



**NICOLAUS COPERNICUS  
UNIVERSITY  
IN TORUŃ**

Faculty of Philosophy  
and Social Sciences

# **Copernicus University Philosophy Institute**

**University-wide courses  
in English**

22.02.2021



# Prof. dr hab. Ewa Bińczyk

## Technoscience in a Risk Society. A Workshop

Seminar, 20 HOURS, 4 ECTS

Tuesdays, 9.45-11.15, first meeting the 2nd of March

The main topics of the workshop are: the dynamics of technological, scientific and environmental controversies, the political role of laboratories, unintended consequences of technological innovations, non-human agency shaping the future of the civilization. The course is planned as a practical introduction to selected problems of STS (science and technology studies). We will discuss its philosophical and ethical aspects.

<https://teams.microsoft.com/l/channel/19%3abb9dd682f1454a7ea5e9ed2bfadba93d%40thread.tacv2/Og%25C3%25B3lny?groupId=6055dfea-8653-4cb4-a96a-693d54f7083a&tenantId=e80a627f-ef94-4aa9-82d6-c7ec9cfca324>



## **Dr hab. Aleksandra Derra, prof. UMK**

### **Gender Problem in Science. Theories and Practice**

Seminar, 20 HOURS, 4 ECTS

Tuesdays, 15.00-16.30, first meeting on the 2nd March

The course aims at recognizing epistemological and axiological consequences of gender&science possible interrelation. It will address the problem of introducing gender factor into philosophical considerations about science; the problem of scientific method and knowledge, rationality and objectivity with respect to masculinity and femininity; the role of gender in shaping scientific theories; gender factor in construing and sustaining values and priorities of the contemporary knowledge; the role of neuroscience in sustaining sex/gender differences in popular culture.

<https://vc.umk.pl/b/ale-cxn-2kf>



# Dr hab. Rafał Gruszczyński, prof. UMK

## Logic as a tool

Seminar, 20 HOURS, 4 ECTS

Thursdays 13.15-14.45

The main objective of the course is to familiarize audience with basic concepts of logic and applications of logic in analysis of natural language. I will start from presentation of fundamental notions such as truth, consistency, validity, logical constant and truth functionality in the first part of the course. The second will be devoted to more advanced topics such as formalization of arguments and logical interpretations of conditionals. Philosophical motivations and perspective of the problems presented during the course will serve as a referring point for aforementioned topics.

<https://teams.microsoft.com/l/team/19%3a3ca8f6f8f8d94d03b16b2a5bb51b6711%40thread.tacv2/conversations?groupId=bd661012-2bca-44a5-a671-417d16927657&tenantId=e80a627f-ef94-4aa9-82d6-c7ec9cfca324>



# Dr Tomasz Markiewka

## Actor Network Modernity and Capitalism

Seminar, 20 HOURS, 4 ECTS  
Wednesdays, 8.00-9.30

There are three aims of the class: 1. To learn the basics of Actor-Network Theory (ANT); 2. To learn basics of the selected models of Modernity (i.e. developed by A. Giddens, U. Beck, I. Wallerstein, J.W. Moore); 3. Discuss the models in the context of ANT and why, according to ANT – “we have never been modern”.

<https://teams.microsoft.com/l/team/19%3a4e77b34e1cd74273b322bc875b5fe303%40thread.tacv2/conversations?groupId=960bcd0a-5018-4025-b90f-122e8d235739&tenantId=e80a627f-ef94-4aa9-82d6-c7ec9cfca324>



# Dr hab. Marcin Jaranowski, prof. UMK

## Western Theories of Evil

Seminar, 20 HOURS, 4 ECTS

Wednesday, 13:15-14:45

Classes entitled “Western Theories of Evil” is a course familiarising students with the concepts of evil which became crucial for the development of western history of ideas. The presented theories include those concerned with western philosophy as well as theology and psychology. The programme offers the students an opportunity to face the fundamental question “What is evil as such?” or “What is the essence of evil?”. The participants are first confronted with classical concepts that attempt to bring to a common denominator or find the core of all of the observable evil in the world, and next with selected theories of moral evil that cast a light on the issue of the moral nature of a man. In the end the students can discuss the issues concerning possible destructive tendencies in human nature by referring to the taught theories and examples (from literature and films).

<https://vc.umk.pl/b/mar-rdm-z6r>



## **Dr hab. Zbigniew Nerczuk, prof. UMK**

### **Introduction to Ancient Philosophy**

Seminar, 20 HOURS, 4 ECTS

Wednesdays (every two weeks), 11.30 -13.00 (first meeting 24.02.2021)

The course is concerned with some selected problems of Greek philosophy. It discusses main sources of Greek philosophy, its birth and subsequent stages of development, such as: Pre-Socratic philosophy (from Thales to the Sophists), the main philosophical ideas of the classical period (Socrates, Plato, Aristotle) and the philosophy of schools in Hellenistic era (Stoics, Epicureans and Skeptics). The development of the philosophy is presented on a broad cultural background, including some elements of history, literature and history of ancient art.

The course provides a basis for understanding of further development of philosophy and introduces ideas and concepts which lead to the formation of European culture.

<https://vc.umk.pl/b/zbi-cre-ath>



# Prof. dr hab. Adam Grzeliński

## Main Issues of Modern Philosophy

Seminar, 20 HOURS, 4 ECTS

Thursdays, 13.15-14.45

Two big systems of the XVII-century European philosophy: Descartes and Leibniz – standpoints, notions, inspirations. The beginning of French Enlightenment: Rousseau, Diderot, Voltaire – the notions of nature and of human nature, natural law, theory of society, theism, deism. The Philosophy of British Isles in the XVII and XVIII century: Hobbes, Locke, Hume, Berkeley – empiricism, practical scope of philosophy, the relation between philosophy and religion, the problem of the rise of society, scepticism. The transcendentalism of Immanuel Kant – the Copernican Turn, pure reason, antinomies of reason, the practical philosophy and the difference of hypothetical and categorical imperatives, the basic problems of the Critique of Judgment. Fichte and the rise of German idealism; Hegel's philosophy of history.





## Dr hab. Marcin Zdrenka, prof. UMK

### Virtues, vices, fiends & values – a genealogy of language of morality and ethics

Seminar, 20 HOURS, 4 ECTS

Mondays, 16.45-18.15

The lecture is an attempt to look at the historical complexity of the language of morality and the relationship of its genealogy to the formation of various ethical concepts.

The classes will present key points in the genealogy of "stories" about good and evil, focused on central value concepts such as virtue, duty, value.

The theoretical background are the categories of genealogy and narration, borrowed from the concepts of F. Nietzsche (genealogy of morality), A. MacIntyre ("infinitely long history of ethics"), Ch. Taylor (narrative ethics, human being as a self-interpreting animal).

<https://teams.microsoft.com/l/team/19%3a9e529589609d4c619d4f1fa9db3dcab9%40thread.tacv2/conversations?groupId=ae27e73a-2600-4727-ab6d-fdd4f56ff60f&tenantId=e80a627f-ef94-4aa9-82d6-c7ec9cfca324>