COURSE SYLLABUS

Filosofia della Scienza

1819-2-E2401P064

Learning area

INTERDISCIPLINARY COMPETENCES

Learning objectives

Knowledge and understanding

- What is a science
- Reasoning and explanation in science
- Scientific theories and truth
- Theory-change
- Philosophy of psychiatry

Applying knowledge and understanding

- Critical analysis of papers
- Discussion of ideas and assumptions in philosophy and science
- Philosophical reflections on the current status of the sciences of mental disorder

Contents
Lalumera (40 hours)

First part, basic notions. What is science, models of scientific explanation, reasoning in science, realism and antirealism, scientific revolutions. Second part, application to the philosophy of psychiatry. Competing models of mental disorder, medicine and culture in mental disorders, issues about contemporary diagnostic classifications.

Redondi (16 hours): Nature and culture of time.

**Detailed program**

**Lalumera:**

- to what extent science resembles or differs from other ways of knowing.
- How can one characterize scientific explanation?
- philosophical accounts of scientific theory-change, including falsificationism and paradigm changes.
- the scientific realism debate, concerning whether and to what extent scientific theories tell us what really exists.
- In the second part of the course, we focus on topics in the philosophy of psychiatry
  - the nature of mental illness versus physical illness
  - its relation to values, society, and brain sciences
  - current classifications of mental disorders

**Redondi:** Time as demon and guardian angel. Linearity and circularity of time. Human time: sundial and hour glasses. From Kronos to Father Time. The descent of Time on the earth. Mechanical clock, The temporality of the whole.

**Prerequisites**

none

**Teaching methods**

Lectures, analysis of texts and images

**Assessment methods**

Written test

5 open questions on the first part (Lalumera), maximum grade 26
2 open questions prof. Redondi, maximum grade 4 (you can take the two tests on different days if you prefer). Final grade in the sum of the two parts, but it is necessary to score more than 0 in the Redondi part, in order to pass the exam.

Oral colloquium is optional

Textbooks and Reading Materials