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Federal State Autonomous Educational Institution of Higher Education

PEOPLES' FRIENDSHIP UNIVERSITY OF RUSSIA

NAMED AFTER PATRICE LUMUMBA

RUDN University

Institute of Medicine

educational division (faculty/institute/academy) as higher education programme developer

COURSE SYLLABUS

Philosophy

course title

Recommended by the Didactic Council for the Education Field of:

31.05.03 Dentistry

field of studies / speciality code and title

The course instruction is implemented within the professional education programme of higher education:

Dentistry

higher education programme profile/specialisation title

2026 г.

1. COURSE GOAL(s)

The discipline "Philosophy" is included in the program of the specialty "Dentistry" in the direction 31.05.03 "Dentistry" and is studied in the 1st semester of the 1st year. The discipline is implemented by the Department of Social Philosophy. The discipline consists of 6 sections and 16 topics and is aimed at studying the features of the philosophical vision of the world, the philosophical approach to the analysis of phenomena of the surrounding world and various aspects of social life.

The main goal of the discipline is to reveal the specifics and relevance of issues related to worldview, clarify a number of general cultural concepts, as well as mastering a special categorical apparatus by students to form their own rationally substantiated and balanced worldview position. Philosophy is based on the culture of critical questioning and the desire for reasonable dialogue with others, which is especially important for modern society, one of the factors of development of which is the production of knowledge and information in the context of a pluralistic vision of the world.

2. REQUIREMENTS FOR LEARNING OUTCOMES

Mastering the discipline "Philosophy" is aimed at developing the following competencies (parts of competencies) among students:

Table 2.1. List of competences that students acquire during the course

Competence code	Competence descriptor	Competence formation indicators (within this course)
GC-1	Ability to carry out critical analysis of problematic situations based on a systems approach, develop a strategy of action	GC-1.1 Analyzes scientific and technical literature and regulatory documentation of medical organizations;
GC-5	Ability to analyze and take into account the diversity of cultures in the process of intercultural interaction	GC-5.1 Interprets the history of Russia in the context of world historical development;
GC-6	Ability to identify and implement priorities for one's own activities and ways to improve them based on self-assessment and lifelong learning	GC-6.2. Analyzes the results obtained in the course of his professional activity, carries out self-control and self-analysis of the process and results of professional activity, critically evaluates them, makes objective conclusions on his work, correctly defends his point of view;

3. COURSE IN HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The course refers to the core/variable/elective* component of (B1) block of the higher educational programme curriculum.

* - Underline whatever applicable.

Within the higher education programme students also master other (modules) and / or internships that contribute to the achievement of the expected learning outcomes as results of the course study.

Table 3.1. The list of the higher education programme components/disciplines that contribute to the achievement of the expected learning outcomes as the course study results

Competence code	Competence descriptor	Previous courses/modules, internships*	Subsequent courses/modules, internships*
GC-1	Ability to carry out critical analysis of problematic situations based on a systems approach, develop a strategy of action them based on self-assessment and lifelong learning		Hygiene; Public health and healthcare, healthcare economics; Epidemiology; Propaedeutics of internal diseases; Medical informatics; Evidence-based medicine; Bioorganic chemistry; History of medicine; Clinical pharmacology; Socially significant projects in medicine; Economics**;
GC-5	Ability to analyze and take into account the diversity of cultures in the process of intercultural interaction		Bioethics**; History of Medicine; Rhetoric**; Foreign Language**; Foreign Language (elective); Russian Language for Foreign Students; Methods of Teaching Russian as a Foreign Language; Fundamentals of Translation; Psychology of Ethnic Conflict**; Public Health and Healthcare, Healthcare Economics; Socially Significant Projects in Medicine; Fundamentals of Professional Ethics**;
GC-6	Ability to identify and implement priorities for one's own activities and ways to improve them based on self-assessment and education throughout one's life		Psychology and pedagogy; Public health and healthcare, healthcare economics; Fundamentals of professional ethics**;

* To be filled in according with the competence matrix of the higher education program.

4. COURSE WORKLOAD AND ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

The total workload of the course “Philosophy” is 2 credits (72 academic hours).

Table 4.1. Types of educational work by periods of mastering educational program of higher education for FULL-TIME EDUCATION

Types of academic activities	Total ac.h,	Semester
		2
<i>Contact work ac.h.</i>	51	51
Lectures (LC)	17	17
Lab Works (LW)	0	34
Seminars (S)	34	34
Self-study, <i>ac.h.</i>	18	18
Evaluation and assessment (exam or pass/fail grading), ac.h.	3	3
Total labor intensity	ac.h.	72
	ac.h.	2

5. COURSE CONTENTS

Table 5.1. The course content by type of academic program

Course module title	Course module contents (topics)	Academic activities types
Section 1 Introduction to the Subject	1.1 The subject of philosophy, its tasks, functions, types, and branches. Philosophy as a cognitive activity. What can philosophy offer a person? The subject of philosophy. Features and functions of philosophy. Main branches of philosophy.	LC, PC
Section 2 The evolution of philosophical thought (and philosophical worldviews)	2.1 Appearance of Philosophy Where does philosophy begin? Philosophy as a worldview. Historical types of worldview: myth, religion, philosophy. From myth to logos. The birth of philosophy and the "Axial Age". Philosophy of Ancient India. Philosophy of Ancient China. At the roots of European philosophy: Ancient Greece.	LC, PC
	2.2 Philosophy of Antiquity, the Middle Ages, and the Renaissance The philosophical worldview of Antiquity: cosmocentrism, logocentrism, anthropocentrism (man as a microcosm), and kalokagathia. Problems of the primary element (arche), being and non-being, being and becoming, the one and the many. The anthropological turn of Socrates. The philosophical worldview of the Middle Ages: theocentrism, creationism, providentialism, eschatology, and soteriology. Apophatic and cataphatic theology in the knowledge of God. The problem of theodicy. Distinctive features of Renaissance philosophical thought: anthropocentrism, humanism, and pantheism.	LC, PC
	2.3 Philosophy of the Modern and Contemporary periods The philosophy of Francis Bacon. "Novum Organum". "Idols of the mind" (idols of the tribe, of the cave, of the marketplace, and of the theater) and the "ways of inquiry" (the spider, the ant, and the bee) according to F. Bacon. The philosophy of René Descartes. "Discourse on the Method" and "Principles of Philosophy". Social contract theories (T. Hobbes, J. Locke, J.-J. Rousseau). German classical philosophy. The philosophy of the transition period (A. Schopenhauer and F. Nietzsche). Marxism: the concept of alienation of labor, the structure of socio-economic formation, and the materialist conception of history.	LC, PC

	2.4 Main questions of modern philosophy General characteristics and main problems of modern philosophy. The philosophy of positivism in its historical development. Religious philosophy of the 20th century: Christian personalism, neo-Thomism. Man and his existence in the philosophy of existentialism. Philosophical hermeneutics – the theory of understanding. Philosophical anthropology on the specifics of human existence. Structuralism. Main ideas of post-structuralism.	LC, PC
Section 3 Theory of knowledge	3.1 Cognition and Truth Truth in religion, art, morality, and politics. Major theories of truth: correspondence, coherence, and pragmatic. Skepticism and the boundaries of cognition. Immanuel Kant's 'thing-in-itself,' the intentionality of consciousness and Edmund Husserl's phenomenological reduction. Modern 'battles for truth': the problem of objectivity, the conventional nature of truth, principles of verification and falsification (Karl Popper), and Paul Feyerabend's methodological anarchism.	LC, PC
	3.2 Problems of scientific cognition Science as a form of cognition. Forms of sensory (sensation, perception, representation) and rational (concept, judgment, inference) cognition. Types of inferences. Levels of scientific knowledge. Methods of scientific cognition. The development of scientific knowledge: factors, Thomas Kuhn's theory of scientific revolutions, paradigms, and types of scientific rationality according to V. Stepin. Science and pseudoscience: criteria for distinction.	LC, PC
	3.3 The Problems of Metaphysics Metaphysics: the history of the concept in philosophical thought. Positivist critique of metaphysics. The problem of the "end of metaphysics" and the completion of philosophy in the work of Martin Heidegger. The "ontological turn" or the return of metaphysics.	LC, PC
	3.4 Philosophy of mind The concept of consciousness: main approaches. Consciousness and the body: the mind-body problem. Essential characteristics of consciousness. Consciousness and self-consciousness. The concept of the unconscious.	LC, PC
Section 4 Social Philosophy	4.1 Values and problems of ethics and moral philosophy The concept and nature of value. The value system. The hierarchy of values. Morality within the system of values. Moral philosophy, ethics, and meta-ethics. Utilitarian and deontological ethics. The historical role of religious values in the system of values. Universalism and relativism in the understanding of values.	LC, PC
	4.2 Philosophy of history Subject matter of the philosophy of history. Is history possible as a science? The nature of historical reality. Concepts of the historical process. Progress and the problem of its criteria. Cyclical, linear, and spiral models of history. Historicism and its criticism by Karl Popper. The "rhizomatic" model of history. Linear-stadial and local- civilizational concepts. Pre-industrial, industrial, and post-industrial civilizations.	LC, PC

	4.3	
	<p>Justice as a philosophical problem</p> <p>Justice as an ethical and social value. The multifaceted nature of justice. Justice as a virtue: Plato, Aristotle, and others.</p> <p>Retributive justice (fair punishment): from the Law of Talion to modern principles of legal liability. The problem of distributive justice: strict egalitarianism, the principle of equality of resources, utilitarianism, the meritocratic principle (desert-based justice), and libertarianism. John Rawls's theory of justice and its critique. Max Weber's types of legitimate authority and the role of justice within them.</p>	LC, PC
Section 5 Philosophical Anthropology	5.1	
	<p>Human nature</p> <p>The natural and the cultural in man. The polarity of human nature: the earthly and the divine, the good and the evil in man.</p> <p>The conscious and the unconscious in man.</p> <p>The "nonspecialization" of man and the plasticity of his nature.</p>	LC, PC
	5.2	
	<p>The problem of freedom</p> <p>Human freedom: philosophical determinism and philosophical indeterminism (physical, metaphysical, ethical, and epistemological aspects). The dialectic of freedom and responsibility. The phenomenon of 'escape from freedom' and its mechanisms according to E. Fromm (authoritarianism, destructiveness, and automaton conformity).</p>	LC, PC
	5.3	
	<p>The meaning of life as a philosophical problem</p> <p>The problem of the absurdity of life. Man, the creator of a world of symbols and meanings. Order out of chaos. Individualism or collectivism? Pragmatism or idealism? The human or the transcendent? The problem of choosing a life project.</p>	LC, PC

* - to be filled in only for **full**-time training: *LC* - lectures; *LW* - lab work; *S* - seminars.

6. CLASSROOM EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS

Table 6.1. Classroom Equipment and Technology Support Requirements

Classroom for Academic Activity Type	Audience equipment	Specialized educational / laboratory equipment, software and materials for mastering the discipline (if necessary)
Lecture	A room for lecture-type classes, equipped with a set of specialized furniture; board (screen) and technical means of multimedia presentations.	
Seminar	A classroom for conducting seminars, group and individual consultations, current and mid-term assessment; equipped with a set of specialised furniture and technical means for multimedia presentations.	
Self-studies	A room for independent work of students (can be used for seminars and consultations), equipped with a set of specialized furniture and computers with access to the EIOS.	<p>Reading Room of Faculty of Science Ordzhonikidze D.3. Coworking area Monday - Friday 10.00 – 22.00</p> <p>Reading room of the main building of the RUDN Coworking area Monday - Saturday 9.00 - 23.00 Hall No. 2 Monday - Thursday 10.00 - 17.45 Friday 10.00 - 16.45 Hall No. 6 Monday - Thursday 10.00 - 17.45 Friday 10.00 - 16.45</p>

* - the audience for students self-work is indicated **MANDATORY!**

7. RECOMMENDED SOURCES FOR COURSE STUDIES

Main literature:

- Gubin V.D. Philosophy : textbook / V.D. Gubin. - Moscow : Prospekt, 2022. - 336 p. (UNIBC (NB) RUDN University)
- Ivin A.A. Philosophy: a textbook for universities / A. A. Ivin, I. P. Nikitina. Moscow : Yurait Publishing House, 2025. Text : electronic // Educational platform Urite [website]. URL: <https://urait.ru/bcode/535658>. Access mode: by subscription of RUDN University.
- Anthology of philosophy : textbook / executive editor A. N. Chumakov. Moscow : Yurait Publishing House, 2025. Text : electronic // Yurayt educational platform [website]. URL: <https://urait.ru/bcode/568916>. Access mode: by subscription of RUDN University.

Additional literature:

1. Introduction to Philosophy: A textbook for universities / Team of authors: Frolov I.T. and others. M.: Republic, 2003. - 623 p. URL: https://www.socionauki.ru/almanac/noo21v/number_2/1_1_5_2.pdf
2. Kerimov T.H. Modern problems of philosophy: a textbook / T. H. Kerimov ; Ural Federal University named after the first President of Russia B. N. Yeltsin. Yekaterinburg : Ural University Publishing House, 2020. 155 p. : schematics, tables. Access mode: by subscription. - Bibliogr. in the book– Text : electronic. – URL: <https://biblioclub.ru/index.php?page=book&id=699039>
3. Kolesnikov A.S. Philosophy: textbook / A.S. Kolesnikov, B.V. Markov. - M. : KnoRus, 2017. - 403 p. - (Bachelor's degree). (UNIBC (NB) RUDN University).
4. Lokhov S.A. Fundamentals of philosophy : a textbook / S.A. Lokhov. - Electronic text data. Moscow : RUDN University, 2019. 124 p. (EBS RUDN University).
5. General philosophy : a textbook for academic baccalaureate / A.G. Spirkin. - Electronic text data. - M.: Yurayt, 2015. URL: https://lib.rudn.ru:443/MegaPro/UserEntry?Action=Link_FindDoc&id=447073&idb=0
6. Chernov A.V. Fundamentals of philosophy: studying in Russian: a textbook / A.V. Chernov, M.R. Masyuk, E.F. Kositsyna. - Electronic text data. Moscow : RUDN University, 2020. 70 p. : ill. (EBS RUDN University). For foreigners. students.
7. Philosophy : textbook / V.D. Gubin, T.Y. Sidorina, K.S. Gadzhiev [et al.] ; Edited by V.D. Gubin, T.Y. Sidorina. - 6th ed., revised and add. - M. : GEOTAR-Media, 2017. - 845 p. : ill. (UNIBC (NB) RUDN University).
8. Philosophy : a textbook / Edited by A.F. Zotov, V.V. Mironov, and A.V. Razin. - 6th ed., revised and add. ; Electronic text data. - M. : Prospect, 2017. - 672 p. URL: https://lib.rudn.ru:443/MegaPro/UserEntry?Action=Link_FindDoc&id=457775&idb=0

Internet sources:

1. Electronic libraries (EL) of RUDN University and other institutions, to which university students have access on the basis of concluded agreements:
 - RUDN Electronic Library System (RUDN ELS) <http://lib.rudn.ru/MegaPro/Web>
 - EL "University Library Online" <http://www.biblioclub.ru>
 - EL "Yurayt" <http://www.biblio-online.ru>
 - EL "Student Consultant" www.studentlibrary.ru
 - EL "Lan" <http://e.lanbook.com/>
 - EL "Trinity Bridge"
2. Databases and search engines:
 - electronic foundation of legal and normative-technical documentation <http://docs.cntd.ru/>
 - Yandex search engine <https://www.yandex.ru/>
 - Google search engine <https://www.google.ru/>
 - Scopus abstract database <http://www.elsevierscience.ru/products/scopus/>

*Learning toolkits for self-studies in the RUDN LMS TUIS *:*

1. The set of lectures on the course «Philosophy».

* - all educational and methodological materials for independent work of students are placed in accordance with the current procedure on the page of the discipline in TUIS!

DEVELOPERS:

Senior Lecturer,

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Dzhavad O.V.

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