ECTS
Semester	2
Contact Hours	2x lectures per week + 4x tutorials

Module Content	
Module Description	This module will offer a general introduction to some of the most fundamental questions about our knowledge of the world (philosophy) and our place in it (metaphysics).
Module Learning Aims	Students will become familiar with the key topics in metaphysics and epistemology listed below, as well as developing core philosophical skills of critical thinking and argumentation.
Learning Outcomes	Topics studied in the first half of the module include: the nature of knowledge, external world scepticism, the problem of induction, and the rationality of belief in God. The second half of the module will cover the topics: consciousness, the self and personal identity, free will and determinism, and race.
Indicative Reading / Resources	An accessible introduction to many of the topics to be covered over the course is Thomas Nagel, <i>What Does it All Mean?</i>



Assessment	
Assessment Components	Exam and Participation.
Assessment Details	Two-hour exam worth 85% and participation worth 15%.

Additional Information	
Prerequisites	None.
Co-requisites	None.