



## Syllabus Course Program



# Fundamentals of humanitarian and philosophical knowledge in professional activity

### Specialty

121 – Software Engineering

### Educational program

Software Engineering

### Level of education

Bachelor's level

### Semester

2

### Institute

Institute of Social and Humanitarian Technologies

### Department

Philosophy (307)

### Course type

Mandatory

### Language of instruction

English

## Lecturers and course developers



### Horodyska Olga

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Candidate of Philosophical Sciences (PhD), Associate Professor, Associate Professor of Philosophy department (NTU "KhPI").

Work experience – 22 years. Authored over 70 scientific, popular scientific and educational publications. Leading lecture on the course "Philosophy" (Ukrainian/English), "Philosophical-anthropological discourse of contemporaneity", "Basic conceptions in the history of philosophical thought"

[More about the lecturer on the department's website](https://web.kpi.kharkov.ua/philosophy/gorodyska-olga-mykolayivna/)

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## General information

### Summary

This discipline aims to cultivate students' understanding of their personal roles within their professional fields. To develop a comprehensive system of humanities and philosophical knowledge, serving as methodological tools for analyzing theoretical and practical problems in the natural, technical, and humanities domains. To foster the ability to substantiate one's worldview and civic stance, as well as to independently analyze facts, phenomena, and processes within the "human-world" system. To shape future professionals with high moral qualities and behavioral skills grounded in universal human values, self-awareness, and a sense of responsibility. To introduce students to the essence, laws, and trends of modern civilization.

### Course objectives and goals

The development of deep worldview and theoretical knowledge in the humanities and philosophy among students, the cultivation of abstract and critical thinking, the mastery of scientific-philosophical categorical apparatus, as well as the development of skills in analyzing and comprehensively evaluating human activity and events in the surrounding world.

## Format of classes

Lectures, workshops, consultations. The course ends with a final exam.

## Competencies

K01. Ability to think abstractly, analyze and synthesize.

K05. Ability to learn and master modern knowledge.

K08. Ability to act on the basis of ethical considerations.

K09. The desire to preserve the environment.

K10. Ability to act in a socially responsible and conscious manner.

K11. Ability to realize their rights and responsibilities as a member of society, to realize the values of civil (free democratic) society and the need for its sustainable development, the rule of law, human and civil rights and freedoms in Ukraine.

K12. Ability to preserve and increase moral, cultural, scientific values and achievements of society based on an understanding of the history and patterns of development of the subject area, its place in the general system of knowledge about nature and society and in the development of society, technology and technology, to use various types and forms of physical activity for active recreation and healthy lifestyle.

K21. Ability to evaluate and take into account economic, social, technological and environmental factors that affect the field of professional activity.

## Learning outcomes

PLO02. To know the code of professional ethics, to understand the social significance and cultural aspects of software engineering and to adhere to them in professional activities.

PLO25. Apply the principles of moral, cultural, scientific values and increase the achievements of society, use various types and forms of physical activity for a healthy lifestyle and professional activities in the field of information technology.

## Student workload

The total volume of the course is 90 hours (3 ECTS credits): lectures - 14 hours, workshops - 14 hours, self-study - 62 hours.

## Course prerequisites

To successfully complete the course, you must have knowledge and practical skills in the following disciplines: "Ukrainian language (professional)", "Foreign language", "History and culture of Ukraine".

## Features of the course, teaching and learning methods, and technologies

Lectures with presentations, discussions, practical classes (seminars, workshops), individual work (abstract, essay, participation in conferences and specialized seminars, work with original works on philosophy).

## Program of the course

### Topics of the lectures

**Topic 1. The place of humanitarian and philosophical knowledge in professional activity.** Human's active attitude to the world, his transforming potential. A professional as a person. The place of worldview in the personality structure. General humanitarian and worldview character of philosophical knowledge. The relationship between philosophy and science. The main philosophical dimensions of worldview (ontological, epistemological, axiological, anthropological, social, etc.). Functions of philosophy.

**Topic 2. The first philosophical conceptions of Antiquity.** Natural philosophical and ontological ideas of pre-Socratic philosophy. Ideas about the changeability and discreteness of the world. Sophists and the development of logic. Critical philosophy of Socrates and his concept of human as a moral being. A systematic view of the world in Plato's philosophy and his doctrine of ideas. Aristotle's logic and the problem the world cognition. The first system of sciences. The problem of human and the world in Hellenistic philosophy.

**Topic 3. The specificity of philosophical knowledge of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance.** Peculiarities of the medieval philosophy reflection on the being and human, its main principles and conceptions. Social-philosophical, anthropological, ethical ideas of the Middle Ages. Development of logic in scholasticism. The emergence of empirical knowledge. Social, anthropological, ethical, natural philosophical concepts of the Renaissance. Humanism.

**Topic 4. Development of modern humanitarian and philosophical knowledge.** The scientific revolution of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the first scientific picture of the world. The problem of the cognition method. Empiricism and rationalism are two trends in modern philosophy. Philosophical, socio-political, natural ideas of the Age of Enlightenment, their significance for the development of Western European civilization. Atheism. The phenomenon of I. Kant's critical philosophy and the conditions for the possibility of knowledge. Kant's ethics. G.W.F. Hegel and his philosophical system and method.

**Topic 5. Transformation of humanitarian and philosophical knowledge in the 19<sup>th</sup> – early 20<sup>th</sup> cent.** The crisis of the rationalist view on the world, the main ideas of irrationalism: criticism of rationalism and scientism, criticism of the value system, justification of the irrational essence of human. The materialist conception of society in Marxism philosophy. The philosophical foundations of the science substantiation problem (positivism, empiriocriticism). The main ideas of the national philosophical thought of the 19<sup>th</sup> – early 20<sup>th</sup> cent.

**Topic 6. Contemporary Western European and domestic philosophical discourses.** The crisis of civilization in the 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, philosophical reflections on it: problems of knowledge and philosophy of science, the problem of consciousness, the problem of human. Ideas of society and civilization development. The problem of knowledge and language in the philosophy of the 20<sup>th</sup> cent. Postmodernity condition in culture.

**Topic 7. Humanitarian and philosophical knowledge of today.** Concepts of a person and socialization as a factor of human formation. The main institutions of socialization. Peculiarities of the contemporary socio-cultural situation. Influence of mass-media and computer technologies. Problematization of communication as the basis of human communication. Intersubjectivity, virtualization of the human "I". Anthropological aspect of technology. Philosophical conceptions about technology and technological progress. Human in technical civilization conditions. Technique and process of globalization.

## Topics of the workshops

**Topic 1. Philosophical and humanitarian knowledge as components of professional activity and professionalism.** Values and worldview of a personality, one's attitude to work, to society, to the world, to oneself. The impossibility of forming these attitudes and professionalism without personal assimilation of philosophical knowledge and concepts. Philosophy as a system of the being reflection, which offers worldview conceptions to the world and society. The development of a professional's personality as the consumption of philosophical theories and approaches for the synthesis of one's own existential position.

**Topic 2. The main ideas of ancient philosophy, their significance for the development of civilization.** The first philosophical conceptions: the origin of the world, being, development, unity and discreteness of the world. Number as a beginning. Ancient atomism. Origin of logic, ideas of sophists. Critical thought of Socrates, the concept of human as a moral being. Plato's teaching about ideas, the emergence of a systematic view of the world. Aristotle's creation of the first system of sciences, the doctrine of logic and the problem of the world cognition. Ethics problems in Hellenistic philosophy.

**Topic 3. Philosophical ideas of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance.** Characteristic features of medieval philosophy. The problem of the relationship between reason and faith. Augustine's teachings about human, soul and body; Augustinian conceptions of time and state. Scholasticism, its specifics and ideas. The problem of human free will. The principle of human unity. Empirical ideas of R. Grossetest and R. Bacon. Philosophical and scientific ideas of the Renaissance. Humanism. "Oration on the Dignity of Man". Social and political ideas of the Renaissance, utopianism.

**Topic 4. Modern humanitarian and philosophical knowledge.** The scientific revolution and the first scientific picture of the world in the 17<sup>th</sup> cent. Modern empiricism, the problem of cognition, a materialistic view of the world. Evolution of empiricism. Modern rationalism, rules of method and Descartes' method of doubt. Spinoza's materialism and ethics. Leibniz's philosophy; personal dimension of being. The Age of Enlightenment philosophy: conceptions of natural human rights, general education, socio-political progress, omnipotence of reason, subjugation and reconstruction of the world. Peculiarities of mechanistic methodology in humanities and natural sciences; human as a machine. Main features of Ukrainian philosophical thought. The concept of human and "related work" in the philosophy of H. Skovoroda. Critical philosophy of I. Kant, synthesis of

empiricism and rationalism. Agnosticism. Categorical imperative as a humanist position, Kant's concept of freedom. Philosophical views of Fichte and Schelling. Hegel's philosophy, the identity of thinking and being. Hegel's dialectics: principles, laws, categories. The human problem in L. Feuerbach's materialism.

**Topic 5. The development of knowledge about the world, human and cognition in non-classical philosophy of the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> cent.** The crisis of the rationalist view on the world, non-classical philosophy. Criticism of Western civilization, its "humanism", the idea of the will to power and the concept of superman in F. Nietzsche's philosophy. Materialistic interpretation of the historical process. The dialectical-materialist idea of practice in Marx and Engels' cognition theory. Scientific trend in philosophy: O. Comte's positivism, empiriocriticism. A new comprehension of human in the psychoanalytic philosophy of Z. Freud, substantiation of the irrational character of individual human existence. The main ideas of the philosophical thought of Ukraine in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Cosmism of V. Vernadsky.

**Topic 6. Philosophical discourse of contemporaneity.** The main directions and essential features of philosophy of the 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> cent. E. Husserl's phenomenology. Knowledge about human in philosophical anthropology and existentialism: openness to the world, freedom, responsibility, life and death, sense of life. Methodology and logic of science development in neo-positivism and post-positivism. Socio-philosophical conceptions of the 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> cent. The search for methodology in the humanitarian field of science: the main ideas of hermeneutics and structuralism. The crisis of modernity and the Postmodernity condition in culture.

**Topic 7. Actual humanitarian and philosophical problems of today.** Human and the world today. Features of the contemporary socio-cultural environment. Media and computer technology industry. Technology as an anthropological problem. Technology and technical progress in philosophy. The problem of the interaction of nature and technology. Man in conditions of technical civilization. Technology in the conditions of globalization. Human and mass-media. Virtualization of "I" in the information space. Problematization of communication. The problem of intersubjectivity and mechanisms of self-identification of an individual. "Mass-man" and the problem of loneliness. Human mind and artificial intelligence. The problem of transhumanism and "posthuman" in philosophy and culture. Problems of bioethics.

## Topics of the laboratory classes

Laboratory work is not provided within the discipline.

## Self-study

The course involves preparation for oral answers to problematic questions, independent study of questions that are not taught during lectures - this receives ongoing assessment. Individual work as an essay is also provided; other types of individual work are possible - essays, participation in conferences and specialized seminars (with thesis writing), work with original works on philosophy, etc. These works are written and completed according to the requirements.

## Course materials and recommended reading

### Compulsory materials

1. Biletsky I., Malysenko A. Philosophy: Educational book. Kharkiv, 2010.
2. Introduction to Philosophy: Philosophy of Mind. Multiple Contributors. Rebus Community, 2019.
3. Ondich Jody. Words of Wisdom: Intro to Philosophy. Lake Superior College, Duluth, Minnesota, 2018.
4. Ott Walter. Modern Philosophy. University of Virginia, BCcampus, 2013.
5. Payne Russ W. An Introduction to Philosophy. BCcampus, 2015.
6. Essays in philosophy. From David Hume to Bertrand Russell / Edited and with notes by Houston Peterson. New York, 1959.
7. Wilber Ken. The spectrum of consciousness. Wheaton, Adyar, Madras, 1993.

### Additional materials

1. Філософія: навч.-метод. посіб. / Владленова І.В., Годзь Н.Б., Городиська О.М. та ін.; за ред. Городиської О.М., Дольської О.О. Харків: Видавець Іванченко І.С., 2024. 200 с.
2. Філософія: терміни і поняття: Навчальний енциклопедичний словник / Під редакцією В.Л. Петрушенка. Львів: «Новий Світ-2000», 2020.

3. Nilsson Arthur. The Psychology of Worldview: Toward a Non-Reductive Science of Personality. [Doctoral Thesis (compilation), Department of Psychology]. Lund University, 2013  
<https://lup.lub.lu.se/search/files/5733804/3738786.pdf>
4. Dimmock Mark, Fisher Andrew. Ethics for A-Level. Torquay Boys' Grammar School, University of Nottingham, 2017.
5. Kormelink Joost Groot. Responsible Innovation: Ethics, Safety and Technology. TU Delft, 2019.
6. Johnson Jeffery L. Inferring and Explaining. Portland State University, 2019.
7. Van Cleave Matthew. Introduction to Logical and Critical Thinking. Lansing Community College, 2016.
8. A letter Concerning Toleration. An Essay Concerning Human Understanding / John Locke; The principles of Human Knowledge / George Berkeley; An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding / David Hume. Chicago, London, Toronto, Geneva, Sydney, Tokyo, Manila, 1987.
9. Augustine. The Confessions. The City of God. On Christian Doctrine. Chicago, London, Toronto, Geneva, Sydney, Tokyo, Manila, 1987.
10. Nietzsche. Thus spoke Zarathustra. Hertfordshire, 1997.
11. Nietzsche. Twilight of the idols. Hertfordshire, 2007.
12. Plato. The Dialogues of Plato. Chicago, London, Toronto, Geneva, Sydney, Tokyo, Manila, 1987.
13. Spinoza. Ethics. Hertfordshire, 2001.

## Assessment and grading

### Criteria for assessment of student performance, and the final score structure

100% of the final grade consists of assessment results in the form of an exam (40%) and ongoing assessment (60%).

Exam: oral answer (2 theoretical questions). Current assessment: oral answers to problematic questions, thematic tests and an individual assignment (20% each).

### Grading scale

Total points	National	ECTS
90–100	Excellent	A
82–89	Good	B
75–81	Good	C
64–74	Satisfactory	D
60–63	Satisfactory	E
35–59	Unsatisfactory (requires additional learning)	FX
1–34	Unsatisfactory (requires repetition of the course)	F

## Norms of academic integrity and course policy

The student must adhere to the Code of Ethics of Academic Relations and Integrity of NTU "KhPI": to demonstrate discipline, good manners, kindness, honesty, and responsibility. Conflict situations should be openly discussed in academic groups with a lecturer, and if it is impossible to resolve the conflict, they should be brought to the attention of the Institute's management.

Regulatory and legal documents related to the implementation of the principles of academic integrity at NTU "KhPI" are available on the website: <http://blogs.kpi.kharkov.ua/v2/nv/akademichna-dobrochesnist/>

## Approval

Approved by

30.08.2024, signature



Head of the department  
Jakiv TARAROYEV

Date, signature

Guarantor of the educational program  
Uliya LITVINOVA