

OMPU3112

PHILOSOPHY AND CURRENT ISSUES

SELF INSTRUCTIONAL
MATERIALS

ACADEMIC YEAR 2021

**FACULTY OF BUSINESS, HUMANITIES &
HOSPITALITY**

**MASTER IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
BANKING AND FINANCE**



COURSE

OVERVIEW



COURSE GUIDE DESCRIPTION

You must read this Course Guide carefully from the beginning to the end. It tells you briefly what the course is about and how you can work your way through the course material. It also suggests the amount of time you are likely to spend to complete the course successfully. Please refer to the course guide from time to time as you go through the course material as it will help you to clarify important study components or points that you might miss or overlook.

INTRODUCTION

OMPU3112 PHILOSOPHY AND CURRENT ISSUES is one of the courses offered at Nilai University for the Bachelor of Commerce in International Business program. This course is worth 3 credit hours and should be covered over 14 weeks in the long semester or 7 weeks in the short semester.

AIM OF THE COURSE

The course covers the relationship between philosophy with the Malaysian National Education Philosophy and Rukun Negara. The use of philosophy as a tool to purify the culture of thought in life through the arts and methods of thinking as well as the humanistic concept is at the core of the course. The main topics in philosophy are discussed in the context of current issues. Emphasis is given to philosophy as a basis for inter-cultural dialogue and fostering common values.

STUDY SCHEDULE

It is a standard practice that learners accumulate 40 study hours for every credit hour. As such, for a two-credit hour course, you are expected to spend 80 study hours. Table 1 gives an estimation of how the 80 study hours could be accumulated.

Study Activities	Study Hours
Briefly go through the course content and participate in initial discussions	9
Study the module	38
Attend tutorial sessions	9
Assignment(s) and Examination(s)	24
TOTAL STUDY HOURS ACCUMULATED	80

TABLE 1: Estimation of Time Accumulation of Study Hours

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOME

After completion of the module, students should be able to:

- Apply current issues based on philosophical knowledge, the Malaysian National Education Philosophy, and Rukun Negara.
- Discuss current issues based on the main thought streams in various philosophical branches.
- Explain current issues through comparative philosophical perspectives as a basis for intercultural dialogue.

COURSE SYNOPSIS

Topic 1: Introduction to Philosophy

This topic introduces the foundational role of philosophy in shaping individual values and national identity. It focuses on the National Education Philosophy (Falsafah Pendidikan Kebangsaan) and the Rukun Negara as key philosophical frameworks in Malaysia. Students will explore how these principles contribute to holistic human development, ethical behavior, and social harmony. The topic emphasizes the importance of integrating intellectual, spiritual, emotional, and physical aspects of development in fostering responsible and balanced citizens.

Topic 2: Philosophy in Life

This topic explores how philosophy influences everyday thinking, decision-making, and human behavior. It examines different philosophical orientations and their impact on individual perspectives, as well as the distinction between theoretical and practical philosophy. Students will also explore the emergence of new philosophical ideas in response to contemporary challenges. The topic highlights the relevance of philosophy in guiding ethical reasoning, critical thinking, and informed action in modern society.

Topic 3: Logic and Philosophy

This topic focuses on the role of logic in evaluating arguments and developing sound reasoning. It introduces the three main types of reasoning: deductive, inductive, and abductive. Students will learn how to construct valid arguments, draw conclusions from evidence, and identify the most plausible explanations in uncertain situations. The topic emphasizes the importance of logical thinking in problem-solving, decision-making, and academic inquiry.

Topic 4: Fallacies in Arguments

This topic examines common errors in reasoning known as fallacies, which can weaken arguments and lead to incorrect conclusions. It distinguishes between formal fallacies, which involve errors in logical structure, and informal fallacies, which arise from language, context, or content. Students will develop

the ability to identify and evaluate fallacies in everyday communication, media, and academic discourse, thereby strengthening their critical thinking and reasoning skills.

Topic 5: Psychology and Sociology (The Concept of Man, Part 1)

This topic explores the concept of man from philosophical, psychological, sociological, and religious perspectives. It examines human nature, origin, and purpose, as well as the roles individuals play in society. Students will compare different perspectives to develop a holistic understanding of human beings as rational, moral, and social entities. The topic also highlights the importance of integrating multiple perspectives in shaping a universal worldview.

Topic 6: Metaphysics (The Concept of Man, Part 2)

This topic extends the discussion of human existence by examining metaphysical concepts such as reality, existence, and the relationship between man, nature, the universe, and God. It explores ecological and cosmological perspectives, as well as the influence of ideologies on human thought and society. Students will critically analyze how these elements shape worldviews and human behavior, emphasizing the interconnectedness of all aspects of existence.

Topic 7: Epistemology

This topic focuses on the study of knowledge, including its nature, sources, and limitations. It explores key epistemological questions about truth, belief, and justification, as well as the relationship between knowledge, history, and science. Students will examine different sources of knowledge such as experience, reason, authority, and revelation, and evaluate their reliability. The topic emphasizes the importance of critical thinking in distinguishing between valid knowledge and misinformation.

Topic 8: Postmodern Relativism

This topic examines the shift from modern to postmodern thinking, focusing on the concept of relativism and the rejection of absolute truth. It compares intellectual and theological perspectives on knowledge and truth, and analyzes the characteristics of modern and postmodern ideologies. Students will evaluate the implications and challenges of postmodern relativism, including its impact on ethics, culture, and decision-making, and explore strategies for balancing diverse perspectives with critical reasoning.

Topic 9: Decolonization

This topic explores the process of decolonization and its significance in shaping modern societies. It examines the differences between colonization and decolonization, the historical development of

independence movements, and the factors that contributed to their emergence. Students will analyze the political, economic, and social impacts of decolonization, as well as the ongoing challenges faced by post-colonial nations. The topic highlights the importance of identity, autonomy, and self-determination in a global context.

PRIOR KNOWLEDGE

This is an introductory course. There is no prior knowledge needed.