

INSTITUTE OF PHILOSOPHY AND SOCIOLOGY
BULGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

APPROVED BY:

Director of IPS

Prof. DSc. Emilia Chengelova

PhD PROGRAMME IN
THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE
and Study Curriculum)

Academic Degree: PhD

Educational Unit: Department "Knowledge and Reality: Models, Methodologies and Heuristics" IPS-BAS

Professional Field: 2.3. Philosophy, Theory of Knowledge

Period of Study: from 3 to 5 years

Forms of Study: full-time study (3 years), part-time study (4 years), individual study (5 years)

General Information about the Program

The programme offers courses and tutorials for acquiring a PhD degree in the field of higher education 2. "Humanities", professional field 2.3. "Philosophy". It was granted accreditation by the NEAA on 17.07.2019 (Protocol №12) for a period of five years with an overall score of 9.14.

Program Profile

The program "Theory of Knowledge" at IPS, BAS offers a curriculum for a PhD degree in the field of epistemology. The study is focused on standard discussions in analytic epistemology related to the analysis of knowledge, theories of justification, the problem of skepticism, the nature of evidence, critical thinking, the cognitive contributions of individual cognitive faculties, including the faculty of imagination. Attention is given to different kinds

of knowledge, not necessarily propositional, such as knowledge-how, self-knowledge, knowledge via testimony, embodied and extended knowledge.

The program also offers a glance into new discussions in the field of epistemology related to topics of social epistemology such as the problem of peer disagreement, ethics and pragmatics of belief. The use of naturalised methodology combining philosophical reflection with research from the fields of cognitive science and neuroscience is encouraged. Doctoral students are included in projects and conferences of the Educational Unit. The department of "Knowledge and Reality: Models, Methodologies and Heuristics" offers excellent possibilities for publishing in high ranked philosophy journals.

Mission of the Programme

The PhD programme in Theory of Knowledge aims at developing professional skills for academic work in the field of epistemology. Our mission is to enable our students to participate on equal footing with their colleagues from prestigious global institutions in international conferences, to collaborate with international centers for epistemology, and to publish academic papers in high ranked international journals.

Graduates of the programme will be able to continue their academic career in the field of epistemology and related disciplines, such as the philosophy of mind. Thanks to the acquired competences they will be able to switch to other areas of philosophy if they want to. It is also our ambition to train specialists who will be able to participate in interdisciplinary projects together with cognitive scientists, neuroscientists, AI researchers, and experts in the field of education.

If PhD students do not intend to continue an academic career after their studies, they will acquire the ability to think analytically, to synthesize complex material, to thoroughly develop overall visions on a variety of topics - qualities that would promote them in various professional fields.

Professional Competences Acquired after Successful Graduation

PhD students in Theory of Knowledge acquire complex competencies for future academic careers in epistemology and possibly - in other areas of philosophy. They acquire the skills of in-depth understanding of complex philosophical texts, reconstruction of arguments, and the ability to build up original theses based on a complex material. Students in the programme will be trained to present their thesis in various academic formats. They will be consulted how to write philosophical articles that meet the international standards of high

ranked academic journals.

The program provides a flexible specialization allowing our PhD graduates to pursue careers in a larger set of spheres, e.g. within Government and public institutions, non-governmental organizations, AI development teams, as well as in the domain of human resources and evaluation of intellectual achievements.

STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMME

Professional Qualification: Philosophy

Qualification Level: PhD

Admission Requirements: Admission is based on the results of the PhD entrance exam on Epistemology.

Recognition of Previous Studies: Standard administrative procedure

Qualification Requirements and Qualification Rules: The study is based on a credit system. The PhD student is approved for pre-defence if he/she has accumulated at least 200 credits.

Number of Credits: 200 credits

The following activities give credits to PhD students:

1. Educational Programme (Mandatory minimum of 130 points)

1.1. Successful completion of examination in the subject of specialization, i.e. theory of knowledge- 40 points

1.2. Complementary courses in a relevant scientific field or in an interdisciplinary field related to the topic of the dissertation - 20 points with a minimum of 2 courses x 20 points = 40 points;

1.3. Successful completion of a language proficiency examination - 25 points;

1.4. Successful completion of computer skills exam - 25 points.

Number of Exams: 5 exams

Table 1: Educational curriculum

№	Name	Form of Evaluation	Credits	Academic Occupation	Extracurricular Occupation	Hours of Occupation
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						in Total
1	Basic Subject (Theory of Knowledge)	Exam	40	0	180	180
2	Complementary Course 1	Exam	20	30	130	160
3	Complementary Course 2	Exam	20	30	130	160
4	Language Course	Exam	25	120	Not Marked	120
5	Computer skills	Exam	25	30	Not Marked	30
Sum of Credits:			130	Hours of Employment, Total Sum :		650

2. MINIMAL REQUIREMENT (Mandatory minimum of 40 points)

Presentations at Conferences:

- 2.1. Presentation at the Department – 8 points
- 2.2. Presentation at a National Conference– 24 points
- 2.3. Presentation at an International Conference–32 points

3. ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS (MINIMUM 30 POINTS REQUIRED)

POINTS GIVEN FOR PUBLICATIONS MUST COVER THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE "RULES FOR ACQUIRING SCIENTIFIC DEGREES AND HOLDING SCIENTIFIC POSITIONS AT BAS", ADOPTED BY A DECISION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF BAS ON 20.05.2019.

Table 2: Number of points by indicators (Area 2. Humanities)

Groups of Indicators	Index	Number of Points
G	Monograph not submitted as a major habilitation work.	100
	Published book based on a defended PhD Thesis.	75
	Article in a peer-reviewed journal, indexed in world-renowned	30/n

	databases	
	Article in a non-peer-reviewed journal or in a collection of papers	10/n
	Longer Article (30+ pages) in a peer-reviewed journal, indexed in world-renowned databases	45/n
	Longer Article (30+ pages) in a non-peer-reviewed journal or in a collection of papers	15/n
	Published chapter of a collective monograph	20/n
	Editor of a Collection of Papers	40/n

Graduation requirements: Defense of doctoral dissertation

Opportunities for further study: Post-doctoral programs

Prepared by:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Marina Bakalova

COURSES

For the Phd Program in
THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE
at IPS-BAS

- 1. Course title.** INTRODUCTION TO ANALYTIC EPISTEMOLOGY
- 2. Type of course:** Optional (as part of general training in the relevant scientific field)
- 3. Level of the course:** for PhD students
- 4. Lecturer's name:** Assoc. Prof. Marina Bakalova

Employment	Form	Hours
Academic	Lectures	30
Employment	Seminars	0
General Academic Employment		30
Extracurricular	Individual Project	90
Employment	Study of Literature	40
General Extracurricular Employment		130
GENERAL EMPLOYMENT		160

№	Evaluation based on:	% of the score
	Participation in the Departmental Work	50
	Exam	50

SUMMARY OF THE COURSE:

The course provides a sufficiently detailed knowledge of contemporary analytical epistemology. Topics to be presented are the analysis of knowledge, theories of justification, the problem of skepticism, as well as various ramifications of contemporary epistemology: virtue epistemology, contextualism, naturalized epistemology, social epistemology, the ethics and pragmatics of belief, the epistemology of disagreement, and justification by imagination. Each topic can be presented with a variety of subtopics depending on the student's academic goals.

PRELIMINARY REQUIREMENTS:

General knowledge in the field of epistemology.

ACQUIRED SKILLS:

Doctoral students will be able to read with comprehension articles in the field of analytic epistemology and to navigate the latest discussions. The course also includes developing the ability to write well-structured articles with clear thesis and arguments according to the global standard in the field.

Contents of the Course:

№	Topic	Classes
1	The Analysis of Knowledge	2
2	The Problem of Skepticism	2
3	Theories of Epistemic Justification	2
4	Knowledge First Epistemology	2
5.	Epistemic Internalism and Externalism. The KK Principle vs. The Sensitivity Principle and The Safety Principle	2
6	The Nature of Evidence	2
7	Knowledge-How	2
8.	Self-Knowledge	2
9	Virtue Epistemology	2
10	The Value of Knowledge	2

11	Evolutionary Epistemology	2
12	Embodied Cognition	2
13	Social Epistemology	2
14	Peer Disagreement	2
15	Ethics and Pragmatics of Belief	2

Questions for the exam:

№	Question
1	<p style="text-align: center;">Analysis of Knowledge</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1.1. Knowledge as True and Justified Belief</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1.2. The Gettier Problem.</p> <p>- Steup, Matthias and Ram Neta, "Epistemology", <i>The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> (Spring 2024 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2024/entries/epistemology/>.</p> <p>- Ichikawa, Jonathan Jenkins and Matthias Steup, "The Analysis of Knowledge", <i>The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> (Summer 2018 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/sum2018/entries/knowledge-analysis/>.</p> <p>- Gettier, Edmund, 1963. "Is Justified True Belief Knowledge?", <i>Analysis</i>, 23: 121–123, [доступно онлайн].</p>
2	<p style="text-align: center;">Scepticism.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2.1. Academic Skepticism. Agrippa's Problem.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2.2. Cartesian Skepticism. The Skeptical Argument.</p> <p>Comesaña, Juan and Peter Klein, "Skepticism", <i>The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> (Spring 2024 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2024/entries/skepticism/</p>

	<p>Steup, Matthias and Ram Neta, "Epistemology", <i>The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> (Spring 2024 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2024/entries/epistemology/>, виж параграф 6.</p>
3	<p style="text-align: center;">Theories of Epistemic Justifications.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3.1 Foundationalism</p> <p>- Hasan, Ali and Richard Fumerton, "Foundationalist Theories of Epistemic Justification", <i>The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> (Fall 2022 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/fall2022/entries/justep-foundational/</p> <p>- Korcz, Keith Allen, "The Epistemic Basing Relation", <i>The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> (Spring 2021 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2021/entries/basing-epistemic/</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3.2.Coherentism</p> <p>Olsson, Erik, "Coherentist Theories of Epistemic Justification", <i>The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> (Winter 2023 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/win2023/entries/justep-coherence/</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3.3.Reliabilism</p> <p>Goldman, Alvin and Bob Beddor, "Reliabilist Epistemology", <i>The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> (Summer 2021 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/sum2021/entries/reliabilism/</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3.4.Contextualism</p> <p>- Rysiew, Patrick, "Epistemic Contextualism", <i>The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> (Winter 2023 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/win2023/entries/contextualism-epistemology/</p>

4	<p style="text-align: center;">Knowledge-First Epistemology</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Williamson, Timothy, 2000. <i>Knowledge and its Limits</i>, OUP.</p>
5	<p style="text-align: center;">Epistemic Internalism and Externalism. The KK Principle vs. The Sensitivity Principle and The Safety Principle</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-Pappas, George, "Internalist vs. Externalist Conceptions of Epistemic Justification", <i>The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> (Spring 2023 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2023/entries/justep-intext/</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Comesaña, J., 2005. "Unsafe Knowledge," <i>Synthese</i>, 146(3): 395–404.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Sosa, E., 1999. "How to Defeat Opposition to Moore," <i>Noûs</i>, (Supplement: Philosophical Perspectives, 13, Epistemology) 33: 141–153.</p>
6	<p style="text-align: center;">The Nature of Evidence</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Kelly, Thomas, "Evidence", <i>The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> (Winter 2016 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/win2016/entries/evidence/</p>
7	<p style="text-align: center;">Knowledge-How</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pavese, Carlotta, "Knowledge How", <i>The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> (Fall 2022 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/fall2022/entries/knowledge-how/</p>
8	<p style="text-align: center;">Self-Knowledge</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Gertler, Brie, "Self-Knowledge", <i>The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> (Winter 2021 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/win2021/entries/self-knowledge/</p>
9	<p style="text-align: center;">Virtue Epistemology</p>

	<p>Turri, John, Mark Alfano, and John Greco, "Virtue Epistemology", <i>The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> (Winter 2021 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/win2021/entries/epistemology-virtue/</p>
10	<p style="text-align: center;">The Value of Knowledge</p> <p>Pritchard, Duncan, John Turri, and J. Adam Carter, "The Value of Knowledge", <i>The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> (Fall 2022 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/fall2022/entries/knowledge-value/</p>
11	<p style="text-align: center;">Evolutionary Epistemology</p> <p>Bradie, Michael and William Harms, "Evolutionary Epistemology", <i>The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> (Spring 2023 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2023/entries/epistemology-evolutionary/</p> <p>Radnitzky, G. and W. W. Bartley. 1987, <i>Evolutionary Epistemology, Theory of Rationality and the Sociology of Knowledge</i>, LaSalle, Ill: Open Court.</p>
12	<p style="text-align: center;">Embodied Cognition</p> <p>Shapiro, Lawrence and Shannon Spaulding, "Embodied Cognition", <i>The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> (Winter 2021 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/win2021/entries/embodied-cognition/.</p> <p>Lakoff, G. and M. Johnson. 1999. <i>Philosophy in the Flesh: the Embodied Mind and its Challenge to Western Thought</i>. New York: Basic Books.</p>
13	<p style="text-align: center;">Social Epistemology</p> <p>O'Connor, Cailin, Sanford Goldberg, and Alvin Goldman, "Social Epistemology", <i>The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> (Summer 2024 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), forthcoming URL = https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/sum2024/entries/epistemology-social/</p> <p>Haddock, A., A. Millar, and D. Pritchard. (eds.) 2010. <i>Social Epistemology</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press.</p>
14	<p style="text-align: center;">Peer Disagreement</p>

	<p>Frances, Bryan and Jonathan Matheson, "Disagreement", <i>The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> (Spring 2024 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2024/entries/disagreement/</p> <p>Feldman, R. and T. Warfield.(eds.) 2010. <i>Disagreement</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press.</p>
15	<p style="text-align: center;">Ethics and Pragmatics of Beliefs</p> <p>Chignell, Andrew, "The Ethics of Belief", <i>The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> (Spring 2018 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2018/entries/ethics-belief/</p> <p>Matheson, J. and R. Vitz. (eds.) 2014. <i>The Ethics of Belief</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press.</p>

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