UCLouvain

lppe1102

2019

Logic, Language & Politics

In view of the health context linked to the spread of the coronavirus, the methods of organisation and evaluation of the learning units could be adapted in different situations; these possible new methods have been - or will be - communicated by the teachers to the students.

5 credits	30.0 h	Q2

Teacher(s)	Reuchamps Min ;Verdée Peter ;
Language :	English
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Main themes	The topics approaches in this class will include: - A quick overview of classical first order logic - A quick overview of the standard philosophical analysis of language: syntax, semantics and pragmatics; reference, meaning and use. - A selection of topics in modal logics for agent interaction: deontic logic, action logic and epistemic logic. - A selection of topics in speech act theory. - An analysis of how language operates in politics, e.g. the definition of rules of language use and how politicians seek to influence the use of language; the role of ' different ' language(s) in political discussions and negotiations; the role of linguistic devices (such as deictic) and in particular metaphors in the formation of political opinions; the analysis of political discourse via linguistic and socio-linguistic approaches.

Aims	1 The skills acquired in this class will include:
	    - Mastering the basic concepts of logics and the key ideas in the contemporary philosophy of language
	    - Be able to understand the methods in discourse analysis
	    - Get some basic understanding of socio-linguistics
	    - Get an understanding of the role and importance of language in politics
	    - Be able to apply these concepts and methods to political objects
	    - Be able to understand how specific concepts from applied logic and philosophy of language can be used to better understand interactions between political actors.
	- - - -
	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".

Evaluation methods	**Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the information in this section is particularly likely to change.** The evaluation will be twofold: - a (possibly collaborative) work that students present during the course, - an oral exam.
Content	The following topics will be treated: - Basic concepts of logics and contemporary philosophy of language - The role and importance of language in politics - Some contemporary applications of logic (e.g. dynamic epistemic logic) and philosophy of language (e.g. speech act theory) to politics - Analysis of political discourse and of arguments in and about politics - Critical exploration of commonly used notions in and about current politics e.g. post-truth, bullshit, fake news, alternative facts, etc...
Faculty or entity in charge	ESPO

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)				
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Aims
Bachelor in Philosophy, Politics and Economics	PPE1BA	5		🔍