

PROGRAM OF PHILOSOPHICAL DISCUSSIONS

First Year of Study

First Cycle of Discussions: Philosophy of Ancient Greece

Introductory discussion: What is philosophy?

Discussion 1. In Search of Truth

Discussion 2. What is Friendship? Aristotle on Friendship

Discussion 3. What did the Ancient Philosophers' Question "What is the Universe?" Lead To?

Discussion 4. What is Good and What is Evil?

Discussion 5. Truth, Lie, Fantasy

Second Cycle of Discussions: Culture and Philosophy of Japan

Discussion 6. Teachers in the Traditions of the West and the East. Teacher-Master or Helper?

Discussion 7. Children in Japan. Interesting Facts About Japanese Children's Lives

Discussion 8. Children in Japan. Interesting Facts About Japanese Children's Lives (continued)

Discussion 9. Japanese Holidays for Children

Discussion 10. Philosophy of Japanese Manga and Anime

Third Cycle of Discussions: Philosophical Teachings of India and China

Discussion 11. Mysterious India. Journey to the Land of Wonders

Discussion 12. Culture and Traditions of India

Discussion 13. Buddha and His Teachings

Discussion 14. Philosophy of Ancient China. Confucianism

Discussion 15. Philosophy of Laozi

Fourth Cycle of Discussions: What is Important in Life?

Discussion 16. What is Important in Life?

Discussion 17. Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle on Trust

Discussion 18. Social Networks – A New Space of Trust

Discussion 19. How Are Computer Games Harmful?

Discussion 20. In the World of Signals

Fifth Cycle of Discussions: What is a Human Being?

Discussion 21. Will Robots Replace Teachers? Will Robots Replace Humans?

Discussion 22. What is a Human Being? Socrates' Teaching on Man

Discussion 23. What is a Moral Compass? Socrates' Teaching on Three Moral Guides

Discussion 24. What is Wisdom and How is it Different from Intelligence?

Discussion 25. Heart and Mind of a Human Being

Sixth Cycle of Discussions: Truth and Lies

Discussion 26. Who are the Sophists?

Discussion 27. Sophists and Socrates

Discussion 28. Truth and Lies in the Understanding of Socrates and Protagoras. The Problem of Moral Choice

Discussion 29. Thesis and Arguments

Discussion 30. What Does it Mean to Think?

Second Year of Study

Seventh Cycle of Discussions

Discussion 1. Plato's Teaching on Ideas and Worldly Illusions

Discussion 2. Who are the Cynics?

Discussion 3. Who are the Stoics?

Discussion 4. Who are the Skeptics?

Discussion 5. Heraclitus and Democritus

Eighth Cycle of Discussions

Discussion 6. Epicurus' Philosophy of Happiness

Discussion 7. What is Beauty?

Discussion 8. What is a Cultural Code?

Discussion 9. Truth is Born in Dispute

Discussion 10. Debate and Discussion

Ninth Cycle of Discussions: Philosophy of Science

Discussion 11. Philosophy of Science. Immanuel Kant on Discovery and Invention

Discussion 12. Philosophy and Astronomy. Astronomy Through a Philosopher's Eyes

Discussion 13. Philosophy and Mathematics. Pythagoras: "Everything is Number!"

Discussion 14. Plato's Mysterious Atlantis and the Bermuda Triangle Mystery

Discussion 15. Philosophy and Music. Pythagoras' Discovery. Where Does Music Come From?

Tenth Cycle of Discussions: Understanding Japan

Discussion 16. Japanese Philosophy of Wabi-Sabi

Discussion 17. Philosophy of Kimono

Discussion 18. Philosophy of Ikebana

Discussion 19. Philosophy of Bushido and Japanese Samurai

Discussion 20. Philosophy of Japanese Cuisine and the Fun Bento Boxes

Eleventh Cycle of Discussions: Ethics – the Science of Good and Evil

Discussion 21. Ethics – the Science of Good and Evil. Facts and Values

Discussion 22. Moral Luck. How Chance Affects Our Moral Judgments

Discussion 23. Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle on Ethics

Discussion 24. Doing Good. Story “Yushka” by Andrei Platonov

Discussion 25. What is Important in Life? (Using the Film “Titanic” as an Example)

Twelfth Cycle of Discussions: Moral Worlds and Ethical Theories

Discussion 26. Moral Code in the Bible

Discussion 27. European Antiquity (Rome). Lucius Seneca and Marcus Aurelius

Discussion 28. Modern Research on Moral Behavior

Discussion 29. Moral Feelings and Relations. Dignity and Respect

Discussion 30. What is Tolerance?

Third Year of Study

Thirteenth Cycle of Discussions: Free Will and Responsibility

Discussion 1. Do Humans Have Free Will? (Jean-Paul Sartre and Julien Offray de La Mettrie). Example from the Film “Minority Report”

Discussion 2. Søren Kierkegaard and the Philosophy of Existentialism

Discussion 3. Jean-Paul Sartre on Freedom

Discussion 4. Human Dignity and Freedom in Immanuel Kant’s Philosophy

Discussion 5. Erich Fromm. Choice and Responsibility

Fourteenth Cycle of Discussions: Happiness and Meaning of Life

Discussion 6. Philosophy of Utilitarianism. John Stuart Mill on Happiness and Pleasure

Discussion 7. Duty and Care. Pleasure or Duty? (Discussion)

Discussion 8. Concepts of Good and Evil in World Religions

Discussion 9. Friedrich Nietzsche. “Beyond Good and Evil. Prelude to the Philosophy of the Future”

Discussion 10. Nietzsche on the Übermensch

Fifteenth Cycle of Discussions: Aesthetics – the Science of Beauty

Discussion 11. Aesthetics. Beauty. Aesthetic Judgment and Taste

Discussion 12. What is the Philosophy of Art?

Discussion 13. Imitation and Creativity. Plato, Aristotle, and Kant on Art

Discussion 14. Friedrich Nietzsche on the Origins of Art

Discussion 15. Art as Play: The Concept of the “Homo Ludens” by Johan Huizinga

Sixteenth Cycle of Discussions: Medieval Philosophy of the West

Discussion 16. Features of Medieval Philosophy

Discussion 17. Augustine’s Teaching. The Thing-in-Itself

Discussion 18. Boethius. Fate and Action

Discussion 19. Understanding the Power of Words

Discussion 20. Scholasticism: The Beginning of Disciplinary Knowledge

Seventeenth Cycle of Discussions: Renaissance Philosophy

Discussion 21. Principles of Renaissance Philosophy

- Discussion 22. The Beginning of Social Philosophy
Discussion 23. Utopia as a Social Project. Thomas More
Discussion 24. The Reformation. Martin Luther, John Calvin, Erasmus of Rotterdam
Discussion 25. European Humanism. Main Ideas of European Humanism

Eighteenth Cycle of Discussions: Philosophy of the Modern Era

- Discussion 26. Sensualism. Philosophy of Francis Bacon
Discussion 27. Philosophy of Thomas Hobbes
Discussion 28. Philosophy of John Locke
Discussion 29. Philosophy of George Berkeley
Discussion 30. Philosophy of David Hume

Fourth Year of Study

Nineteenth Cycle of Discussions: Rationalism

- Discussion 1. Philosophy of René Descartes
Discussion 2. Philosophy of Blaise Pascal
Discussion 3. Philosophy of Baruch Spinoza
Discussion 4. Discussions on Innate Knowledge. Philosophy of Gottfried Leibniz and John Locke
Discussion 5. French Enlightenment. Charles de Montesquieu (1689–1755)

Twentieth Cycle of Discussions: German Classical Philosophy

- Discussion 6. Origins and Preconditions
Discussion 7. Philosophy of Kant
Discussion 8. Fichte's Doctrine and Schelling's Philosophy of Nature
Discussion 9. Hegel's "Absolute Idealism"
Discussion 10. Feuerbach's Anthropology

Twenty-First Cycle of Discussions: Russian Philosophy

- Discussion 11. Russian Philosophy and Its Features
Discussion 12. Philosophy of Ancient Rus (11th–17th centuries)
Discussion 13. Teachings of Vladimir Monomakh
Discussion 14. 16th-Century Ancient Russian Philosophy. Moscow – The Third Rome
Discussion 15. Philosophy of Mikhail Vasilyevich Lomonosov

Twenty-Second Cycle of Discussions: Russian Philosophy

- Discussion 16. French Enlightenment Philosophy (Diderot)
Discussion 17. French Enlightenment Philosophy (Voltaire)
Discussion 18. French Enlightenment Philosophy (Rousseau)
Discussion 19. Catherine the Great and French Enlightenment Philosophy
Discussion 20. Russian Philosophy of the 19th Century. Slavophiles and Westernizers

Twenty-Third Cycle of Discussions: Russian Philosophy

Discussion 21. Philosophy of All-Unity by Vladimir Solovyov. Three Forces Determining the Fate of Human Civilization

Discussion 22. The Problem of Fear in the Philosophy of Nikolai Berdyaev

Discussion 23. "The Russian Idea" in the Philosophy of Nikolai Berdyaev

Discussion 24. Do Difficulties Make a Person Stronger?

Discussion 25. Philosophy of Freedom by Nikolai Berdyaev

Twenty-Fourth Cycle of Discussions: Russian Philosophy

Discussion 26. Philosophical Foundations of Russian Cosmism. Philosophy of V.I. Vernadsky

Discussion 27. Philosophy of Cosmism by Konstantin Eduardovich Tsiolkovsky

Discussion 28. Philosophy of Technology

Discussion 29. Russian Existentialism

Discussion 30. New Religious Consciousness (S.N. Bulgakov)