



ЦЕНТЪР ЗА ОБУЧЕНИЕ – БАИ

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Course Title: **Introduction to Analytic Epistemology**

Annotation (up to 150 words)

The aim of this lecture course is to provide PhD students with a solid introduction to contemporary analytic epistemology. The course will present and critically examine major topics, together with their central problems and debates, including the analysis of knowledge, theories of epistemic justification, and the problem of skepticism. It will also explore several influential developments in contemporary epistemology, such as virtue epistemology, contextualism, naturalized epistemology, social epistemology, the ethics and pragmatics of belief, the epistemology of disagreement, and epistemic justification through imagination.

Course content (brief description by topics or modules)

Topic / Module 1: Analysis of Knowledge

Topic / Module 2: Skepticism

Topic / Module 3: Theories of Epistemic Justification

Topic / Module 4: Knowledge First

Topic / Module 5: Epistemological Internalism and Externalism

Topic / Module 6: The Nature of Evidence

Topic / Module 7: Practical Knowledge

Topic / Module 8: Self-Knowledge

Topic / Module 9: Virtue Epistemology

Topic / Module 10: The Value Problem of Knowledge

Topic / Module 11: Evolutionary Epistemology

Topic / Module 12: 4E Cognition

Topic / Module 13: Social Epistemology

Topic / Module 14: The Problem of Disagreement

Topic / Module 15: Ethics and Pragmatics of Belief

Teaching and assessment methods

Lectures, discussion, project work, literature review, final exam



Competencies acquired as a result of training (3–5 points)

Upon completing the course, doctoral students will be able to read and critically engage with scholarly literature in analytic epistemology and to navigate current debates in the field. The course also aims to develop their ability to write well-structured, rigorously argued academic papers in accordance with the international standards of peer-reviewed and indexed philosophical journals.

Literature:

Analysis of Knowledge

1.1. Knowledge as Justified True Belief

1.2. The Gettier Problem

- Steup, Matthias and Ram Neta, "Epistemology", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Spring 2024 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2024/entries/epistemology/>.
- Ichikawa, Jonathan Jenkins and Matthias Steup, "The Analysis of Knowledge", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Summer 2018 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/sum2018/entries/knowledge-analysis/>.
- Gettier, Edmund, 1963. "Is Justified True Belief Knowledge?", *Analysis*, 23: 121–123, [available online].
- Karageorgieva, A., Angelova-Elchinova, M., Nachev, K. (eds.) (2023) *Introduction to Epistemology: An Anthology*, St. Kliment Ohridski University Press, see Section I.
- Karageorgieva, Aneta, 2013. *Introduction to Contemporary Theory of Knowledge*. Sofia: Proektoria.

Skepticism

Academic Skepticism. The Agrippan Problem.

Cartesian Skepticism. The Skeptical Argument in Contemporary Epistemology.

- Comesaña, Juan and Peter Klein, "Skepticism", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Spring 2024 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2024/entries/skepticism/>
- Steup, Matthias and Ram Neta, "Epistemology", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Spring 2024 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2024/entries/epistemology/>, see paragraph 6.
- Karageorgieva, A., Angelova-Elchinova, M., Nachev, K. (eds.) (2023) *Introduction to Epistemology: An Anthology*, St. Kliment Ohridski University Press, see Sections I and III.

Theories of Epistemic Justification

3.1. Foundationalism



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- Hasan, Ali and Richard Fumerton, "Foundationalist Theories of Epistemic Justification", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Fall 2022 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/fall2022/entries/justep-foundational/>
- Korcz, Keith Allen, "The Epistemic Basing Relation", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Spring 2021 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2021/entries/basing-epistemic/>

3.2. Coherentism

- Olsson, Erik, "Coherentist Theories of Epistemic Justification", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Winter 2023 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/win2023/entries/justep-coherence/>

3.3. Reliabilism

- Goldman, Alvin and Bob Beddor, "Reliabilist Epistemology", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Summer 2021 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/sum2021/entries/reliabilism/>

3.4. Contextualism

- Rysiew, Patrick, "Epistemic Contextualism", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Winter 2023 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/win2023/entries/contextualism-epistemology/>
- Karageorgieva, A., Angelova-Elchinova, M., Nachev, K. (eds.) (2023) *Introduction to Epistemology: An Anthology*, St. Kliment Ohridski University Press, see Sections I and II.

Knowledge First

- Williamson, Timothy, 2000. *Knowledge and its Limits*. Oxford University Press.
- Karageorgieva, A., Angelova-Elchinova, M., Nachev, K. (eds.) (2023) *Introduction to Epistemology: An Anthology*, St. Kliment Ohridski University Press, see Section V.

Epistemological Internalism and Externalism. The KK Principle vs. the Sensitivity Principle and the Safety Principle

- Pappas, George, "Internalist vs. Externalist Conceptions of Epistemic Justification", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Spring 2023 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2023/entries/justep-intext/>
- Karageorgieva, A., Angelova-Elchinova, M., Nachev, K. (eds.) (2023) *Introduction to Epistemology: An Anthology*, St. Kliment Ohridski University Press, see pp. 127–153 and pp. 102–127.
- Comesaña, J., 2005. "Unsafe Knowledge," *Synthese*, 146(3): 395–404.
- Sosa, E., 1999. "How to Defeat Opposition to Moore," *Noûs*, (Supplement: *Philosophical Perspectives*, 13, Epistemology) 33: 141–153.



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The Nature of Evidence

- Kelly, Thomas, "Evidence", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Winter 2016 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/win2016/entries/evidence/>

Practical Knowledge

- Pavese, Carlotta, "Knowledge How", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Fall 2022 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/fall2022/entries/knowledge-how/>
- Karageorgieva, A., Angelova-Elchinova, M., Nachev, K. (eds.) (2023) *Introduction to Epistemology: An Anthology*, St. Kliment Ohridski University Press, see pp. 185–192.

Self-Knowledge

- Gertler, Brie, "Self-Knowledge", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Winter 2021 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/win2021/entries/self-knowledge/>

Virtue Epistemology

- Turri, John, Mark Alfano, and John Greco, "Virtue Epistemology", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Winter 2021 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/win2021/entries/epistemology-virtue/>

The Value Problem of Knowledge

- Pritchard, Duncan, John Turri, and J. Adam Carter, "The Value of Knowledge", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Fall 2022 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/fall2022/entries/knowledge-value/>

Evolutionary Epistemology

- Bradie, Michael and William Harms, "Evolutionary Epistemology", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Spring 2023 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2023/entries/epistemology-evolutionary/>
- Radnitzky, G. and W. W. Bartley. 1987. *Evolutionary Epistemology, Theory of Rationality and the Sociology of Knowledge*. LaSalle, Ill.: Open Court.

4E Cognition

- Shapiro, Lawrence and Shannon Spaulding, "Embodied Cognition", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Winter 2021 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/win2021/entries/embodied-cognition/>.



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- Noë, Alva. *Out of Our Heads: Why You Are Not Your Brain, and Other Lessons from the Biology of Consciousness*. New York: Hill and Wang, 2009.
 - Clark, Andy. *The Experience Machine: How Our Minds Predict and Shape Reality*. New York: Pantheon Books, 2023.

Social Epistemology

- O'Connor, Cailin, Sanford Goldberg, and Alvin Goldman, "Social Epistemology", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Summer 2024 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), forthcoming URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/sum2024/entries/epistemology-social/>
- Haddock, A., A. Millar, and D. Pritchard. (eds.) 2010. *Social Epistemology*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

The Problem of Disagreement

- Frances, Bryan and Jonathan Matheson, "Disagreement", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Spring 2024 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2024/entries/disagreement/>
- Feldman, R. and T. Warfield (eds.) 2010. *Disagreement*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Ethics and Pragmatics of Belief

- Chignell, Andrew, "The Ethics of Belief", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Spring 2018 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2018/entries/ethics-belief/>
- Matheson, J. and R. Vitz. (eds.) 2014. *The Ethics of Belief*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Additional information (optional) (e.g., special requirements, laboratory equipment, prior knowledge)

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