Universidad de Navarra

***CORE- Anthropology (F. Medicina) grupo IP inglés***

*Guía docente 2026-27*

# PRESENTACIÓN

- **Breve descripción de la asignatura:**

This class will be dedicated to the philosophical study of human beings and the human condition. We will discuss and evaluate various philosophical responses to the following questions:

1) what are human beings? Are they animals? Are they purely material beings or do they have an immaterial soul?

2) what is the purpose and end of the human life? Does death constitute an obstacle to the meaningfulness of the human life?

3) what are the powers of a human individual? Do we have Free Will? Are we really rational?

4) how essential to the human condition is the experience of living as a group or community? What are the roles of family, friendship, religion, art, politics, in the constitution and structure of a properly human community?

At the end of the course students are expected to be capable of:

1. identifying the anthropological presuppositions that underlie various contemporary debates in ethics and politics

2. understanding and elaborating sophisticated arguments for or against various philosophical conceptions of human beings

3. achieving a high level of coherence and argumentative justification in their own understanding of human beings, in order to get closer to truth

The work in both semesters will include careful reading and discussion of the texts indicated in the program as “mandatory bibliography”. Students are required to attend classes having read the mandatory texts corresponding to the subjects to be discussed in class. We will have lectures and discussion-based classes.

- **Carácter**: Obligatoria
- **ECTS**: 6
- **Curso y semestre**: 1st year, Fall and Spring
- **Idioma**: English
- **Título**: Anthropology
- **Módulo y materia de la asignatura**: - Módulo 2: Medicina social, habilidades de comunicación e iniciación a la Investigación; - Materia 2.2: Formación humana y valores profesionales;
- Esta asignatura forma parte del Core Curriculum de la Universidad de Navarra
- **Profesor responsable de la asignatura**: Jean-Baptiste Guillon, CV
- **Horario**: Wednesdays 09:30-11:30
- **Aula**: Hexágono de Ciencias, Planta 4, Room 4E02

# RESULTADOS DE APRENDIZAJE (Competencias)

**MEDICINA**

**Competencias transversales**

CT1 Comprender que es propio del espíritu universitario afrontar de manera crítica y reflexiva el estudio de la propia disciplina en su conexión con el resto de los saberes.

CT2 Identificar las cuestiones más relevantes de la existencia humana presentes en las grandes creaciones religiosas, humanísticas y científicas y adoptar una postura personal razonada frente a ellas.

CT3 Descubrir y enjuiciar los presupuestos antropológicos y las repercusiones éticas de la propia disciplina.

**Resultados de aprendizaje**

RA1 Que los estudiantes hayan demostrado poseer y comprender conocimientos en un área de estudio que parte de la base de la educación secundaria general, y se suele encontrar a un nivel que, si bien se apoya en libros de texto avanzados, incluye también algunos aspectos que implican conocimientos procedentes de la vanguardia de su campo de estudio

RA2 Que los estudiantes sepan aplicar sus conocimientos a su trabajo o vocación de una forma profesional y posean las competencias que suelen demostrarse por medio de la elaboración y defensa de argumentos y la resolución de problemas dentro de su área de estudio

RA3 Que los estudiantes tengan la capacidad de reunir e interpretar datos relevantes (normalmente dentro de su área de estudio) para emitir juicios que incluyan una reflexión sobre temas relevantes de índole social, científica o ética

RA4 Que los estudiantes puedan transmitir información, ideas, problemas y soluciones a un público tanto especializado como no especializado

RA5 Que los estudiantes hayan desarrollado aquellas habilidades de aprendizaje necesarias para emprender estudios posteriores con un alto grado de autonomía

RA39 Tener, en la actividad profesional, un punto de vista crítico, creativo, con escepticismo constructivo y

orientado a la investigación.

RA40 Comprender la importancia y las limitaciones del pensamiento científico en el estudio, la prevención y el manejo de las enfermedades.

RA41 Ser capaz de formular hipótesis, recolectar y valorar de forma crítica la información para la resolución de problemas, siguiendo el método científico.

RA6 Reconocer los elementos esenciales de la profesión médica, incluyendo los principios éticos, las

responsabilidades legales y el ejercicio profesional centrado en el paciente.

RA8 Saber aplicar el principio de justicia social a la práctica profesional y comprender las implicaciones éticas de la salud en un contexto mundial en transformación.

RA9 Desarrollar la práctica profesional con respeto a la autonomía del paciente, a sus creencias y cultura.

## PROGRAMA

Part I: what are human beings?

1. the human animal and its place in Nature

2. the human mind: materialism

3. the human mind: dualism

4. the human mind: hylomorphism

5. the identity of persons over time

6. humans as opposed to other animals: the differences

Part II: what are the origin and the purpose of human life?

1. origins of rational beings: darwinian evolution

2. origins of rational beings: anthropic principle and the teleological argument

3. the end of human life: death and the after-life

4. the meaning of *my* life

5. the meaning of human history: humanism, progress and transhumanism

- Second Semester -

Part III: what are the powers of the human animal?

1. rational power: Reason

2. active power: Freedom

3. the motives of action: desires

4. the motives of action: emotions

5. the importance of the “examined life”

Part IV: what are the essential characteristics that structure the human community?

1. men and women in human societies

2. the political society and the idea of civilisation

3. art

4. religiosity

## ACTIVIDADES FORMATIVAS

The course is 6 ects and thus requires 150 hours of student work.

44 hours of this work will be dedicated to in-person lectures.

66 hours of work will be dedicated to reading through required texts.

40 Hours will be dedicated to the students' revisions and exams (partial and final).

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# EVALUACIÓN

## ORDINARY CALL

The course will be graded on a 10 points scale.

Each semester, you will receive an average grade. The annual grade will be the average of both semesters.

- **semestrial exam** (December and May): written exam **70%**. The December exam will concern the chapters seen in the first semester. The May exam will concern the chapters seen in the second semester. Both exams will contain a part with an essay question and a second part with mulitple choice questions (bad answers discounting points).

- **reading tests** (during the year): **30%**. You will have to read a chapter or a paper every week, and there will be a short reading test from time to time (unanounced).

- **optional presentation** (last class of the second semester): for a **bonus of up to 10%** of your second semester grade. On a voluntary basis, students who want to do a supplementary work on some topic of anthropology studied during the year can contact the professor. The professor will validate the topic suggested by the student (example: meaning of life, free will, etc.), and will assign a paper to be read on this topic. The student will have to read the assigned paper (on this topic) and prepare an oral presentation of 7 to 10 minutes, which will consist of a presentation of the argument of the paper and a personal contribution to the philosophical debate (either in agreement or in disagreement with the paper). More guidelines will be provided about how to write a philosophical essay.

Students with special educational needs must first contact the Coordinación de Estudios of the faculty / school, in order to obtain the corresponding authorization for adaptations (for example, being allowed extra time in exams). This authorization must then be sent by the student to the professor. It is recommended that this procedure be carried out at the beginning of the semester.

**ATTENTION:** Please remember that any attempt at fraud, cheating, plagiarism, or other irregular behavior constitutes a serious offense as stipulated in Title IV, "Normas de disciplina académica de los estudiantes" within the "Sistema de normas sobre la convivencia en la Universidad de Navarra".

## EXTRAORDINARY CALL

If students fail to reach 5 points in the semestrial (or annual) average, they may sit for an exam in the "Extraordinary Call".

Each semester can be retaken separately. Students who choose to retake a semester must retake at least the part of the corresponding semestrial exam (70%), which will have the exact same form as in december (or may respectively), with different questions. They can also decide to retake the part of the reading tests (30%): in that case they will have a new reading test of 20 questions that can bear on any of the readings of the corresponding semesters. Otherwise, they can choose to keep the average grade for reading tests that they received during the semester.

The bonus grade of the optional presentation doesn't count in the extraordinary call. There is no option to do any supplementary work in june.

## EXAM DATES

- 1st semester: december 16th, 9:30 - 11:30, room 4E02 in the science building

- 2nd semester: april 28th, 9:30 - 11:30, room 4E02 in the science building

- extraordinary call: june 7th, 9:00 - 11:00, room 4E02 in the science building

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**HORARIOS DE ATENCIÓN**

I will have office hours for all interested students at office 2321, building Ismael Sanchez-Bella, at the following times:

Wednesday 16:00 - 18:00 (first semester), Tuesday 16:00-18:00 (second semester).

I can also be available at other times upon special appointment: jguillon@unav.es

## BIBLIOGRAFÍA Y RECURSOS

Bibliography and resources

All assigned texts (journal articles or selected chapters from various books) will be available on the University's AulaVirtual Adi. You do not have to buy any textbook. The following list is just an indication of some important books in the domain from which some chapters may be extracted as assigned texts.

Indicative Bibliography:


Plato, *Plato's Euthyphro: Apology of Socrates and Crito* Localízalo en la Biblioteca

Descartes, *Meditations on First Philosophy* Localízalo en la Biblioteca

Peter van Inwagen, *Metaphysics*, part three "the inhabitants of the world" Localízalo en la Biblioteca

Eric T. Olson, *What are We? A Study in Personal Ontology* Localízalo en la Biblioteca

Eleonore Stump, *Aquinas*, part II ("the nature of human beings") and part III ("the nature of human excellence") Localízalo en la Biblioteca

Thomas Nagel, *The View from Nowhere* Localízalo en la Biblioteca

Thomas Nagel, *Mortal Questions* Localízalo en la Biblioteca

Robert Nozick, *The Examined Life* Localízalo en la Biblioteca

Robert Nozick, *Philosophical Explanations* Localízalo en la Biblioteca

Stewart Goetz, *The Purpose of Life, A Theistic Perspective* Localízalo en la biblioteca


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