

## Philosophy: single honours

**NEW for September 2015!** 



Philosophy is both one of the most fascinating subjects you can study and one of the most valued non-vocational degrees among today's employers.





Philosophy is held in high esteem within business because of its high level thinking and analytical skills which made answering application questions easier. I found a job within Business Development (which at the time I had never heard of!) but the skillset was similar to what you need to be good at uni - research, analytical thinking, strong written communication etc. so I applied and was invited to interview. I was then offered the role, accepted and I moved to Wiltshire. Have been here over a year now, climbing the career ladder and am now in the process of buying my first house! - Verity Tregellas, BA (Hons) Philosophy and History (2012)

Studying Philosophy as part of a dual-honours was the best decision I could have made. Alongside getting to know such engaging lecturers and making some of my closest friendships through the course, I was also kept constantly intrigued by the topics we covered: whether studying Schopenhauer and his view that this is the worst possible world, or Leibniz and his view that it is the best. Philosophy at Keele certainly opened my eyes to new ways of thinking. I'd highly recommend the course to anyone! - Amelia Frost, BA (Hons) Philosophy and English (2012)



I believe that studying philosophy adds credence to the saying 'improve your mind and the rest will follow'. Whilst some philosophical content may seem abstract and counter-intuitive, engaging with it moulds your mind into a disciplined and efficient thinking tool that has the potential to affect every aspect of your life.

- John Wootton, BA (Hons) Philosophy with History (2012)

## Why study Philosophy?

Philosophy is concerned with questions about the ultimate nature of reality (Metaphysics), the extent to which we can achieve knowledge (Epistemology), the relation between consciousness, thought, and the brain (Philosophy of Mind), how we ought to conduct our lives (Ethics), how society ought to be organised (Political Philosophy), and many other related, large-scale questions. Such questions were first systematically raised in Ancient Greece, India and China, and continue to be discussed to this day because of their perennial and intrinsic interest. Studying philosophy develops your analytical mind, opens you to new ways of thinking, and will almost certainly change your life for the better! Philosophy is one of the most valued non-vocational degrees among today's employers (i.e. all degrees except the very few vocational ones like law and medicine) because it provides direct rather than indirect training in the transferrable skills they value, such as critical thinking and logical analysis.

## Why study Philosophy at Keele?

- Keele has enjoyed a strong reputation for philosophy since the 1950s, with famous Keele
  philosophers including Antony Flew, Richard Swinburne and Jonathan Dancy; it is one of the most
  established and well-regarded centres of philosophy in the UK. Our annual Jean-Jacques
  Rousseau Lecture commemorates the 'first Keele philosopher' (Rousseau's famous cave was near
  the current site of the university).
- Keele philosophy ranks in the top-30 of all the major league tables, and in the latest 2015 Guardian league table its exceptional student satisfaction rating of 96% was the fifth highest in the country.
- Keele's Royal Institute of Philosophy lectures allow students to hear the latest research from
  philosophers based at universities throughout the UK and beyond. Other such opportunities for
  students are provided by Keele's membership of organisations such as The North West Philosophy
  Consortium, and the Oxford-St Andrews-Keele Centre for Kantian Philosophy.
- In their second year, Keele philosophy students all have the option to either study abroad (in partner universities across the world) or take a work experience module.

## The New Single Honours

2015 is a historic year for Keele philosophy since it will be offering Single Honours Philosophy for the first time. If philosophy is all you want to study, then this is the option for you: we will be expanding our current curriculum to offer a range of modules comparable to that of any of the major philosophy department in the UK, with fascinating and exciting options such as philosophy of art, continental philosophy, and philosophy of science.

