Syllabus

Course Description

Course Title	Nature and Society
Course Code	27271
Course Title Additional	
Scientific-Disciplinary Sector	PHIL-03/A
Language	German
Degree Course	Bachelor in Economics, Politics and Ethics
Other Degree Courses (Loaned)	
Lecturers	Dr. phil. Ralf Lüfter, RLuefter@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/11838
Teaching Assistant	
Semester	Second semester
Course Year/s	3
CP	7
Teaching Hours	42
Lab Hours	6
Individual Study Hours	-
Planned Office Hours	21
Contents Summary	The course offers a variety of perspectives to help students develop a critical understanding of the relationship between nature and society. Throughout the course, elements for diagnosing the present are conveyed and discussed in relation to the following questions, among others: How have human beings understood nature, and how do they understand it today? How have human beings understood themselves and how do they understand themselves today? What scope do they have to shape their relationship with nature and with each other in society? Classic ethical positions provide an opportunity to develop autonomous reflections on these questions. The enquiry into the nature of the

	human being remains the central point of reference. Thanks to language, human beings establish themselves in nature and organise themselves in society. Thus, nature and society emerge as the thematic areas that characterise humanity's relationship to the world.
Course Topics	God - Nature - Man The things of nature and the nature of things Art as imitation of nature: mimesis Nature as a model for technology: bionics and bioengineering The book of nature in mathematical symbols Methodological monism vs. methodological dualism On the appropriation of nature in photography, cartography, chronography The observer paradox Cybernetics: steering of natural organisms and social organizations Anthropocene Natural language and technical language
Keywords	Nature; Society; Culture; Technics; Technological Innovation; Methodological dispute; Natural and social sciences; Cybernetics; Anthropocene; Language
Recommended Prerequisites	
Propaedeutic Courses	None
Teaching Format	Mixed lecture and seminar style. Exercise hours will be offered to elucidate (including from a linguistic point of view) and deepen what is presented and discussed in class.
Mandatory Attendance	Highly suggested, but not required.

Specific Educational Objectives and Learning Outcomes	ILO (Intended Learning Outcomes) ILO 1 Knowledge and understanding ILO 1.1 Knowledge of selected basic philosophical positions and theoretical tools of analysis for understanding the fundamental institutions of the Western world; ILO 1.2 Knowledge of the relationship between nature and society based on fundamental concepts of the philosophical tradition that enable an analysis of the human habitat and an understanding of the crises associated with the mechanisation of nature in an economic context; ILO 2 Ability to apply knowledge and understanding ILO 2.1 the ability to adopt an autonomous cognitive and critical stance supported by an adequate capacity for conceptualisation at methodological, theoretical and ethical levels; ILO 2.2 the ability to distinguish between the problematic impacts of human intervention in nature and the level of meaning from which these impacts emerge; ILO 2.3 the ability to analyse the basic characteristics that define the human habitat in its social dimension and its embeddedness in nature; ILO 2.4 the ability to formulate a concept or argument effectively in a multilingual context characterised by translation and dialogue between languages ILO 3 Making judgements ILO 3.1 Acquire the necessary judgement and methodological tools to critically analyse data, sources, assumptions and implications of scientific practice and the political, ethical and legal contexts in which economic phenomena are situated and with which they interact. ILO 4 Communication skills ILO 4.1 Proficiency in written and spoken Italian, German and English, including the translation of these languages. Intercultural competence. Conceptual conciseness, ability to capture facts in

	writing, especially for scientific and science-based texts ILO 5 Learning skills ILO 5.1 Fostering critical thinking and analytical skills to recognise complex problems in their long-term dynamics and in the diversity of their - also ethical - implications
Specific Educational Objectives and Learning Outcomes (additional info.)	
Assessment	Final exam at the end of the term that consists of open questions to assess knowledge and understanding. Exam preparation should be based on the topics covered and the readings discussed in class. Relevant for ILOs: 1, 2.1, 2.4, 3, 4 In addition, students are expected to prepare a presentation and write an essay. The topic will be chosen in accord with the lecturer. Relevant für ILOs: 1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 4, 5
Evaluation Criteria	The final exam accounts for 70% of the total mark, while the presentation and the essay account for 30%. Relevant for the assessment: • knowledge and understanding • ability to ask adequate questions • critical thinking • analytical strength
Required Readings	— Slides presented in class — Readings handed out in class All texts will be made available in the reserve collection.
Supplementary Readings	
Further Information	
Sustainable Development	No poverty, Partnerships fot the goals, Good health and well-being,

Goals (SDGs)	Quality education, Gender equality, Clean water and sanitation, Affordable and clean energy, Decent work and economic growth, Industry, innovation and infrastructure, Reduced inequalities, Sustainable cities and communities, Responsible consumption and production, Climate action, Life below water, Life on land, Peace, justice and strong institutions, Zero hunger