UCLouvain

## Economic, Political and Social Ethics

3 credits

lespo1321

2017

20.0 h + 10.0 h

Q2

Teacher(s)	Zwarthoed Danielle ;			
Language :	French			
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve			
Main themes	Inevitably perhaps within economic and social debate, there is constant confusion between empirical comments, theoretical statements and value judgments. The course tries to teach students how to clarify this debate by distinguishing the various types of question, by clarifying the criteria which, for each type, should enable them to decide between competing positions, and examines how the value judgments which underlie the debate can themselves be the subject of a rigorous discussion.			
Aims	This course gives students a synthetic and critical outline of the principal contemporary approaches to economic and social ethics. In this way, and through the effective use of analytical tools with which they are provided, the course aims to help students to take a critical and informed position towards the ethical issues which arise in the broad field covered by the economic, social and political sciences.			
Evaluation methods	<ul> <li>can be accessed at the end of this sheet, in the section entitled "Programmes/courses offering this Teaching Unit".</li> <li>evaluation is based on (i) collaborative, written, assignments during the term (ii) a final exam including both a multiple choice questionnaire and a reflection question</li> </ul>			
Teaching methods	the first part of the course will consist of a series of lectures by the teacher, along with texts to read ahead of class. The second part aims to put in practice the knowledge acquired during the first through flipped classrooms and jigsaws. Each student is assigned to an 'expert group', and each expert group specializes in one specific theory. Expert groups are assigned readings to go deeper into their 'area of expertise'. Then, each expert group shares its expertise with other groups. Afterwards, students will work on assignments involving the application of ethical theories to practical cases. These assignments will be evaluated by their peers.			
Content	lectures will expound the main contemporary theories in economic, social and political ethics: utilitarianism, libertarianism, Marxism, liberal egalitarianism, the capability approach, communitarianism, feminist theories and the philosophy of Human Rights. Practical cases will focus on ethical problems pertaining to the environmental crisis, social policies, the funding of education, migratory flows. We will insist on thec way each ethical theory would argue in favour of a specific position.			
Bibliography	Christian Arnsperger & Philippe Van Parijs, Ethique économique et sociale, Paris : La Découverte, & Syros ("Repères n°300), 2000 Will Kymlicka, Les théories de la justice : une introduction, Paris : La Découverte, 1999. C. McKinnon, Issues in Political Theory, Oxford University Press, 2008			
Faculty or entity in charge	ESPO			

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)					
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Aims	
Master [60] in Philosophy	FILO2M1	3		٩	
Bachelor in Human and Social Sciences	HUSO1BA	3		٩	
Teacher Training Certificate (upper secondary education) - Philosophy	FILO2A	3		٩	
Bachelor in Sociology and Anthropology	SOCA1BA	3		٩	
Master [120] in Ethics	ETHI2M	3		٩	
Bachelor in Political Sciences: General	SPOL1BA	3		٩	
	ETES9CE	3		٩	
Bachelor in Economics and Management	ECGE1BA	3		٩	
Master [120] in Philosophy	FILO2M	3		٩	
Bachelor in Business Engineering	INGE1BA	3		٩	
Minor in Sustainable Development	LDVLD100I	3		٩	
Minor in Management (ESPO students)	LGESB100I	3		٩	