

PH332-15 Sartre and Existentialism

23/24

Department

Philosophy

Level

Undergraduate Level 3

Module leader

Andrew Cooper

Credit value

15

Module duration

10 weeks

Assessment

20% coursework, 80% exam

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

PH332-15 Sartre and Existentialism

Module aims

To introduce students to a major strand of 20th century philosophy through a study of central works of its main exponent.

To explore the tensions and possibilities within existentialism by examining early responses to Sartre's arguments.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

The module will focus on a set of issues central to Sartrean existentialism, using Sartre's work *Being and Nothingness* as the main textual basis. It will also explore responses to Sartrean existentialism, using texts from other philosophers such as Fanon and Beauvoir. Topics normally include:

Sartre's notion of prereflective self-consciousness
Radical freedom, reasons, and value
The idea of bad faith
Conscious emotions
Experiencing others as subjects
Sartre's ethics
Fanon and the colonised other
Beauvoir's ethics of ambiguity

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- understand and differentiate views on central issues in Sartrean existentialism, and offer relevant support for and critical responses to those views.
- isolate the important claims within readings, understand the structure of arguments, test views for strengths and weaknesses, make pertinent use of examples, and compare the substance of views consistently.

Indicative reading list

Beauvoir, Simone de (1948) *The Ethics of Ambiguity* (Secaucus: Citadel Press).
Beauvoir, Simone de (2011) *The Second Sex* (New York: Vintage).
Fanon, Frantz (2008) *Black Skin, White Masks* (New York: Grove Press).
Eshleman, Matthew and Lui, Constance (eds.) (2020) *The Sartrean Mind* (London: Routledge).
Gardner, Sebastian (2009) *Sartre's 'Being and Nothingness'* (London: Continuum).
McCulloch, Gregory (1994) *Using Sartre* (London: Routledge).
Moran, Richard (2001) *Authority and Estrangement* (Princeton: Princeton UP).
Korsgaard, Christine (2009) *Self-Constitution* (Oxford: OUP).
Poellner, Peter (2012) 'Early Sartre on Freedom and Ethics', *European Journal of Philosophy*.
Sartre, Jean-Paul (1980) *Existentialism and Humanism* (London: Methuen).
Sartre, Jean-Paul (1992) *Notebooks for an Ethics* (Chicago: Chicago UP).
Sartre, Jean-Paul (2002) *Sketch for a Theory of the Emotions* (London: Routledge).
Sartre, Jean-Paul (2003) *Being and Nothingness* (London: Routledge).
Sartre, Jean-Paul (2020). *Being and Nothingness* (London: Routledge).
Webber, Jonathan (2009) *The Existentialism of Jean-Paul Sartre* (London: Routledge).
Webber, Jonathan ed. (2011) *Reading Sartre* (London: Routledge).
Webber, Jonathan (2018) *Rethinking Existentialism* (Oxford: OUP).
Zahavi, Dan (1999) *Self-Awareness and Alterity* (Evanston: Northwestern UP).

[View reading list on Talis Aspire](#)

Subject specific skills

Pursue and organize philosophical research using a range of sources (print and electronic media), documenting research carefully, and showing the ability to engage independently in philosophical debate.

Transferable skills

Students should be able to communicate clearly and substantively in speech and in writing on the questions addressed in the module.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	18 sessions of 1 hour (12%)
Seminars	8 sessions of 1 hour (5%)
Private study	124 hours (83%)
Total	150 hours

Private study description

No private study requirements defined for this module.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Students can register for this module without taking any assessment.

Assessment group D9

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
1000 word Essay	20%		Yes (extension)

Reassessment component is the same

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
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Assessment component

Online Examination ~Platforms - AEP	80%		No
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- Online examination: No Answerbook required

Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

Feedback on essays will be provided on the coversheet for the essay, addressing standard areas of evaluation and individual content. Students will also receive individualised examination feedback.

[Past exam papers for PH332](#)

Availability

Courses

This module is Optional for:

- UPHA-L1CA Undergraduate Economics, Psychology and Philosophy
 - Year 2 of L1CA Economics, Psychology and Philosophy
 - Year 2 of L1CC Economics, Psychology and Philosophy (Behavioural Economics Pathway)
 - Year 2 of L1CD Economics, Psychology and Philosophy (Economics with Philosophy Pathway)
 - Year 2 of L1CE Economics, Psychology and Philosophy (Philosophy and Psychology Pathway)
 - Year 3 of L1CA Economics, Psychology and Philosophy
 - Year 3 of L1CC Economics, Psychology and Philosophy (Behavioural Economics Pathway)
 - Year 3 of L1CD Economics, Psychology and Philosophy (Economics with Philosophy Pathway)
 - Year 3 of L1CE Economics, Psychology and Philosophy (Philosophy and Psychology Pathway)
- UPHA-L1CB Undergraduate Economics, Psychology and Philosophy (with Intercalated

Year)

- Year 4 of L1CG Economics, Psychology and Philosophy (Behavioural Economics Pathway) (with Intercolated Year)
- Year 4 of L1CH Economics, Psychology and Philosophy (Economics with Philosophy Pathway) (with Intercolated Year)
- Year 4 of L1CJ Economics, Psychology and Philosophy (Philosophy and Psychology Pathway) (with Intercolated Year)
- Year 4 of L1CB Economics, Psychology and Philosophy (with Intercolated Year)
- UHIA-V1V8 Undergraduate History and Philosophy (with Year Abroad and a term in Venice)
 - Year 3 of V1V8 History and Philosophy (with Year Abroad and a term in Venice)
 - Year 4 of V1V8 History and Philosophy (with Year Abroad and a term in Venice)
- Year 3 of UHIA-V1V7 Undergraduate History and Philosophy (with a term in Venice)
- Year 2 of UMAA-GV19 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Specialism in Logic and Foundations
- UPHA-V700 Undergraduate Philosophy
 - Year 2 of V700 Philosophy
 - Year 3 of V700 Philosophy
- Year 4 of UPHA-V701 Undergraduate Philosophy (with Intercolated year)
- Year 4 of UPHA-V702 Undergraduate Philosophy (with Work Placement)
- UPHA-VQ72 Undergraduate Philosophy and Literature
 - Year 2 of VQ72 Philosophy and Literature
 - Year 3 of VQ72 Philosophy and Literature
- UPHA-V7ML Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics
 - Year 2 of V7ML Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Tripartite)
 - Year 3 of V7ML Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Tripartite)
- UPHA-V7MM Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics (with Intercolated year)
 - Year 4 of V7MQ Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Bipartite) with Intercolated Year
 - Year 4 of V7MH Philosophy, Politics and Economics - Economics/Philosophy Bipartite (Economics Major) (with Intercolated year)
 - Year 4 of V7MF Philosophy, Politics and Economics - Economics/Politics Bipartite (Economics Major) (with Intercolated year)
 - Year 4 of V7MI Philosophy, Politics and Economics - Philosophy/Economics Bipartite (Philosophy Major) (with Intercolated year)
 - Year 4 of V7MJ Philosophy, Politics and Economics - Philosophy/Politics Bipartite (with Intercolated year)
 - Year 4 of V7MG Philosophy, Politics and Economics - Politics/Economics Bipartite (Politics Major) (with Intercolated year)
- UPHA-V7MW Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law
 - Year 2 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
 - Year 3 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
- Year 4 of UPHA-V7MX Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law (with Intercolated Year)

This module is Unusual option for:

- UPHA-L1CA Undergraduate Economics, Psychology and Philosophy
 - Year 2 of L1CA Economics, Psychology and Philosophy
 - Year 2 of L1CC Economics, Psychology and Philosophy (Behavioural Economics

Pathway)

- Year 3 of L1CA Economics, Psychology and Philosophy
- UPHA-V7ML Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics
 - Year 2 of V7MR Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Bipartite with Economics Major)
 - Year 2 of V7MP Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Bipartite)
 - Year 2 of V7ML Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Tripartite)
 - Year 3 of V7MR Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Bipartite with Economics Major)
 - Year 3 of V7MP Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Bipartite)
- UPHA-V7MM Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics (with Intercalated year)
 - Year 4 of V7MS Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Bipartite with Economics Major) (with Intercalated Year)
 - Year 4 of V7MQ Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Bipartite) with Intercalated Year
 - Year 4 of V7MM Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Tripartite) (with Intercalated year)
- UPHA-V7MW Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law
 - Year 2 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
 - Year 3 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
- Year 4 of UPHA-V7MX Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law (with Intercalated Year)

This module is Core option list A for:

- Year 3 of UMAA-GV17 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy
- Year 3 of UMAA-GV19 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Specialism in Logic and Foundations

This module is Core option list B for:

- Year 2 of UMAA-GV17 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy
- Year 2 of UMAA-GV19 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Specialism in Logic and Foundations

This module is Core option list C for:

- Year 4 of UMAA-GV19 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Specialism in Logic and Foundations

This module is Core option list F for:

- Year 4 of UMAA-GV18 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Intercalated Year

This module is Option list A for:

- UPHA-VL78 BA in Philosophy with Psychology
 - Year 2 of VL78 Philosophy with Psychology
 - Year 3 of VL78 Philosophy with Psychology
- Year 4 of UPHA-VL79 BA in Philosophy with Psychology (with Intercalated year)
- Year 3 of UMAA-GV17 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy
- Year 4 of UMAA-GV18 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Intercalated Year
- UMAA-GV19 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Specialism in Logic and Foundations

- Year 3 of GV19 Mathematics and Philosophy with Specialism in Logic and Foundations
- Year 4 of GV19 Mathematics and Philosophy with Specialism in Logic and Foundations

This module is Option list B for:

- Year 2 of UHIA-V1V5 Undergraduate History and Philosophy
- Year 2 of UMAA-GV17 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy
- Year 2 of UMAA-GV18 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Intercalated Year
- Year 2 of UMAA-GV19 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Specialism in Logic and Foundations
- UPHA-VQ72 Undergraduate Philosophy and Literature
 - Year 2 of VQ72 Philosophy and Literature
 - Year 3 of VQ72 Philosophy and Literature
- Year 2 of UPHA-VQ52 Undergraduate Philosophy, Literature and Classics
- Year 2 of UPHA-V7ML Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics

This module is Option list C for:

- Year 3 of UHIA-V1V5 Undergraduate History and Philosophy
- Year 4 of UHIA-V1V6 Undergraduate History and Philosophy (with Year Abroad)
- UPHA-V7ML Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics
 - Year 3 of V7MP Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Bipartite)
 - Year 3 of V7ML Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Tripartite)
- UPHA-V7MM Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics (with Intercalated year)
 - Year 4 of V7MS Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Bipartite with Economics Major) (with Intercalated Year)
 - Year 4 of V7MQ Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Bipartite) with Intercalated Year
 - Year 4 of V7MM Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Tripartite) (with Intercalated year)

This module is Option list D for:

- UHIA-V1V5 Undergraduate History and Philosophy
 - Year 2 of V1V5 History and Philosophy
 - Year 3 of V1V5 History and Philosophy
- Year 4 of UHIA-V1V8 Undergraduate History and Philosophy (with Year Abroad and a term in Venice)
- Year 4 of UHIA-V1V6 Undergraduate History and Philosophy (with Year Abroad)
- UHIA-V1V7 Undergraduate History and Philosophy (with a term in Venice)
 - Year 2 of V1V7 History and Philosophy (with a term in Venice)
 - Year 3 of V1V7 History and Philosophy (with a term in Venice)
- UPHA-V7ML Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics
 - Year 2 of V7MR Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Bipartite with Economics Major)
 - Year 3 of V7MR Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Bipartite with Economics Major)

This module is Option list E for:

- Year 2 of UPHA-V7MW Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law