

## 'Minor Analytic Philosophy

The minor in analytic philosophy has two aims:

1. to offer to students so inclined a comprehensive education in core areas of analytic philosophy
2. to prepare students for a PhD, possibly with the ulterior aim of an international career in academia, in analytic philosophy

Interested students should contact the director of the minor: [denis.buehler@ens.fr](mailto:denis.buehler@ens.fr)

The director will also serve as their tutor throughout their minor and offers advise concerning a PhD in analytic philosophy.

### Courses

**Reference and Meaning** Foundational debates concerning reference and meaning in language and mind: Frege, Russell, Logical Empiricism, Quine, Donnellan, Kripke, Kaplan, Putnam, and Burge

**Philosophy of Mind** Study of philosophical issues concerning the nature of the mind and its relation to the body, including token/type-identity theory, mental causation, functionalism, behaviorism, mental content, and consciousness.

**Philosophy of Science** Study of selected problems concerning the character and reliability of scientific understanding, such as nature of scientific theory and explanation, reality of theoretical entities, inductive confirmation of hypotheses, and occurrence of scientific revolutions.

**Ethical Theory** Systematic introduction to ethical theory, including discussion of egoism, utilitarianism, justice, responsibility, meaning of ethical terms, relativism, etc.

**Logic** Elements of symbolic logic, sentential and quantificational; forms of reasoning and structure of language.

**Philosophy of Language** Syntax, semantics, pragmatics. sense and denotation, Tarskian semantics, implicature, two dimensional semantics, synonymy and analyticity, modalities and tenses, indirect discourse, indexical terms, semantic paradoxes.

**Philosophy of Cognitive Science** Foundational issues in the scientific study of mind: language of thought, computationalism, representational content, syntax, connectionism, modularity, evolutionary psychology, and explanation in cognitive neuroscience.

**Epistemology** Problem-oriented study of contemporary classics of analytic epistemology on topics such as skepticism, justification, foundationalism, epistemic intuitions, tracking, closure, reliabilism, internalism, and externalism, a priori knowledge, and the definition of knowledge.

**Metaphysics** Intensive investigation of topics or works in metaphysics, such as free will, personal identity, nature of dispositions, possibility and necessity, universals and particulars, causality.

## Requirements

### **Throughout**

End of year interview with director of studies  
Participation in Nicod Philosophy Colloquium

### **Required coursework**

Core analytic: Logic  
Core analytic: Reference & meaning  
Core analytic: Mind  
Core analytic: Language

### **Facultative**

1. Choose two out of
  - Core analytic: Epistemology
  - Core analytic: Science
  - Core analytic: Cognitive science
  - Core analytic: Ethics
2. Two additional courses in analytic philosophy, validated by director of studies
  - = 8 courses or 48 ECTS