# Philosophy 12

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Social Studies  | Philosophy 12 |
| Big Ideas  | Elaborations |
| Philosophy is a discipline that examines the fundamental nature of knowledge, reality, and existence. |  |
| Philosophy provides tools for investigating meaning and fostering understanding of different ways of thinking. |  |
| Examining questions in philosophy allows people to question their assumptions and better understand their own beliefs. |  |
| While philosophical questions often examine issues with no definitive answers, logic and reasoned arguments can show which answers have more or less value. |  |
|  |  |
|  |
| Curricular Competencies | Elaborations  | Content | Elaborations  |
| *Students are expected to be able to do the following:** Use philosophical inquiry processes and reasoning skills to respond to arguments and questions related to major issues in philosophy
* Assess the relevance of philosophical ideas for everyday life and current social and political issues
* Analyze philosophical ideas and assess their significance (significance)
* Compare the justification for different philosophical perspectives after investigating points of contention and the strengths and weaknesses of various arguments (evidence)
* Compare and contrast continuity, change, and divergence of ideas, disciplines, and schools of thought (continuity and change)
* Assess the development and impact of diverse ideas and systems of thought (cause and consequence)
* Explain different philosophical perspectives by considering the norms, values, worldviews, and beliefs of the philosophers who developed them (perspective)
 |  | *Students are expected to know the following:** **methods of reasoning and argument in philosophy**
* **metaphysical theories about the nature of reality**
* **epistemological theories about knowledge and truth**
* **social and political philosophy**
* **theories of morality, ethics, and aesthetics**
 | methods of reasoning and argument in philosophy:Sample topics:* logic and rational argument
* logical fallacies
* Socratic dialogue
* syllogisms
* induction and deduction
* criticising and making closing arguments
* rational decision making

metaphysical theories about the nature of reality:Sample topics:* idealism
* realism
* materialism
* personal identity
* determinism and free will
* theism, deism, and atheism
* nihilism and existentialism
* positivism
* postmodernism

epistemological theories about knowledge and truth:Sample topics:* rationalism
* empiricism
* pragmatism
* skepticism
* relativism
* appearance and reality

**social and political philosophy:***Sample topics:** justice (e.g., distributive, restorative, retributive)
* rights (e.g., positive/negative, individual/group)
* contractarianism
* communitarianism and individualism
* libertarianism
* feminist philosophy
* anarchism
* Marxism

theories of morality, ethics, and aesthetics: Sample topics:* the good life
* egoism versus altruism
* deontology
* utilitarianism
* virtue ethics
* environmental ethics
* biomedical ethics
* nihilism
* the nature and value of beauty
* art and emotion
* aesthetic imagination and truth
* the role of aesthetics (e.g., elegance) in science
* objectivism and subjectivism in artistic judgments
 |