



# Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - 2024-2025

## Exchange

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam offers many English-taught courses in a variety of subjects, ranging from arts & culture and social sciences, neurosciences and computer science, to economics and business administration.

The International Office is responsible for course approval and course registration for exchange students. For details about course registration, requirements, credits, semesters and so on, please [visit the exchange programmes webpages](#).

# Metaphysics

Course Code	W_BA_MEEN
Credits	6
Period	P5
Course Level	300
Language Of Tuition	English
Faculty	Faculty of Humanities
Course Coordinator	prof. dr. L.B. Decock
Examiner	prof. dr. L.B. Decock
Teaching Staff	prof. dr. L.B. Decock
Teaching method(s)	Lecture

## Course Objective

The aims of the course are to:

1. introduce the student into a number of metaphysical terms, theses, and problems
2. introduce the student into a number of contemporary discussions about these theses and problems, mainly in the broadly 'analytical' style.
3. familiarize the student with a number of classic papers of the contemporary (meta)metaphysical literature

## Course Content

The course will cover central topics in contemporary metaphysics: Quine's criterion of ontological commitment, abstract entities, material objects, natural kinds, time, object persistence, modality, and causation. Moreover, we will deal with metametaphysical themes: the Vienna Circle's rejection of metaphysics, scientific metaphysics, antirealism, and cognitive metaphysics.

## Additional Information Teaching Methods

Lectures on Ney's handbook; seminars on selected texts

## Method of Assessment

Written examination

## Entry Requirements

Logic

## Literature

Required literature

Alyssa Ney, *Metaphysics* (2nd edition)

Selected texts (see Canvas)

## Additional Information Target Audience

BA2-students Philosophy

## Recommended background knowledge

History of Analytic Philosophy, Epistemology, Argumentation theory, Philosophy of Mind