

## Course details

### Course title

Philosophy: Beginners Philosophy

### Course code

Q00016351

### Course date

Start: 25/09/24

End: 27/11/24

### Number of classes

10 sessions

### Timetable

Wed 25th Sep, 16:45 to 18:45

Wed 2nd Oct, 16:45 to 18:45

Wed 9th Oct, 16:45 to 18:45

Wed 16th Oct, 16:45 to 18:45

Wed 23rd Oct, 16:45 to 18:45

Wed 30th Oct, 16:45 to 18:45

Wed 6th Nov, 16:45 to 18:45

Wed 13th Nov, 16:45 to 18:45

Wed 20th Nov, 16:45 to 18:45

Wed 27th Nov, 16:45 to 18:45

### Tutor

Bettina Lange

### Fee:

£84.00

### How you'll learn

You'll join a small group of fellow learners for classes at the venue indicated. Some materials may be provided in our virtual learning environment.

Got it!

In venue

## Venue

WEA (Derby)

The Mill

Lodge Lane

Derby

DE1 3HB

## Qualification name & awarding organisation

Philosophy: Beginners Philosophy ()

## Level of study

Beginners

## Course overview

“Everyone has their own truth and their own values.”; “What counts as knowledge changes over time – for example, we no longer believe that the sun goes round the earth.” “Different societies have different moralities.” “People will never agree on how best to organise society.” Statements like these can be heard and read in public debates and on social media. The course uses philosophical ideas to explore 1. that how we think, which moral values we think we should follow and what we think is the best society to live in varies between individuals, cultures and historical periods 2. that it is not possible to reach agreement and 3. that if we all agreed our societies would be less vibrant and less worth living in. This is an introductory course, so no previous knowledge of Philosophy is expected.

## Course description

What counts as the truth, which moral values people should follow and how societies should be organised varies between individuals, cultures and historical periods. You often hear and read statements of this kind in public debates, everyday conversations and on social media – if for example someone says, “This is my truth”. These statements have also been examined in Philosophy, where they are known as ‘relativism’ because they assert that knowledge and morality are relative not absolute. The statements say that different and conflicting views on knowledge, morality and political principles are a fact of life – that such diversity cannot be reduced to one truth or morality or set of principles. Relativist arguments often also say that diverse (and conflicting) ideas and ways of life should be celebrated because they allow

individuals and cultures to follow what is right for them rather than having it imposed on them and because they make societies more vibrant and worth living in. The course will cover different forms of relativism - relativism about concepts and knowledge, cultural relativism, moral relativism, political pluralism, scepticism and postmodernism. If these terms don't mean anything to you now, don't worry. You are not expected to understand them at the beginning of the course and full explanations of the terminology will be provided. Part of learning about a new subject is learning the language used there. The different forms of relativism deal with a range of topics including gender, how people should be treated (for example that slavery was considered morally defensible but is generally not now), that scientific procedures change over time, or that different lifestyles are right for different people.

## **What financial support is available?**

We don't want anything to stand in your way when it comes to bringing Adult learning within reach so if you need anything to support you to achieve your goals then speak to one of our education experts during your enrolment journey. Most of our courses are government funded but if you don't qualify or need alternative financial help to access them then let us know.

## **What other support is available?**

All of our digital content, teaching and learning activities and assessments are designed to be accessible so if you need any additional support you can discuss this with the education experts during your enrolment journey and we will do all we can to make sure you have optimal access.

**Source URL:** <https://www.wea.org.uk/courses/humanities-science/philosophy/25-september-philosophy-beginners-philosophy>