



Programme Specification

Philosophy {Foundation}[Frenchay]

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Section 1: Key Programme Details

Part A: Programme Information

Programme title: Philosophy {Foundation}[Frenchay]

Highest award: BA (Hons) Philosophy

Interim award: BA Philosophy

Interim award: DipHE Philosophy

Interim award: CertHE Philosophy

Awarding institution: UWE Bristol

Affiliated institutions: Not applicable

Teaching institutions: UWE Bristol

Study abroad: Yes

Year abroad: Yes

Sandwich year: Yes

Credit recognition: No

School responsible for the programme: HAS Dept of Social Sciences, Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

Contributing schools: Not applicable

Professional, statutory or regulatory bodies: Not applicable

Apprenticeship: Not applicable

Mode of delivery: Full-time, Sandwich

Entry requirements: For current entry requirements see the UWE public website.

For implementation from: 01 September 2023

Programme code: V50J00

Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Overview: The Philosophy programme at UWE has been designed to provide an intellectually stimulating, meaningful, and contemporary learning experience. Our Philosophy students graduate equipped and able to realise their full potential, make a positive contribution to their communities, workplaces and society and to play their full part in the development of a sustainable global society and knowledge economy.

Philosophy students are well placed to follow careers in a diverse range of sectors, including: education, academic research, law, finance, the creative industries, healthcare, social work, not-for-profit organisations (NGOs) or the civil service. Many of our undergraduate students also specialise further through postgraduate study in specific areas of philosophy, law and other subjects.

Educational Aims: The programme aims to develop in its graduates the skills, knowledge, attitude and confidence to create, critique and make a difference to the world beyond university. The core curriculum of the programme, in particular, is designed to train professionals who are prepared for lifelong learning, personal development and success in whatever field they choose to work and participate.

More specifically the programme aims:

To provide an enriching educational experience through which students will acquire a range of knowledge, skills, and virtues associated with learning and reflection, which are all designed to prepare them for citizenship and employment in later life.

To foster critical study, collaborative, co-operative and independent learning.

To equip students with the transferrable skills of critical and creative thinking, problem-solving, rational negotiation, and the ability to develop and articulate public discourse, in written and spoken forms.

To promote self-criticism and reflexive awareness.

To give students the opportunity to become familiar with educational and other forms of technology relevant to preparing them for citizenship and employment.

To help students realise their potential by giving them a space in which to construct and realise their own pathways for the future, for example: further study and avenues of employment that were not possible for them prior to university or that they were not aware of prior to their studies.

In the above context, to develop personal capacities appropriate to a wide range of careers – including the self-confidence, autonomy, and creative initiative required to contribute and participate fully in society and to work in all entrepreneurial settings.

To offer the opportunity for liberal arts education - especially for students who might not otherwise have such an opportunity.

To enable students to engage in problems and issues in the real world beyond the university, such as those in applied, environmental, and medical ethics; questions of health and illness; decolonisation; and creative practice. This will be further informed through a range of collaborations with other programmes, universities and institutions.

To provide an outward facing set of educational opportunities that include the opportunity to engage with and provide support to a range of partners and stakeholders in the Bristol area through placements, partnerships and community focused research.

To teach a curriculum, unique across the UK, that comprehensively covers all of the main areas in the history and current practice of philosophy and demonstrates how contemporary philosophy cannot be studied in isolation from the history of philosophy, nor from the practical problems which beset post/late modernity.

Programme Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of this programme graduates will achieve the following learning outcomes.

Programme Learning Outcomes

- PO1. demonstrate a critical understanding of the key concepts and methods of a range of schools of thought, with a particular focus on those belonging to the Continental tradition, and an ability to apply them in an innovative way to the most important philosophical issues of our time.
- PO2. develop an accurate and comprehensive interpretation of a range of classical texts of the philosophical tradition, overcoming the difficulties due to their cultural and linguistic variety, and recognising their lasting value for the contemporary world.
- PO3. cultivate a number of transferable skills concerning writing complex and abstract texts, constructing, assessing, defending, and criticising rational arguments, identifying and challenging basic assumptions, debating in an open-minded and critical way, as well as producing innovative public discourse in written and spoken forms.
- PO4. articulate how abstract philosophical theories can help address in an ambitious and inclusive way the most urgent challenges of our society, such as those concerning global citizenship, decolonisation, distributive justice, the future of the environment, and the effects of new technologies on all aspects of human life.
- PO5. use philosophical concepts, methods, and theories to interpret and assess different forms of cultural production including science, political discourse, arts, and other creative practices, and to assess their value and significance for human flourishing.
- PO6. apply abstract ideas, critical, communicative and problem-solving skills as means to overcome the boundaries of different fields, professions, and specialised terminologies, thus furthering appreciation of the interconnectivity of different areas of human activities.

Part B: Programme Structure**Year 1**

Full-time and Sandwich students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 1.

Year 1 Compulsory Modules (Full-time and Sandwich)

Full-time and Sandwich students must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Full-time and Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZQRUX-30-0	Essentials of Academic Practice 2022-23	30
UZQRUY-30-0	Exploring the Social World and the Problems of Crime 2022-23	30
UZQRV9-30-0	From Plato to Nato 2022-23	30
UZQRVA-30-0	People and Social Science 2022-23	30

Year 2

Full-time and Sandwich students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 2.

Year 2 Compulsory Modules (Full-time and Sandwich)

Full-time and Sandwich students must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Full-time and Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZRPMS-30-1	Ancient Philosophy 2023-24	30
UZRYFC-30-1	Existentialism and Questions of Human Nature 2023-24	30
UZRYFD-30-1	Philosophical Methods: Introduction 2023-24	30
UZRYFE-30-1	Understanding our Global and Social Environment 2023-24	30

Year 3

Full-time and Sandwich students must take 30 credits from the Compulsory Modules and 90 credits from the Optional Modules in Year 3 to a total of 120 credits.

Year 3 Compulsory Modules (Full-time and Sandwich)

Full-time and Sandwich students must take 30 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Full-time and Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZRY5J-15-2	Philosophical Methods 2024-25	15

UZRY5Q-15-2	Self and Society 2024-25	15
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Year 3 Optional Modules (Full-time and Sandwich)

Full-time and Sandwich students must take 90 credits from the modules in Optional Modules (Full-time and Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZRY8Y-15-2	Critiques of Reason and Society: Post-Kantian Philosophy 2024-25	15
UZRRVX-15-2	Decolonising Moral Thought 2024-25	15
UZRSYQ-15-2	Early Modern Philosophy 2024-25	15
UZRY8U-15-2	Existence and Reality 2024-25	15
UZRSYR-15-2	Gender, Sexuality, Feminism 2024-25	15
UZRSYJ-15-2	Hellenistic and Neo-Platonist Philosophy 2024-25	15
UZRYFG-15-2	Philosophy and Ethics of Innovation 2024-25	15
UZRRVW-15-2	Philosophy of Art and Creative Practice 2024-25	15
UZRYFF-15-2	Philosophy of Ecology 2024-25	15
UZRSYS-15-2	Understanding Capitalism 2024-25	15

Year 4

Full-time students must take 30 credits from the Compulsory Modules and 90 credits from the Optional Modules in Year 4 to a total of 120 credits.

Sandwich students must take 15 credits from the Sandwich Module in Year 4 to a total of 15 credits.

Year 4 Compulsory Modules (Full-time)

Full-time students must take 30 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Full-time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZY5P-30-3	Philosophy Project and Placement Module 2025-26	30

Year 4 Compulsory Modules (Sandwich)

Sandwich students must take 15 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Sandwich).

International opportunities may include: Erasmus exchange with Leuven University in Belgium

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZSY5D-15-3	Social Sciences Placement Year 2025-26	15

Year 4 Optional Modules (Full-time)

Full-time students must take 90 credits from the modules in Optional Modules (Full-time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZYJH-15-3	Decolonisation in Theory and Practice 2025-26	15
UZRSSR-15-3	Ethics of Technology 2025-26	15
UZRYFH-15-3	Global Philosophical Issues 2025-26	15
UZRSYF-15-3	Phenomenology: The Philosophy of Experience 2025-26	15
UZRYFJ-15-3	Philosophy of Mental Health and Psychiatry 2025-26	15
UZRYFK-15-3	Philosophy of Science, Nature, and Sustainability 2025-26	15
UZRYFL-15-3	Philosophy, Art, Literature 2025-26	15
UZRK9X-15-3	Post-Humanism 2025-26	15

UZRSYH-15-3	Social Pathology and Paradoxes of Modernity: The Frankfurt School 2025-26	15
UZRY8L-15-3	Thought in Action: Film and Philosophy 2025-26	15

Year 5

Sandwich students must take 30 credits from the Compulsory Modules and 75 credits from the Optional Modules to a total of 105 credits.

Year 5 Compulsory Modules (Sandwich)

Sandwich students must take 30 credits from the Compulsory Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZRY5P-30-3	Philosophy Project and Placement Module 2026-27	30

Year 5 Optional Modules (Sandwich)

Sandwich students must take 75 credits from the Optional Modules (Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZRYJH-15-3	Decolonisation in Theory and Practice 2026-27	15
UZRSSR-15-3	Ethics of Technology 2026-27	15
UZRYFH-15-3	Global Philosophical Issues 2026-27	15
UZRSYF-15-3	Phenomenology: The Philosophy of Experience 2026-27	15
UZRYFJ-15-3	Philosophy of Mental Health and Psychiatry 2026-27	15
UZRYFK-15-3	Philosophy of Science, Nature, and Sustainability 2026-27	15
UZRYFL-15-3	Philosophy, Art, Literature 2026-27	15
UZRK9X-15-3	Post-Humanism 2026-27	15

UZRSYH-15-3	Social Pathology and Paradoxes of Modernity: The Frankfurt School 2026-27	15
UZRY8L-15-3	Thought in Action: Film and Philosophy 2026-27	15

Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis

Through this Philosophy programme, students will enhance their critical thinking and acquire new analytic skills that will enable them to identify and critically address complex issues and goals in our natural and social world, such as gender equality, global justice, well-being, responsible innovation, environmental issues, and sustainability (all of which are embedded in the UN Sustainable Development Goals). Students will cultivate the ability to rationally dissent and negotiate, and will acquire a well-rounded knowledge of the history of philosophy and the way this has gone to create philosophy's contemporary state, in its Anglo-American and European guises. At the same time, this programme also aims at contributing to the decolonisation of higher education by incorporating narratives and analyses stemming from non-Western cultures and philosophies. Students' overall understanding and vision of the world will be transformed through this course of study.

Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks

The QAA subject benchmark statements for Philosophy have informed the design of the programme from the outset. The benchmarks were consulted during the planning process and at each stage of the design and development of the programme. They have influenced the selection of the educational aims and learning outcomes against which the teaching, learning and assessment processes have been specified.

University teaching and learning policies are embedded in the educational aims and learning outcomes of the programme. The University's commitment to promoting a diverse, integrated and flexible learning experience is reflected in the rich range of teaching, learning and assessment methods and strategies in evidence in the programme. This programme fully aligns with the UWE 2030 Strategy, which the

Programme Team have actively contributed to establish. This is reflected by core themes around which the programme is organised and by the practice-led and problem-based nature of our learning and teaching offer.

The research, scholarly and knowledge exchange activities and interests of staff have shaped the wide-ranging provision of philosophical thinking at all levels of the programme. In particular this influence is evidenced by the varied and stimulating choice of option modules at Level 6.

Part E: Regulations

Approved to University Regulations and Procedures.