

Philosophy – Intermediate course

This course builds on “Introduction to Philosophy” in Marino College evening classes and is particularly suited for anyone who has done a beginners course in Philosophy before and wants to develop their knowledge of the subject further.

We will explore further areas in the fields of Ethics, political philosophy, and philosophy of religion and also look at some new topics such as the philosophy of art, and Ancient Greek philosophy.

WEEKS 1 and 2

Ancient Greek Philosophy I

The great Classical period of Ancient Greek thought: Socrates, Plato and Aristotle

WEEK 3

Ancient Greek Philosophy II

Other ancient Greek schools of thought after Aristotle: The Stoics, The Epicureans.

WEEK 4

Political philosophy

- The social contract. John Locke and Jean Jacques Rousseau
- key issues of justice, fairness and human rights. Plato and John Rawls

WEEK 5

Philosophy of Religion

- The arguments for the existence of God. Aristotle , Aquinas and David Hume,

WEEKS 6 and 7

Aesthetics

- Ancient Greek ideas of Art
- Immanuel Kant’s analysis of the aesthetic experience
- Marxist critiques of art in terms of its social and political function

WEEK 8

Key features of existentialist philosophy. We will examine the existentialist thinkers Soren Kierkegaard and Jean Paul Sartre.