Science et Société : analyse de controverses scientifiques

Lecturers
Patrick MARDULYN (Coordinator) and Grégoire Wallenborn

Course mnemonic
ETHI-F301

ECTS credits
5 credits

Language(s) of instruction
French

Course period
First term

Campus
Plaine

Course content

Search for scientific articles to assess the state of knowledge on different subjects associated with contemporary society debates; Critical assessment of articles from the scientific literature; Developing your own opinion on a society debate; Topics that are discussed change every year, and are usually related to current events (e.g., use of GMOs in agriculture, toxicity of glyphosate, personal genomics, causes of global warming, risks related to vaccination, effects of 5G on human health and the environment ...)

Objectives (and/or specific learning outcomes)

Discover how scientific research works; discover the reality and complexity of the scientific debate; develop a critical mind; learn to assess the state of scientific knowledge on a specific subject, then develop your own opinion regarding a contemporary society debate; learn to analyze a public debate: identify and verify the facts presented, point out any contradictions, omissions, or abusive interpretations

Pre-requisits and co-requisits

Required knowledge and skills

no required knowledge

Teaching method and learning activities

Analysis of television debates, documentaries and media articles; Search and critical assessment of articles from the scientific literature; Group discussions; Discussions with guest experts who present their opinion on a debate; Debates; Personal work to be handed in, the evaluation of which may contribute to the final grade of the course.

Course notes

Université virtuelle

Other information

Place(s) of teaching

Plaine

Contact(s)

Patrick Mardulyn (patrick.mardulyn@ulb.be) and Grégoire Wallenborn (gregoire.wallenborn@ulb.be)

Evaluation method(s)

Project

Evaluation method(s) (additional information)

One personal written project + one group project either to be presented orally or in written form

Determination of the mark (including the weighting of partial marks)

Projects evaluation

Main language(s) of evaluation

French

Other language(s) of evaluation, if applicable

English

Programmes

Programmes proposing this course at the faculty of Sciences

BA-BIOL | Bachelor in Biology | option Bruxelles/unit 2 and option Bruxelles/unit 3, BA-CHIM | Bachelor in Chemistry | unit 2, BA-GEOL | Bachelor in Geology | unit 2, BA-INFO | Bachelor in Computer science | unit 3, BA-IRBI | Bachelor in Bioengineering | unit 3, BA-MATH | Bachelor in Mathematics | unit 2 and unit 3 and BA-PHYS | Bachelor in Physics | unit 3

Programmes proposing this course at the Brussels School of Engineering

BA-IRBI | Bachelor in Bioengineering | unit 3