

Course number	U-LAS00 10021 LE34					
Course title (and course title in English)	History of Modern Science-E2 History of Modern Science-E2		Instructor's name, job title, and department of affiliation	Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies Professor,D'SOUZA, Rohan Ignatious		
Group	Humanities and Social Sciences		Field(Classification)	Philosophy(Foundations)		
Language of instruction	English		Old group	Group A	Number of credits	2
Number of weekly time blocks	1	Class style	Lecture (Face-to-face course)		Year/semesters	2025 • First semester
Days and periods	Tue.3	Target year	All students		Eligible students	For all majors
[Overview and purpose of the course]						
<p>Broadly, in part one [semester: April-September], the course will introduce students to some of the main ‘ historiographical debates ’ that have shaped our understanding of modern science. In the standard narrative, the period between the discoveries of Galileo Galilei (1564-1642) and the mathematical formulations of Isaac Newton (1642-1726/27) has generally been considered to have inaugurated the scientific revolution. This course, however, will aim to view the same period as actually marked by an equally important shift that defined modern science: heralding the end of Aristotelianism and the re-emergence of Platonism.</p>						
[Course objectives]						
<p>By introducing students to some of the historiographical debates on the origins and defining features of what constitutes modern science, this course aims to achieve three main goals: a) a basic introductory understanding of some of the main ideas of the leading thinkers on modern science; b) a biographical sketch of the natural philosophers of the period leading up to the ‘ Scientific Revolution ’ and c) how history as a disciplinary field debates modern science as a distinct historical moment.</p>						
[Course schedule and contents)]						
<p>Each class will comprise a 90 minute session; involving a lecture of 60 minutes and followed by a 30 minute interactive discussion in which student participation will also be elicited through either group or individual presentations.</p> <p>Four themes will be covered in this class and each theme will be covered in three to four weeks.(Total : 14 classes and one feedback)</p> <p>a) Plato's (429?-347 B.C.E.) and Aristotle's (384-322 B.C.E.)</p> <p>b) From Geocentrism to Heliocentrism</p> <p>c) Mechanical Philosophy to the Newtonian World View</p> <p>d) The Scientific Revolution</p>						
[Course requirements]						
None						
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History of Modern Science-E2(2)

[Evaluation methods and policy]

There will be a regular cycle of written submissions and feedback through class discussions. The idea is to develop a credible capacity for reading and writing amongst those who take up the course.

Evaluations will be based on two tutorial assignments, which will carry a 50% grade for each.

[Textbooks]

Not used

[References, etc.]

(References, etc.)

Steven Shapin 『The Scientific Revolution』 (University of Chicago Press 1996) ISBN:978-0226750217
Margaret J. Osler 『Reconfiguring the World: Nature, God and Human Understanding from the Middle Ages to Early Modern Europe』 (The John Hopkins Press: Baltimore 2010) ISBN:978-0801896569
Alfred North Whitehead 『Science and the Modern World』 (The Free Press: New York 1967 [1925]) ISBN: 978-0684836393
Deepak Kumar 『Science and the Raj : a study of British India』 (Oxford University Press; New Delhi 2006 (2nd edition) [1995]) ISBN: 978-0195680034
Hiromi Mizuno 『Science for the Empire: Scientific Nationalism in Modern Japan』 (Stanford University Press: Stanford 2008) ISBN:978-0804776561

(Related URL)

(Relevant sections and chapters from the above books will be assigned as readings for the course. Other reading materials such as articles or short write-ups may be included based on class discussions and interest.)

[Study outside of class (preparation and review)]

Students will be expected to have read at least five pages of pre-assigned reading, at the very minimum, before attending each class.

[Other information (office hours, etc.)]

Students can meet me during office hours with prior appointment.

[Essential courses]