

MINISTRY OF HEALTH OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

“BELARUSIAN STATE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY”

**DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND POLITICAL SCIENCE WITH
ADVANCED TRAINING AND RETRAINING COURSES**

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INSTRUCTIONS

**FOR THE PREPARATION AND WRITING OF THE EXAM ESSAY
(ABSTRACT)**

Minsk 2026

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STRUCTURE AND FORMATTING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE RESEARCH ESSAY

An abstract is a comprehensive summary and critical review of literature on a specific academic topic. The primary purpose of abstracting is to present the viewpoints, arguments, and conclusions of other scholars. The abstract highlights key theoretical, experimental, and descriptive findings, prioritizing newly proven facts, discoveries of long-term significance, and conclusions (such as assessments and proposals). It should also outline both accepted and rejected hypotheses documented in the referenced sources.

While the abstract may vary in its level of detail, it must focus on the core themes and results of the literature under review. Students are encouraged to express their own perspectives on the subject matter, even in a hypothetical form, as assumptions that can be further researched and argued in the future. Ultimately, the abstract aims to develop the student's critical stance toward the problem being studied.

As a key component of undergraduate or postgraduate research, the abstract demonstrates the student's academic erudition and ability to independently analyze, systematize, classify, and synthesize existing scientific data. Therefore, the foundational requirement for the abstract is its analytical nature.

A written abstract for the course **“Philosophy and Methodology of Science”** is mandatory for international students and serves as a prerequisite for earning credit in this discipline.

The choice of the topic depends on two main factors: relevance to the course curriculum and the author's scientific interests.

The abstract is evaluated by the **Department of Philosophy and Political Science with advanced training and retraining courses at the Belarusian State Medical University**. The evaluation includes a brief written feedback report and a grade based on a **ten-point scale**. A passing grade is required for the student to be admitted to the final examination.

General Requirements for the Essay (Abstract)

Formatting and Page Layout

- Paper Size and Layout: The text must be printed on one side of standard A4 sheets.
- Typography: Use Times New Roman font, regular style, 14-point size, with 1.5 line spacing.
- Margins: Left – 30 mm; Right – 10 mm; Top – 20 mm; Bottom – 20 mm.
- Headings Formatting: All titles and headings must be bolded.
 - Heading Level 1 (Chapters / Major Sections): 16-point font, bold.
 - Heading Level 2 (Subsections): 14-point font, bold.
 - Heading Level 3 (Paragraphs): 14-point font, bold and italicized.

- Spacing: A spacing of three blank lines (line breaks) must be maintained between chapter or paragraph headings and the subsequent body text.
- Page Numbering: Pages must be numbered consecutively from the title page to the final page. The page number is omitted on the title page (counted as page 1). The number “2” is placed on the following page, and so on. Serial numbers must be printed in the upper right corner of the page margin without any additional characters (such as dashes or periods). Each new chapter or major section must begin on a new page.
- Total Volume: The total length of the work must be at least 1 author’s sheet (approximately 24–25 pages).

Structural Components

The text must include a Title Page, Table of Contents, Introduction, Main Body, Conclusion, and a Bibliography (List of References).

- Title Page: This is the first page of the document and must be formatted strictly according to the attached template (Appendix 1).
 - Table of Contents: Lists the names of chapters, sections, and paragraphs along with their corresponding starting page numbers (Appendix 2).
1. Introduction: Formulates the relevance of the chosen topic, the current degree of scholarly research on the issue, the overall purpose, and specific objectives of the work. It defines the object and subject of research, outlines the core propositions of the topic, and previews the structure of the paper. Volume: 1–2 pages.
 2. Main Body: Divided into chapters, sections, or paragraphs where the core content of the research is presented. It is recommended to divide this section into 2–3 sub-questions reflecting different aspects of the topic. The author must present and critically evaluate various scholarly viewpoints on the problem. Volume: 12–15 pages.
 3. Conclusion: Summarizes the results of the research based on the tasks and objectives stated in the introduction. Volume: 1–3 pages.
- Bibliography: The reference list must be compiled in alphabetical order. In-text citations and footnotes must be enclosed in square brackets, indicating the source number from the reference list and the specific page number, for example: [3, p. 17] or [3, pp. 55-56].

Submission, Evaluation, and Academic Integrity

The paper has the official status of an educational scientific work. Its primary objectives are to deepen the student’s knowledge in the discipline “Philosophy and Methodology of Science” and to reinforce scientific research methodologies in practice.

- Submission Deadline: The hard copy (paper version) of the work must be submitted for review during the seminar #13.
- Plagiarism Prevention: the instructor reviews the text and conducts a comprehensive multi-level originality check via the “Anti-Plagiarism” system.

- Review Feedback: The instructor evaluates both the substantive content and formal layout parameters of the work, documenting the final feedback and findings in an official written review.

MAIN EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR THE ESSAY (ABSTRACT)

1. **Academic Integrity:** A multi-level originality check of the text conducted via the “Anti-Plagiarism” system.
 2. **Clarity of Research Framework:** Accurate and clear formulation of the research purpose and objectives, alongside precise identification of the object and subject of study.
 3. **Structural Validity:** Logical organization of the abstract's plan and structure, ensuring total alignment with the stated goals and objectives.
 4. **Theoretical and Methodological Depth:** The academic level of analysis applied to the problem, the depth of its philosophical and methodological synthesis, and the proficient application of contemporary philosophical categorical and conceptual frameworks.
 5. **Research and Analytical Component:** Demonstrated capacity for independent and creative scholarly work, reflecting a distinct critical analysis of the issue under review.
 6. **Quality and Scope of Literature:** The qualitative and quantitative parameters of the bibliographic sources used, including their relevance to the topic and alignment with the current state of modern philosophical and methodological research.
 7. **Compliance with Academic Standards:** Adherence to the formal requirements for scientific publications, including an appropriate academic writing style, correct citation formatting, and proper layout of the overall document.
- Important Notice:** A student whose work receives a failing grade (non-passing evaluation) will not be admitted to the final examination.

TRAINING, INFORMATION AND REFERENCE, BASIC AND ADDITIONAL LITERATURE FOR THE COURSE “PHILOSOPHY AND METHODOLOGY OF SCIENCE”

Basic (relevant):

1. Vasylieva, Iryna Vasylivna. Philosophy and general philosophy of medicine: study guide / Iryna Vasylivna Vasylieva, Anatolii Yuriiovych Vermenko. – Kyiv: AUS Medicine Publishing, 2019. – 240 p. – References in the text.

Additional:

1. Мельникова, Ирина Николаевна. Курс лекций по философии = Lectures on philosophy : учеб.-метод. пособие для самостоят. работы студентов 2 курса фак. по подгот. специалистов для зарубеж. стран учреждений высш. мед. образования / Мельникова, Ирина Николаевна, Бордак, Станислава Николаевна ; Гомел. гос. мед. ун-т, Каф. социал.-гуманит. наук. - 2-е изд. - Гомель : ГомГМУ, 2018. - 64 с.

For review

1. Курс лекций по философии: учеб.-метод. пособие для самостоятельной работы студентов 2 курса факультета по подготовке специалистов для зарубежных стран медицинских вузов / И.Н. Мельникова, С.Н. Бордак. – Гомель: ГомГМУ, 2014. – 64 с.

2. Основы философии: пособие для студентов факультета иностранных учащихся (с английским языком) / И.О. Шафаревич, З.Н. Марченко. –Гродно: ГрГМУ, 2013. – 140 с.

1. Bartley, C. An introduction to Indian philosophy / C. Bartley. - London, New York: Continuum International Publishing Group, 2011. – 245 p.

2. Basic problems of philosophy / edited by Bronstein Daniel J., Krokorian Ervant H., Wiener Philip P. Third Edition. – New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, 1964. – 676 p.

3. Dronke, P. A history of twelfth-century Western philosophy / P. Dronke. – Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992. – 495 p.

4. Kenny, A. An illustrated brief history of Western philosophy / A. Kenny. – Oxford: Blackwell publishing, 2006. – 405 p.

5. Law, S. Philosophy / S. Law. – New York, 2007. – 352 p.

6. Ridling, Z. Philosophy. Then and Now. A Look Back at 26 Centuries of Ideas That Have Shaped Our Thinking / Z. Ridling. – Access Foundation, 2001. – 1108 p.

7. Russell, B. A history of western philosophy and its connection with political and social circumstances from the earliest times to the present day / B. Russell. - New York: Simon and Schuster. – 955 p.

8. Spirkin, A. The basis of philosophy on English. - Printed in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: Progress Publishers, 1990. – 187 p.

9. The history of philosophy. – Ataraxiainc, 2006. – 254 p.

Internet resources

1. Afanaseva L.A. Teaching methodical grant on philosophy for students of day training of Ulan-Ude, 2001. // <http://the-books.biz/philosophy-fundamental/uchebno-the-methodical-grant-philosophy-for.html>.
2. Encyclopedia Britannica // <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/643889/The-Will-to-Believe-and-Other-Essays-in-Popular-Philosophy>
3. Korobkova J.E. Philosophy: the Abstract of lectures / Korobkova J.E. MIEMP, 2005. - 118 p. // <http://the-books.biz/philosophy-fundamental/philosophy-the-abstract-lectures-korobkova-jue.html>
4. Petrov G. V. The Short directory on philosophy. Composer Petrov G. V Pskov: PGPI, 2004. - 52 p. // <http://the-books.biz/philosophy-fundamental/the-short-directory-philosophythe-composer.html>.
5. Philosophical research online // <http://philpapers.org/>
6. Philosophy. Under the editorship of prof. V.N. Lavrinenko. - 1998.// <http://the-books.biz/philosophy-fundamental/philosophy.html>.
7. Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy // <http://plato.stanford.edu/contents.html>
8. The Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy // <http://www.iep.utm.edu/>
9. V.A.Mejder. the Practical work on philosophy: (Problems and exercises) /Sost. V.A.Mejder. Volgograd: Publishing house VolGu,1999. - 96 p. // <http://the-books.biz/philosophy-fundamental/the-practical-work-philosophy-problems-and.html>.
10. Zhavoronkova A.S. Shpargalka on philosophy: answers to examination cards. - 2009. // <http://the-books.biz/philosophy-fundamental/shpargalka-philosophy-answers-examination.html>.

COURSEWORK TOPICS IN “PHILOSOPHY AND METHODOLOGY OF SCIENCE”

1. Features of philosophy as a conceptual/mental comprehension of reality.
2. Distinctive features of philosophical thought in Western and Eastern cultural traditions.
3. Philosophy of Belarusian national development: problems and prospects.
4. Relevance of Slavic socio-cultural traditions and philosophical ideas in the modern era.
5. Historical trends in the interaction between philosophy and science.
6. Research strategies in post-classical Western European philosophy.
7. Classics of natural science on the role of philosophical and methodological foundations in scientific development.
8. P. Feyerabend's epistemology.
9. Philosophy of post-positivism: core ideas and principles.
10. The concept of Being in classical and non-classical Western European philosophy.
11. Philosophical problems of modern cosmology.
12. Core principles of the spatial-temporal organization of Being.
13. Specifics of biological space and time.
14. Individual and social space and time in human existence.
15. Historical-evolutionary approach to understanding space and time in living nature (V. I. Vernadsky).
16. The problem of finite and infinite historical and personal time in the history of culture.
17. The problem of space and time of human existence in the dynamics of the global ecological crisis.
18. Philosophy of a healthy lifestyle.
19. Nature as a subject of philosophical and scientific inquiry.
20. Systemic-evolutionary paradigm of nature's development.
21. Synergetic approach to explaining the dynamics of Being.
22. Dialectics as a philosophical theory of development.
23. Global evolutionism in the formation of the modern scientific picture of the world.
24. The idea of harmony between human and nature at various stages of history.
25. Philosophical problems of sustainable development in the “society–nature” system.
26. The problem of co-evolution of society and nature towards the formation of the noosphere.
27. Modern science and philosophy on the contradictions and patterns of the noosphere formation.

28. Evolution of ideas on the unity of human and the Universe in philosophy and science.
29. The anthropic principle in explaining the origin, development, and prospects of human existence.
30. The cosmo-geo-bio-psycho-social nature of human as a problem of modern philosophy and science.
31. Core concepts of anthroposociogenesis.
32. Multidimensionality of human dynamics in philosophy and science.
33. Human as a biosocial being: modern scientific and philosophical inquiries and solutions.
34. Science and philosophy on the origin and essence of consciousness.
35. Core philosophical and scientific traditions in the study of consciousness.
36. S. Freud's concept of the structure of the human psyche and the interconnection of its levels.
37. Philosophical analysis of the psychophysiological nature of consciousness.
38. Unity of structural levels of the human psyche in creative activity.
39. Philosophical and scientific problems of cybernetic modeling of consciousness and the creation of artificial intelligence.
40. Consciousness, language, and communication.
41. Axiological parameters of human existence in the world.
42. The problem of the meaning of life in various socio-cultural traditions and conditions.
43. Philosophical analysis of the problem of death and immortality.
44. Dialectics of individual freedom and responsibility at the current stage of world civilization development.
45. The modern anthropological crisis and ways to overcome it.
46. The anthropic principle and its interpretation in modern philosophy and science.
47. Features of utopian consciousness and the role of utopia in the actions of the masses.
48. Social ideal: reasons for formation, contradictory nature, and implementation trends.
49. Specifics of the East Slavic mentality and its role in shaping the strategy of civilizational development in the 21st century.
50. Freedom as a right and a duty.
51. Social reality and core strategies of its investigation in modern philosophy.
52. Marxism on the problem of alienation.
53. Historical self-determination and developmental features of modern Belarusian society.
54. Self-development of society: analysis of sources and driving forces.
55. Historical alternatives and the choice of societal development paths.

56. Crisis in societal development (socio-psychological and methodological analysis).
57. Core concepts and criteria of social progress.
58. Problems of information society formation.
59. Formational and civilizational paradigms in the study of the historical process.
60. Transformation and modernization as mechanisms of social formation and creativity during a transition period.
61. Pre-industrial, industrial, and post-industrial types of civilization in the history of society (a comparative analysis).
62. Statism and paternalism: forms of manifestation and correlation in the history of societal development.
63. Interaction of self-organization and organization in social life.
64. Dialogue of cultures in the modern world and the problem of preserving cultural-civilizational identity.
65. Features of culture and civilization of East Slavic peoples, factors of their consolidation, and their role in the modern world.
66. Core paradigms of the philosophical analysis of culture.
67. Traditions and innovations in the dynamics of culture.
68. Ecologization of culture: objective prerequisites, essence, and problems.
69. Natural-climatic environment as a fundamental factor in economic development.
70. The phenomenon of globalization: core trends and approaches to problem-solving.
71. The role of spontaneous and purposeful activity of actors in the development and management of society.
72. Analysis of the spiritual crisis of technogenic civilization and the search for ways to overcome it.
73. The role of morality, art, and religion in the spiritual-value self-determination and life of modern society.
74. The problem of interconnection among national, common human, and universal values in the sustainable development of modern society.
75. Social mythology, utopia, and ideology in spiritual life and the dynamics of social being.
76. Philosophical analysis of the latest trends in the socio-cultural development of the global community.
77. Core problems of the philosophy of medicine.
78. Core status roles of science in the modern world.
79. Specifics and patterns of scientific knowledge.
80. Scientific rationality and its core historical types.

81. The rise of disciplinary-organized science in the Renaissance and Early Modern periods.
82. Functions and features of science in industrial and post-industrial societies.
83. Empirical and theoretical levels of scientific knowledge, their specifics, and interconnection.
84. Scientific theory, its structure, and core functions.
85. Metatheoretical foundations of science.
86. Style of scientific thought and its specifics in a concrete historical and cultural context.
87. Problems of interaction between science and culture in the modern world.
88. Contradictions and patterns in the development of science.
89. The nature and types of scientific revolutions.
90. The phenomenon of parascience, conditions of its emergence and development.
91. The concept and core levels of development of the methodology of scientific knowledge.
92. Systems approach, its specifics, and role in scientific knowledge.
93. Formation and capabilities of non-linear methodology of knowledge.
94. Core parameters of methodological analysis of scientific research.
95. Methods of empirical and theoretical research.
96. Core types and functions of justification of scientific research results.
97. The role of information technologies in modern scientific knowledge.
98. Unity of object language and metalanguage in conducting scientific research and forming terminology.
99. The principle of diversity of methodological strategies in scientific research.
100. Methodological and heuristic role of the core principles, laws, and categories of dialectics in scientific knowledge.
101. Organizational forms of modern science, their interconnection, and dynamics of development.
102. Unity of science and education, the problem of continuity in their development.
103. Features, prospects, and essential tasks of science development in the Republic of Belarus.
104. The scientific community and the status of a scientist in modern society.
105. Scientific communication and its role in the development of science.
106. Problems of social, ideological, political, legal, and moral regulation of scientific activity.
107. Praxeological function of science in modern society.
108. Instrumental and worldview value of modern science.
109. Creative freedom and social responsibility of a scientist.

110. Social values and norms of the scientific ethos in the activities of scientists.
111. Problems of prospects, capabilities, and boundaries of modern science.
112. Core forms of the development of scientific knowledge.
113. The correlation between the rational and the irrational, the discursive and the intuitive in scientific knowledge.
114. Post-non-classical natural science and its features.
115. Content and philosophical aspects of non-classical natural science.
116. Interdisciplinary status of synergetics in post-non-classical science.
117. Problems of value-ethical orientation in the development of modern medical knowledge.
118. The phenomenon of the ecologization of science and ecological expertise of scientific projects.
119. Core directions and prospects of modern engineering and technology development in the context of sociodynamics.
120. Core trends in the globalization of technosystems and the formation of the technosphere.
121. Information-computer revolution and its philosophical-methodological analysis.
122. Analysis of the impact of technological development on the core spheres of society and human life.
123. Technocratism and philosophical-methodological aspects of humanization and ecologization in designing anthropotechnic complexes.
124. Problems of knowledge and control of virtual reality in the information society.
125. Social significance of the computer revolution.
126. Informatization and its role in social control over humans.
127. Interconnection of humanities, natural sciences, and engineering sciences in modern education.
128. Core models of the interdependent development of science and technology.
129. The role of computer technology and engineering in the development of information epistemology.
130. Philosophy of postmodernism: spiritual-theoretical origins, core stages of formation, and value orientations.
131. Futurological role of philosophy in the context of globalization and the formation of a new world order.
132. Core models, scenarios, and socio-cultural parameters of globalization.

133. Prospects for sustainable development and co-evolution of human and the biosphere in modern civilization.
134. Problems of preservation and development of Belarusian national culture and statehood in the “era of globalization”.
135. Philosophy as a methodology for the interdisciplinary synthesis of knowledge in the formation of a contradictory, holistic world.

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ABSTRACT ON THE COURSE
“PHILOSOPHY AND METHODOLOGY OF SCIENCE”

Topic No.

“ ”

student

last name_____

first name_____

group_____

Minsk 2026

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

CHAPTER 1. THE CONCEPT OF THE GLOBAL INFORMATION SOCIETY IN PHILOSOPHY AND SCIENCE

1.1. Concept and main features of the global information society

1.2. Basic models of information society development

CHAPTER 2. MAIN STAGES AND PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE GLOBAL INFORMATION SOCIETY

2.1. Development of the information society in the 40s. XX century - early XXI century.

2.2. Problems of the formation of the information society

2.3. Features of the formation of the information society in the Republic of Belarus

CONCLUSION

BIBLIOGRAPHY