

LFILO2940

2010-2011

Seminar on philosophy of the social sciences

5.0 credits

30.0 h

2q

Teacher(s) :	Dedeurwaerdere Tom ; Maesschalck Marc ;
Language :	Français
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Main themes :	The seminar will deal with a topic in the area of the philosophy of the human sciences to be determined by its members in relation to research projects they are currently involved in. Active participation in discussions is strongly encouraged. Professors and researchers from the UCL who are interested in the topic and specialists in the topic from outside the UCL are invited to participate in the seminar.
Aims :	Upon successful completion of the seminar the student should be able :
	To conduct research into a topic in the area of the philosophy of human sciences based on a critical analysis of major works and texts by authors who are dealing with that topic, and also based on contributions presented in the framework of the seminar;
	To write a scientific paper on a precisely delimited research topic that is germane to the topic of the seminar ;
	To participate actively in cooperative research in the philosophy of the human sciences, especially through participation in discussions of contributions made within the framework of the seminar; The contribution of this Teaching Unit to the development and command of the skills and learning outcomes of the programme(s) can be accessed at the end of this sheet, in the section entitled "Programmes/courses offering this Teaching Unit".
Content :	Reflexive Theory of Collective Action : From Philosophical Pragmatism to Radical Phenomenology The emergence of various forms of non-state collective action has changed the conventional approach to look at public institutions. Examples of these are collective action through self-regulation and co-regulation in domains such as the Internet and faire trade; and direct forms of negotiation between consumers and producers to promote sustainable development. This change also had consequences both on contemporary political philosophy and in theory development in the human and social sciences. The objective of the seminar is to analyze the theoretical underpinnings of these new forms of collective action. First, the seminar will present the new epistemological framework that emerged in contemporary philosophy of human and social sciences, in response to these developments. This framework combines elements both from contemporary philosophical pragmatism and from radical epistemology. In a second step, the seminar will apply this framework to the critical evaluation of the modes of production of new norms in various case studies. Topics of the seminar
	 1. Introduction : the role of non-state collective actors in governance
	2. Impediments to non-state collective action
	The history of privatisation of public goods from the 1980ies
	Changes in social norms and social activism
	3. Options/models to improve upon the current situation
	Vertical forms of control of representative democracy
	Horizontal forms : network governance, commons and other intermediary organizations
	4. Critical evaluation of the modes of production of new norms
	The pragmatist criticism of the positivist approach to collective action
	Pragmatist self-understanding of validity of norms in communities of practice
	Phenomenological approach toward the validity of norms
	The genetic approach in theory of governance
	5. Implications of the epistemological analysis for organizing and evaluating research in the social and human sciences

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Bibliography :	Key references of the seminar
	TEXTE 1 : Dedeurwaerdere, T. 2007. Théories de la gouvernance et société de l'information : introduction.
	 TEXTE 2 : Putnam, H. Fait/Valeur. Chapitre 2 : L'enchevêtrement des faits et des valeurs, pp. 37-54.
	 TEXTE 3 : Husserl, E. 1972 (ed. originale 1923-1924). Philosophie Première 1 : le positivisme de Hume, pp. 226-232.
	 TEXTE 4 : Husserl, E. 1972 (ed. originale 1923-1924). Philosophie Première 2 : le second chemin de l'ouverture de la sphère d'expérience transcendantale, pp. 203-211.
	TEXTE 5 : Lenoble, J. et M. Maesschalck. Synthesis Report 2. Gouvernance Réflexive : quelques clarifications et approfondissements de la quatrième approche (approche génétique), pp. 14-19.
	TEXTE 6 : Tom Dedeurwaerdere et Marc Maesschalck, 'Autorégulation, éthique procédurale et gouvernance de la société de l'information', in Les Carnets du Centre de Philosophie du Droit, n°91, 2001.
	TEXTE 7 : Tom Dedeurwaerdere, 'Bioprospection, gouvernance de la biodiversité et mondialisation', in Les Carnets du Centre de Philosophie du Droit, n°104, 2003.
	TEXTE 8 : Dedeurwaerdere, T. 2010. The Contribution of Network Governance to overcoming frame conflicts. Other References Used in the Seminar
	Anheir, H.K. 2005. Nonprofit organizations. Theory, management, policy. Abingdon: Routledge.
	 Hunold Ch. and Dryzek, J. 2005. Green Political Strategy and the State: Combing Political Theory and Comparative History. In: The State and the Global Ecological Crisis, ed. J. Barry and R. Eckersley. MIT Press, pp. 75-96.
	 Keane, J. 2009. The life and death of democracy. New York: Norton.
	Malena, C. 2009. From political won't to political will. Building support for participatory governance. Sterling, VA: Kumarian Press.
	ostrom, E. 2007. Understanding Institutional Diversity. Princeton: Princeton university Press.
	Putnam, H. 2004. Ethics without ontology. Harvard : Harvard University Press.
	Von Weizsäcker E.U., O. Young, and M. Finger. 2005. Limits to Privatization. How to avoid too much of a good thing. London : Earthscan
Other infos :	Evaluation: Evaluation of performance will be based on a paper written by the student and on participation in seminar discussions.
Cycle and year of study :	> Master [120] in Philosophy > Master [120] in Ethics
Faculty or entity in charge:	EFIL