

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

### CONTEMPORARY ETHICAL ISSUES

Academic year 2025-2026

#### 1. Programme-related data

1.1. Higher Education Institution	Babeş-Bolyai University
1.2. Faculty	Faculty of History and Philosophy
1.3. Department	Doctoral School of Philosophy
1.4. Field	Philosophy
1.5. Level of study	Doctoral
1.6. Degree programme / Qualification	Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) (Level 8 CNC/EQF)
1.7. Form of education	Full-time, Part-time

#### 2. Course-related data

2.1. Course title	<b>Contemporary ethical issues</b>			Course code	<b>SDF09</b>
2.2. Course coordinator	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Imre Ungvári-Zrínyi				
2.3. Seminar coordinator	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Imre Ungvári-Zrínyi				
2.4. Year of study		2.5. Semester		2.6. Type of assessment	Exam
2.7. Course status	Optional		2.8. Course type		Specialisation subject

#### 3. Total estimated time (hours per semester of teaching activities)

3.1. Number of hours per week	<b>3</b>	of which: 3.2. course	<b>2</b>	3.3. seminar/ laboratory/ project	<b>1</b>
3.4. Total of hours in the curriculum	36	of which: 3.5. course	24	3.6. seminar/ laboratory	<b>12</b>
<b>Time allocation for individual study (IS) and self-taught activities (ST)</b>					<b>hours</b>
Learning from textbooks, course materials, bibliography, and notes (IS)					70
Additional research in the library, on subject-specific electronic platforms, and on-site					60
Preparing seminars/ laboratories/ projects, assignments, reports, portfolios, and essays					40
Tutoring (professional guidance)					30
Examinations					6
Other activities					8
<b>3.7. Total hours of individual study (IS) and self-taught activities (ST)</b>				<b>214</b>	
<b>3.8. Total hours per semester</b>				<b>250</b>	
<b>3.9. Number of credits</b>				<b>10</b>	

#### 4. Prerequisites (where applicable)

4.1. curriculum-related	
4.2. skills-related	

#### 5. Specific conditions (where applicable)

5.1. course-related	Mandatory attendance at 70% of the total course hours.
5.2. seminar/laboratory-related	Active participation in the process of interpreting texts.

#### 6.1. Competencies resulting from the completion of the degree programme

Professional competencies	
Competency code	Competency



<b>PC1</b>	a) advanced knowledge in the field of Philosophy; b) the ability to identify, formulate, and solve research problems in a creative manner; c) mastery of advanced research methods and techniques in Philosophy.
<b>PC4</b>	i) academic-level language skills in international languages necessary for research and the preparation of scientific papers;
<b>PC5</b>	h) the ability of understanding and to apply the principles and values of research ethics in the field of Philosophy.
<b>Transversal competencies</b>	
<b>Competency code</b>	<b>Competency</b>
<b>TC2</b>	d) interpersonal and teamwork skills; f) knowledge of career management, as well as the acquisition of techniques for job searching and for creating jobs for others.
<b>TC3</b>	h) knowledge of critical thinking, including the ability to analyze, interpret, or formulate arguments in different contexts; i) knowledge regarding the use of legislation in the field of intellectual property rights

## 6.2. Learning outcomes relevant to the degree programme

<b>Learning outcomes targeted by the subject</b>		
<b>Competency code</b>	<b>Knowledge and comprehension</b>	<b>Specific academic skills</b>
<b>PC1</b>	1. The doctoral student demonstrates knowledge at the most advanced level in the field of Philosophy.	1. The doctoral student possesses and applies the most advanced and specialized skills and techniques, including the ability to synthesize and evaluate, required for solving critical research problems in Philosophy.
<b>PC4</b>	2. i) academic-level language skills in international languages necessary for research and the preparation of scientific papers;	2. a) written and oral communication skills in the fields of science and culture; b) advanced language competencies in international languages, including the ability to express and formulate ideas in multicultural and multilingual contexts;
<b>PC5</b>	3. h) understanding and the ability to apply the principles and values of research ethics in the field of Philosophy;	3. i) knowledge regarding the use of legislation in the field of intellectual property rights.
<b>TC2</b>	...	...
<b>TC3</b>	...	...

## 7. Subject-specific learning outcomes

<b>Knowledge and comprehension</b>
1. The doctoral student demonstrates knowledge at the most advanced level in the field of Philosophy.
2. The doctoral student demonstrates advanced knowledge at the boundaries between different socio-human fields.
3. (Responsibility and autonomy) The doctoral student demonstrates a high level of authority, innovation, autonomy, and scientific and professional integrity
4. ...
<b>Specific academic skills</b>
1. The doctoral student possesses and applies the most advanced and specialized skills and techniques, including the ability to synthesize and evaluate, required for solving critical research problems in Philosophy.
2. The doctoral student possesses and applies innovation skills for extending and redefining existing knowledge or professional practices in the socio-human fields.
3. (Responsibility and autonomy) The doctoral student demonstrates sustained commitment to developing new ideas or processes at the forefront of a work or study context, including research.

## 8. Contents



8.1. Course	Teaching and learning methods	Remarks <sup>1</sup>
1. Aspects of the Moral Phenomenon I. Theories of the Moral Subject 1.Aspects of the moral phenomenon in the Anthropocene. Everyday morality	Lecture, PowerPoint presentation, discussion	We pay special attention to questions raised by students, explanations, and examples.
2. Rethinking ethical perspectives and contexts	Lecture, PowerPoint presentation, discussion	
3. Horizon experience, horizon expansion, and action	Lecture, PowerPoint presentation, discussion	
4. The problematics of the moral subject: given conditions, insufficiencies, and projects	Lecture, PowerPoint presentation, discussion	
<b>II. Theories of the Moral Community</b> 5. The problematics of the moral community: given conditions, insufficiencies, and projects	Lecture, PowerPoint presentation, discussion	
6. Networks and fields of social cooperation	Lecture, PowerPoint presentation, discussion	
7. Justice – the conditions of recognition, entitlement, and deprivation	Lecture, PowerPoint presentation, discussion	
<b>III. Theories of Social Cooperation</b> 8. Bio- and psychopolitics, normalization, subjectivation	Lecture, PowerPoint presentation, discussion	
9. Problems of mechanisms and coexistence (algorithms, markets, institutional systems, technology, AI)	Lecture, PowerPoint presentation, discussion	
10. Problems of lifetime: temporal organization, time management, attention management, shared time (quality time, care), past and future	Lecture, PowerPoint presentation, discussion	
11. Problems of life interweaving: birth, healthy and pathological life processes, life experiences, quality of life, caregiving	Lecture, PowerPoint presentation, discussion	
12. Problems of life interweaving: coexistence with other humans with bio-psycho-social needs	Lecture, PowerPoint presentation, discussion	
13. Problems of life interweaving: coexistence with non-human beings	Lecture, PowerPoint presentation, discussion	
14. Problems of life interweaving: coexistence with ecosystems, the planet, and the universe	Lecture, PowerPoint presentation, discussion	
<p><b>Bibliography</b>  Badiou, Alain: <i>A század</i> [Le siècle]. Typotext, Budapest, 2010.  Benhabib, Seyla: Az általánosított és a konkrét másik: a Kohlberg-Gilligan vita és a feminista elmélet [The generalised and the concrete other]. <i>Kellék</i>, 40 (2010), 111-138.  Bernet, Rudolf: A tudattalan tudat Husserlnél és Freudnál [Unconscious consciousness in Husserl and Freud]. <i>Imago</i>, 2012/3, 3-24.  Carr, David: <i>Time, narrative, and history</i>. Indiana University Press, Bloomington, Indianapolis, 1991.  Deleuze, Gilles: Egy filozófiai fogalom [Un concept filosofic]. <i>Pompeji</i> 1994/1-2, 229-236.  Deleuze, Gilles-Guattari, Felix: The Desiring-machines-The Body without Organs-The Subject and Enjoyment. In: Gilles Deleuze-Félix Guattari: <i>Anti-Oedipus. Capitalism and Schizophrenia</i>, University of Minnesota Press Minneapolis, 2000, 8-22.  Deleuze, Gilles-Felix Guattari: Hogyan készítsünk magunknak szervek nélküli testet? [Cum să ne confecționăm trup fără organe] <i>Theatron</i>, 2007/ ősz-tél, 38-49.  Foucault, Michel: Bio-politika és bio-hatalom [Bio-politică și bio-putere]. <i>Pompeji</i>, 1992./1, 118-129.</p>		

<sup>1</sup> For example, organisational aspects, recommendations for students, specific aspects relating to the course/seminar, such as inviting experts in the field, etc.

- Foucault, Michel: A szubjektum makrodinamikája. A szubjektum és a hatalom [Macrodinamica subiectului. Subiectul și puterea]. In: *Pompeji*, 1994/ 1-2, 77-187.
- Foucault, Michel: Az önmagáság technikái [Tehnici ale sinelui]. In: M. Foucault: *Nyelv a végtelenhez* [Limba la infinit], Latin Betűk, Debrecen 2000. 345-369.
- Foucault, Michel: Lecture at the Collège de France on 6 January 1982. In: Foucault, Michel: *The hermeneutics of the subject: lectures at the Collège de France, 1981–1982*, Palgrave Macmillan, London, New York, 2005, 1-24.
- Gadamer, Hans-Georg: *Igazság és módszer. Egy filozófiai hermeneutika vázlata* [Adevăr și metodă. Schița unei hermeneutici filosofice]. Gondolat, Budapest, 1984.
- Gilligan, Carol: *In a Different Voice: Psychological Theory and Women's Development*. Harvard University Press, 1993.
- Guattari, Félix. De la production de subjectivité. In: *Chimères*. Revue des schizoanalyses, N°4, hiver 1987. pp. 1-19.
- Habermas, Jürgen: *A kommunikativ etika. A demokratikus vitákban kiérlelődő konszenzus és társadalmi integráció politikai-filozófiai elmélete* [Etica comunicativă]. Új Mandátum, Budapest, 2001.
- Heidegger, Martin: *Lét és idő* [Fiitță și timp]. Gondolat, Budapest, 1989.
- Honneth, Axel: *Elismerés és megvetés. Tanulmányok a kritikai társadalomelmélet köréből* [Recunoaștere și detestare. Studii din sfera teoriei critice a societății]. Jelenkor, Pécs, 1997.
- Honneth, Axel: *Harc az elismerésért. A társadalmi konfliktusok morális grammatikája* [Luptă pentru recunoaștere. Grammatica morală a conflictelor sociale]. L'Harmattan, Budapest, 2013.
- Husserl, Edmund: *Karteziánus elméletek. Bevezetés a fenomenológiába* [Meditații carteziene. O introducere în fenomenologie], Atlantisz, Budapest, 2000.
- Lacan, Jacques: A bizonyosság szubjektumáról [Despre subiectul certitudinii]. *Kellék*, 2016 (55), 19–29.
- Margalit, Avishai: *The Decent Society*. Cambridge, London: Harvard University Press, 1996.
- Margalit, Avishai: *The Ethics of Memory*. Cambridge, London: Harvard University Press, 2004.
- Rawls, John: *Az igazságosság elmélete* [O teorie a dreptății]. Osiris, Budapest, 1997
- Singer, Peter (ed.) *Tratat de etică* [A Companion to Ethics], Editura Polirom, Iași, 2006.
- Steinbock, Anthony: *Home and Beyond: Generative Phenomenology After Husserl* []. Northwestern University Press, Evanston, IL, 1995.
- Taylor, Charles: *The Ethics of Authenticity*. Harvard University Press Cambridge, Massachusetts and London, England, 2003.
- Tengelyi László: *Élettörténet és sorseseemény* [Istoria vieții și eveniment providențial]. Atlantisz, Budapest, 1998.
- Tengelyi László: Tapasztalat és önhasadás [Experiență și segmentarea sinelui]. *Világosság*, 2003/7–8, 137-150.
- Ullmann Tamás: Az intencionalitás új paradigmája [Noua paradigmă a intenționalității], *Kellék* 36 (2008). 7-22.
- Waldenfels, Bernhard: Felelet arra, ami idegen. Egy rezponzív fenomenológia vázlata [Răspuns la ceea ce este străin. Schița unei fenomenologii responsive]. *Gond*, 20. 1999. 5-17.
- Waldenfels, Bernhard: *A normalizálás határai. Tanulmányok az idegen fenomenológiájáról* [Limitele normalizării. Studii despre fenomenologia străinului]. Gond-Cura Alapítvány, Budapest, 2005.
- Walzer, Michael: Zsarnokságok és igazságos társadalmak [Tiranii și societăți drepte]. In: Horkai Hörcher Ferenc (szerk.): *Közösséglvő politikai filozófiák* [Filozofii politice comunitariste]. Századvég, Budapest, 2002, 43-54.

8.2. Seminar/ laboratory	Teaching and learning methods	Remarks
1. Bruno Latour: Ágencia az antropocén korában, In: PRAE 2017/1, 3–20.; J. Baird Callicott: Environmental Ethics in the Anthropocene, <i>Transtext(e)s Transcultures</i> , 13   2018, 1-20. Christian U. Becker: Ethical underpinnings for the economy of the Anthropocene, <i>Ecological Economics</i> 211 (2023), 1–7.	Text interpretation, discussion	
2. Larry R. Churchill: A morális tapasztalat dimenziói, <i>Etika mindenkinek: Készség alapú megközelítés</i> , Pallas Athéné, 2020, 23–44.;	Text interpretation, discussion	
3. Liangkang Ni: Horizontal-Intention: Time, Genesis, History – Husserl's Understanding of their Immanent Relationship, In: Dieter Lohmar and Ichiro Yamaguchi (Eds.): <i>ON TIME - new contributions to the husserlian phenomenology of time</i> , Springer, Dordrecht-Heidelberg-London-New York,	Text interpretation, discussion	



Text interpretation, discussion 2010, 187-211.; Text interpretation, discussion		
4. Husserl, Edmund: Negyedik Text interpretation, discussion elmékedés. A transzcendentális ego kon Text interpretation, discussion stitúciós problémájának kifejtése. I Text interpretation, discussion n: Husserl, Edmund: Kartezianus elmékedések. Bevezetés a fenomenológiába, Humanitas, București, 1994., pp. 97-122.; Deleuze, Gilles: Egy filozófiai fogalom. Pompeji 1994/1-2, 229-236.; Lacan, Jacques: A bizonyosság szubjektumáról. Kellék, 2016 (55), 19-29.	Text interpretation, discussion	
5. Ronald McIntyre: "We-Subjectivity": Husserl on Community and Communal Constitution, In: Christel Fricke-Dagfinn Føllesdal (Eds.): Intersubjectivity and Objectivity in Adam Smith and Edmund Husserl, Frankfurt: Ontos Verlag, 2012, pp. 61-92.; Merleau-Ponty, Maurice: A másik észlelése és dialógus (a La prose du monde című műből). Helikon, 2007/1-2, 157-170.; Steinbock, Anthony: Liminal Experience as Appropriation: Making ourselves at Home. In: Anthony Steinbock: Home and Beyond: Generative Phenomenology After Husserl. Northwestern University Press, Evanston, IL, 1995. 186-219.	Text interpretation, discussion	
6. Fritjof Capra: Az élet szövődése, In: Modus Vivendi Magazin, 16, 2014, február, 1-8.; Manuel Castells: Előhang: A hálózat és az én [Prologue: the Net and the Self]; 3. Hálózati vállalkozások: az információs gazdaság kultúrája, intézményei és szervezetei, In: Manuel Castells: A hálózati társadalom kialakulása I., Budapest, Gondolat Kiadó, 2005, 33-64.; Matthew Wall-Smith: A hálózati társadalom: kognitív környezetváltás?. Információs Társadalom III, 3-4. szám (2003): 62-72.; Dimitrios Schizas-George Stamou: Network rethinking of nature and society, Ludus Vitalis, vol. XIII, num. 24, 2005, pp. 55-82.	Text interpretation, discussion	
7. Rawls, John: Az igazságosság elmélete. Osiris, Budapest, 1997, 11-13, 21-42, 506-521, 667-678.; Walzer, Michael: Zsarnokságok és igazságos társadalmak. In: Horkai Hörcher Ferenc (szerk.): Közösségelvű politikai filozófiák. Századvég, Budapest, 2002, 43-54.; Ricoeur, Paul: Az igazságosság ítélőszékeinek pluralitása. In: Horkai Hörcher Ferenc (szerk.): Közösségelvű politikai filozófiák. Századvég, Budapest, 2002, 251-270.; Honneth, Axel: Az interszubjektív elismerés mintái:	Text interpretation, discussion	

<p>szeretet, jog, szolidaritás, In: Honneth, Axel: <i>Harc az elismerésért. A társadalmi konfliktusok morális grammatikája.</i> L'Harmattan, Budapest, 2013, 91–129.</p>		
<p>8. Foucault, Michel: <i>Bio-politika és bio-hatalom [Biopolitică și bioputere]</i>, Pompeji, 1992/1, 118-129 ; Foucault, Michel: <i>Lecture at the Collège de France on 6 January 1982.</i> In: Foucault, Michel: <i>The hermeneutics of the subject: lectures at the Collège de France, 1981–1982</i>, Palgrave Macmillan, London, New York, 2005, 1-24.; Byung-Chul Han: <i>Pszichopolitika: A neoliberalizmus és az új hatalomtechnikák</i>, Typotex, 2020.</p>	Text interpretation, discussion	
<p>9. Polányi Károly: <i>Piac és természet; A piac és a termelés szervezete; Szabadság egy összetett társadalomban</i>, In: Polányi Károly: <i>A nagy átalakulás. Korunk gazdasági és politikai gyökerei</i>, Budapest, Napvilág, 2004.; Herbert A. Simon: <i>Altruizmus és közgazdaságtan</i>, In: <i>Magyar Tudomány</i>, 1995., január, 21-29.; Jason W. Moore: <i>Anthropocene or Capitalocene? Nature, History, and the Crisis of Capitalism</i>, In: Jason W. Moore (Ed.): <i>Anthropocene or Capitalocene? Nature, History, and the Crisis of Capitalism</i>, Kairos-PM Press, Oakland, 2016, 1-11.</p>	Text interpretation, discussion	
<p>10. Ricoeur, Paul: <i>Az én és az elbeszélte azonosság.</i> In: Ricoeur, Paul: <i>Válogatott irodalomelméleti tanulmányok</i>, Osiris, Budapest, 1999, 373–412. ; Tengelyi László: <i>Élettörténet és önazonosság.</i> In: <i>Élettörténet és sorseseemény</i>, Atlantisz, Budapest, 1998. 13-48.; Rüdiger Safranski: <i>Idő - Amit velünk tesz, és amivé mi tesszük</i>, Budapest, Typotex Kiadó, 2017.</p>	Text interpretation, discussion	
<p>11. Virginia Held: <i>Ethics of Care as Moral Theory; Care as Practice and Value; The Caring Person</i>, In: Virginia Held: <i>The Ethics of Care. Personal, Political, and Global.</i> Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2006, 9-57.; Kiss Kata Dóra: <i>Hogyan azonosul a nőiség a természettel</i>, In: <i>Kellék</i>, 66 (2021), pp. 37-53; Cockburn, Tom: <i>A feminista gondoskodási etika és a gyerekek</i>, In: <i>Esély</i> 2009/3, 3-22.;</p>	Text interpretation, discussion	
<p>12. Carol Gilligan: <i>Woman's Place in Man's Life Cycle</i>, In: Carol Gilligan: <i>In a Different Voice. Psychological Theory and Women's Development</i>, Harvard University Press Cambridge, Massachusetts, and London, England, 2003, 5–23.; Mészáros Csaba: <i>Kié az antropocén? A globális klímaváltozás antropológiai szemlélete</i>, In: <i>Replika</i> nr. 113, 145-164.</p>	Text interpretation, discussion	

<p>13. Karen J. Warren: Az ökológiai feminizmus ereje és ígérete. In: Lányi András-Jávor Benedek (szerk.): Környezet és etika. Szöveggyűjtemény. L'Harmattan, Budapest, 2005. 272-296.; Rosi Braidotti: Állatok és más anomáliák, In: <i>Imago</i>, 2023/12, 10-24.</p>	<p>Text interpretation, discussion</p>	
<p>14. Michel Serres: A természeti szerződés, Budapest, Kijárat, 2021; Lynn Margulis: Az együttélés bolygója. Az evolúció új megközelítése, Budapest, Vince Kiadó Kft., 2000, Theodore Roszak: Ahol Psyché és Gaia találkozik, In: <i>Imago</i>, 2019/8., 23-36.</p>	<p>Text interpretation, discussion</p>	
<p><b>Bibliography</b>          Braidotti, Rosi: Állatok és más anomáliák, In: <i>Imago</i>, 2023/12, 10-24.          Callicott, Baird: Environmental Ethics in the Anthropocene, <i>Transtext(e)s Transcultures</i>, 13   2018, 1-20. Christian U. Becker: Ethical underpinnings for the economy of the Anthropocene, <i>Ecological Economics</i> 211 (2023), 1-7.          Capra, Fritjof: Az élet szövedéke, In: <i>Modus Vivendi Magazin</i>, 16, 2014, február, 1-8.          Churchill, Larry R.: A morális tapasztalat dimenziói, <i>Etika mindenkinek: Készség alapú megközelítés</i> [Ethics for Everyone: A Skills-Based Approach], Pallas Athéné, 2020, 23-44.          Foucault, Michel: Lecture at the Collège de France on 6 January 1982. In: Foucault, Michel: <i>The hermeneutics of the subject: lectures at the Collège de France, 1981-1982</i>, Palgrave Macmillan, London, New York, 2005, 1-24.          Foucault, Michel: Bio-politika és bio-hatalom, <i>Pompeji</i>, 1992/1, 118-129.          Han, Byung-Chul: <i>Pszichopolitika: A neoliberalizmus és az új hatalomtechnikák</i>, Typotex, 2020          Held, Virginia: Ethics of Care as Moral Theory; Care as Practice and Value; The Caring Person; In: Virginia Held: <i>The Ethics of Care. Personal, Political, and Global</i>. Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2006, 9-57.          Moore, Jason W. (Ed.): <i>Anthropocene or Capitalocene? Nature, History, and the Crisis of Capitalism</i>, Kairos-PM Press, Oakland, 2016          Polányi Károly: <i>A nagy átalakulás. Korunk gazdasági és politikai gyökerei</i>, Budapest, Napvilág, 2004.          Serres, Michel: <i>A természeti szerződés</i>, Budapest, Kijárat, 2021.</p>		

## 9. Evaluation

Type of activity	9.1 Evaluation criteria <sup>2</sup>	9.2 Evaluation methods <sup>3</sup>	9.3 Percentage in the final grade
9.4. Course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Proper acquisition and correct application of the taught knowledge</li> <li>- Mastery and correct application of concepts related to moral thinking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assessment is based on participation in discussions during the semester and the final exam at the end of the semester.</li> </ul>	
9.5. Seminar/ laboratory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Active participation in text interpretation</li> <li>- Active participation in discussions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assessment takes place during the semester, based on active participation in text interpretation, as well as involvement in discussions and conversations.</li> </ul>	

<sup>2</sup> The evaluation criteria must directly reflect the learning outcomes targeted at the level of the degree programme respectively at the level of the subject. More specifically, the learning outcomes set out in the expected learning outcomes are assessed.

<sup>3</sup> Both final evaluation methods and ongoing evaluation strategies should be established.



### 9.6 Minimum standard for passing

- 70% attendance at lectures and seminars
- Active participation in text interpretation
- Active participation in discussions and conversations

Date of entry:  
June 2025

Signature of course coordinator

Signature of seminar coordinator

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Imre Ungvári-Zrínyi

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Imre Ungvári-Zrínyi

Date of approval in the department:  
July 2025

Signature of the head of department

Prof. dr. Frunză Mihaela-Cornelia