

## Course Information Document: Undergraduate

### For students starting in Academic Year 2023/24

#### 1. Course Summary

<b>Names of programme and award title(s)</b>	BA (Hons) Philosophy BA (Hons) Philosophy with International Year (see Annex for details) BA (Hons) Philosophy with Work Placement Year (see Annex for details)
<b>Award type</b>	Combined Honours
<b>Mode of study</b>	Full-time
<b>Framework of Higher Education Qualification (FHEQ) level of final award</b>	Level 6
<b>Normal length of the programme</b>	3 years; 4 years with either the International Year or Placement Year between years 2 and 3
<b>Maximum period of registration</b>	The normal length as specified above plus 3 years
<b>Location of study</b>	Keele Campus
<b>Accreditation (if applicable)</b>	Not applicable
<b>Regulator</b>	Office for Students (OfS)
<b>Tuition Fees</b>	<p><b>UK students:</b></p> <p>Fee for 2023/24 is £9,250*</p> <p><b>International students:</b></p> <p>Fee for 2023/24 is £17,700**</p> <p><i>or £18,800** (if combined with a laboratory-based Principal Subject)</i></p> <p>The fee for the international year abroad is calculated at 15% of the standard year fee</p> <p>The fee for the work placement year is calculated at 20% of the standard year fee</p>

**How this information might change:** Please read the important information at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>. This explains how and why we may need to make changes to the information provided in this document and to help you understand how we will communicate with you if this happens.

\* These fees are regulated by Government. We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study in response to changes in government policy and/or changes to the law. If permitted by such change in policy or law, we may increase your fees by an inflationary amount or such other measure as required by government policy or the law. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions. Further information on fees can be found at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentfunding/tuitionfees/>

\*\* We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study by an inflationary amount. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions for full details. Further information on fees can be found at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentfunding/tuitionfees/>

## 2. What is a Combined Honours programme?

*NB:* Students who study their two Principal subjects in humanities and/or social science subjects will be awarded the degree of Bachelor of Arts (with Honours) (BA Hons). All students who study a science Principal subject are candidates for the degree of Bachelor of Science (with Honours) (BSc Hons) irrespective of their second Principal subject.

Combined Honours degrees are degrees that are taken in two different subjects, resulting in an X and Y degree title. If you are taking a Combined Honours programme, these will be the two subjects you applied for. These are referred to as your Principal Subjects.

In a Combined Honours degree you must take at least 135 credits in each Principal Subject (270 credits in total), accrued over all three levels of study, with at least 45 credits at each level of study (Levels 4, 5 and 6) in each of two Principal Subjects (90 credits per year). The remaining available credits can be filled with modules from these subjects or other subjects entirely.

As a Combined Honours student you can choose to study just one subject in your final year of study, taking a minimum of 90 credits in this subject. This will result in an X with Y degree title.

## 3. Overview of the Programme

### What is Philosophy?

The aim of Western Philosophy, as it has been practiced from Ancient Greece to the present day, is to develop an overall conception of human life and its place within reality. Philosophy is concerned with questions about the good life (Ethics), the ultimate nature of reality (Metaphysics), the extent to which we can achieve knowledge (Epistemology), and the relation between language, truth and meaning (Philosophical Logic). It also asks questions about the relation between thoughts, feelings and the brain (Philosophy of Mind) and how society ought to be organised (Political Philosophy).

### Philosophy at Keele

Keele has been one of the most renowned centres of Philosophy in England since the Second World War: it made its reputation in the 1960s under Anthony Flew, when it was closely associated with the 'Ordinary Language Philosophy' movement, and it again came to worldwide prominence in the 1980s and early 1990s under Jonathan Dancy, when it gained a reputation for epistemology and moral philosophy. Keele Philosophy today is a small, research-led programme, with particular strengths in metaphilosophy and metaphysics, as practised within a variety of traditions: analytic, phenomenological, Kantian and post-Kantian. It maintains an active agenda of extra-curricular philosophy, through the Royal Institute of Philosophy lecture series, the Keele-Oxford-St Andrews Kantian (KOSAK) Research Centre's 'Jean-Jacques Rousseau' Annual Lecture and Conference, or the Political Philosophy Seminar series, in which philosophers from other universities are invited to Keele to talk about their recent work. It also has a thriving student-led Keele Philosophy Society, which holds regular debates and film screenings. In addition, it runs a Summer Seminar series (where philosophers from Keele present their work), reading groups and other events. Our offer of programmes makes Keele Philosophy the perfect choice for students who want to combine philosophy with another subject. The placement of the Philosophy Programme within the interdisciplinary school of SPGS (the School of Social, Political and Global Studies) means that students are able to specialise in political or environmental philosophy, if this is where their main interests lie.

## 4. Aims of the programme

The broad aims of the programme are to enable you to:

- Examine questions in the main areas of philosophy;
- Develop knowledge and understanding of the main answers and objections to these answers;
- Apply the concepts and accounts specific to the main areas of the discipline;
- Obtain the transferable skills necessary to find a fulfilling and rewarding career and become critically aware citizens with a lifelong interest in philosophical issues;
- Obtain the subject-specific skills and knowledge necessary to study philosophy at postgraduate level.

## 5. What you will learn

The intended learning outcomes of the programme (what students should know, understand and be able to do at the end of the programme), can be described under the following headings:

- Subject knowledge and understanding
- Subject specific skills
- Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

## **Subject knowledge and understanding**

Successful students will be able to:

- Develop knowledge of a range of central areas of philosophical theory (such as moral philosophy, metaphysics, epistemology and political philosophy);
- Develop understanding of a range of philosophical traditions and canonical texts;
- Become familiar with the different approaches to philosophy associated with various movements in the past and present, and appreciate their attendant methodologies;
- Empathise with philosophical problems and thereby come to appreciate the various solutions that have been offered to these problems.

## **Subject specific skills**

Successful students will be able to:

- Think, talk and write about central areas of philosophical theory;
- Learn the basic logical and critical thinking skills required to deploy sound argument, identify underlying issues and detect fallacies and other argumentative weaknesses;
- Understand the importance of careful interpretation of philosophical texts;
- Develop the ability to conduct, and report on, their own research using suitable methods of investigation and appropriate techniques of scholarship in philosophy.

## **Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)**

Successful students will be able to:

- Identify underlying issues in various debates;
- Think, talk and write by deploying sound argument and a critical approach to the problems discussed;
- Think, talk and write clearly;
- Listen to the views and objections of the others and evaluate their positions and criticism.

## **Keele Graduate attributes**

Engagement with this programme will enable you to develop your intellectual, personal and professional capabilities. At Keele, we call these our ten Graduate Attributes and they include independent thinking, synthesizing information, creative problem solving, communicating clearly, and appreciating the social, environmental and global implications of your studies and activities. Our educational programme and learning environment is designed to help you to become a well-rounded graduate who is capable of making a positive and valued contribution in a complex and rapidly changing world, whichever spheres of life you engage in after your studies are completed.

Further information about the Keele Graduate Attributes can be found here: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/journey/>

## **6. How is the programme taught?**

Learning and teaching methods used on the programme vary according to the subject matter and level of the module. They include the following:

- Traditional lectures where the lecturer provides students with a framework for reading and independent study. Most lecturers employ presentation software such as Microsoft PowerPoint, while sometimes some lectures feature also video and audio presentations;
- Interactive learning in large classes where students have the opportunity to work together in smaller groups, interact with the lecturer and reflect on their own learning. Interactive lectures may involve the use of 'buzz groups', debates and quizzes;
- Tutorials and seminars in groups of up to 20 students where key issues can be discussed in more depth. Students are expected to play a full part, and occasionally to lead, these discussions. Many tutorials and seminars consist of student presentations and debates;
- Independent study based on directed reading from textbooks, research monographs, and academic journals;
- Web-based learning using the University's virtual learning environment (KLE). The KLE is an online learning environment that provides a range of tools to support your learning, including access to documents and other resources, quizzes, discussion boards, assignments and announcements;
- For those who choose to take the dissertation double module in Philosophy in their final year, the opportunity to undertake a piece of independent research supervised and supported by a member of

staff.

Apart from these formal activities, students are also provided with regular opportunities to talk through particular areas of difficulty, and any special learning needs they may have, with their Academic Mentors or module lecturers on a one-to-one basis.

These learning and teaching methods enable students to achieve the learning outcomes of the programme in a variety of ways. For example:

- Lectures and independent study allow students to gain a systematic and structured knowledge of philosophical ideas and how they may be used in the course of seminars and tutorials to analyse a variety of contemporary and traditional problems;
- Seminars, tutorials and online discussions provide opportunities for students to ask questions about, and suggest answers to, philosophical problems, and to present their own ideas to members of staff and other students using an appropriate medium of communication;
- Interactive lectures, seminars, tutorials and web-based activities encourage students to reflect on their own learning and take responsibility for its development by addressing areas of difficulty, perhaps by discussing them with their fellow students or by getting additional help from a member of staff;
- Undertaking a research dissertation with the support of an experienced and active researcher allows students to formulate relevant research questions and develop their own strategies for answering them.

## 7. Teaching Staff

Currently all members of staff have doctorates (PhDs or the equivalent) in philosophy and, as members of the University's Research Centre for the Study of Politics, Philosophy, International Relations and the Environment (in the Research Institute for Social Sciences), are active researchers. Their work, across many different aspects of philosophy, has been widely published in books, research monographs and leading international journals. Keele's research profile in philosophy also benefits from a research-active Emeritus Professor who was the founding editor of one of the major international philosophy journals.

In addition, to the permanent teaching staff on the Philosophy Programme, Keele Philosophy's placement within the interdisciplinary school of SPGS also allows it to draw on the political philosophy teaching of teaching staff from the Politics Programme. All of the Politics staff who teach on the programme hold at least one philosophy degree. The Philosophy staff group has extensive experience of teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate level in a variety of leading UK and international universities. They are all either members or associates of the HEA, or have a formal teaching qualification. Almost all teaching staff on the Philosophy Programme have received awards or nominations for excellence in teaching.

The University will attempt to minimise changes to our core teaching teams, however, delivery of the programme depends on having a sufficient number of staff with the relevant expertise to ensure that the programme is taught to the appropriate academic standard.

Staff turnover, for example where key members of staff leave, fall ill or go on research leave, may result in changes to the programme's content. The University will endeavour to ensure that any impact on students is limited if such changes occur.

## 8. What is the structure of the Programme?

The academic year runs from September to June and is divided into two semesters. The number of weeks of teaching will vary from programme to programme, but you can generally expect to attend scheduled teaching sessions between the end of September and mid-December, and from mid-January to the end of April. Our degree courses are organised into modules. Each module is usually a self-contained unit of study and each is usually assessed separately with the award of credits on the basis of 1 credit = 10 hours of student effort. An outline of the structure of the programme is provided in the tables below.

There are three types of module delivered as part of your programme. They are:

- Compulsory modules - a module that you are required to study on this course;
- Optional modules - these allow you some limited choice of what to study from a list of modules;
- Global Challenge Pathways (students studying at Level 6 in 2023/24 may take electives instead) - a choice of modules from different subject areas within the University that count towards the overall credit requirement but not the number of subject-related credits.

Students at Level 4 and Level 5 in 2023/24 have the option of taking a Global Challenge Pathway, which includes one 15-credit module in each year of the degree. Alternatively, a language module or an additional optional module can be taken instead. Information about Global Challenge Pathways can be found after the module lists for Level 5.

For further information on the content of modules currently offered, please visit:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/recordsandexams/modulecatalogue/>

A summary of the credit requirements per year is as follows, with a minimum of 90 subject credits (compulsory plus optional) required for each year across both of your Principal Subjects. This document has information about *Philosophy* modules only; please also see the document for your other subject.

Year	Compulsory	Optional		Electives	
		Min	Max	Min	Max
Level 4	30	15	30	0	15
Level 5	30	15	30	0	15
Level 6	0	45	60	0	15

In year 3 there is the option to choose to specialise in one of your subjects, taking a minimum of 90 credits in this subject rather than taking modules from both subjects.

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## Module Lists

### *Level 4*

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
10 Problems of Philosophy	PHI-10010	15	Semester 1
How To Think	PHI-10011	15	Semester 2

Optional modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Programming I - Programming Fundamentals	CSC-10024	15	Semester 1
Fundamentals of Computing	CSC-10029	15	Semester 1
Gothic Nightmares: Robots, Monsters and Witches	ENG-10050	15	Semester 1
Nature, Conservation & Society	GEG-10015	15	Semester 1
History, Media, Memory: The Presentation of the Past in Contemporary Culture	HIS-10026	15	Semester 1
Ancient Philosophy	PHI-10015	15	Semester 1
Small Text, Big Thoughts	PHI-10020	15	Semester 1
Why Politics Matters	PIR-10038	15	Semester 1
The Changing World: A History of International Relations since 1945	PIR-10043	15	Semester 1
Justice, Authority and Power	PIR-10045	15	Semester 1
Social and Political Theory	SOC-10029	15	Semester 1
Playing Parts: Studying Drama and Poetry	ENG-10029	15	Semester 2
Climate Change: The Scientific and Societal Context	ESC-10066	15	Semester 2
Moral Philosophy	PHI-10013	15	Semester 2
Medieval Philosophy	PHI-10018	15	Semester 2
Modern Democracies	PIR-10055	15	Semester 2
Securing Global Order	PIR-10060	15	Semester 2
Classical Sociology	SOC-10014	15	Semester 2

## Level 4 Module Rules

In addition to the 30 credits of compulsory modules at level 4 (PHI-10010 and PHI-10011), students are also required to select AT LEAST 15 credits of option modules with a PHI module code prefix (so at least 15 credits from PHI-10013, PHI-10015, PHI-10018, PHI-10020).

*NB: Global Challenge Pathways (GCPs)* - students at Level 4 and Level 5 in 2023/24 have the option of taking a Global Challenge Pathway, which includes one 15-credit module in each year of the degree. Information on GCPs is shown under the Level 5 modules below.

## Language modules

Students on this programme will also be able to study language modules offered by the Language Centre, as part of a Global Challenge Pathway. You can enrol on either a Modern Language module [more information available at this [link](#)] (Semester 1 only) or Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) (Semesters 1 and 2) module (ENL-10053).

If you choose a Modern Language, you will automatically be enrolled on a Semester 2 Modern Language module as a continuation of your language of choice. Undertaking a Modern Languages module in Semester 2 is compulsory if you wish to continue to the language GCP the following academic year.

## Level 5

<b>Compulsory modules</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Period</b>
Epistemology and Metaphysics I	PHI-20016	15	Semester 2
Pursuit of the Good	PHI-20019	15	Semester 2

<b>Optional modules</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Period</b>
Education Matters: Contemporary Issues and Debates in Education	EDU-20024	15	Semester 1
A Very Short History of Socialism	HIS-20103	15	Semester 1
Philosophy of Religion	PHI-20017	15	Semester 1
Philosophy of Science	PHI-20020	15	Semester 1
Knowledge and Reality	PHI-20021	15	Semester 1
Life, Death and Faith	PHI-20022	15	Semester 1
Contemporary Social Theory	SOC-20049	15	Semester 1
Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Wicked Problems	NAT-20007	15	Semester 1-2
Creative Writing: Poetry & Prose	ENG-20030	15	Semester 2
Philosophy of Mind	PHI-20018	15	Semester 2
Freedom and Equality	PIR-20066	15	Semester 2
The Magic of Modernity	SOC-20067	15	Semester 2

## **Level 5 Module Rules**

In addition to the 30 credits of compulsory modules at level 5 (PHI-20016 and PHI-20019), students are also required to select AT LEAST 15 credits of option modules with a PHI module code prefix (so at least 15 credits from PHI-20017, PHI-20018, PHI-20020, PHI-20022).

## **Global Challenge Pathways (GCPs)**

Students at Level 4 and Level 5 in 2023/24 have the option of taking a Global Challenge Pathway, which includes one 15-credit module in each year of the degree. Students at Level 5 will continue the Global Challenge Pathway they started at Level 4.

Global Challenge Pathways offer students the chance to fulfil an exciting, engaging route of interdisciplinary study. Choosing a pathway, students will be presented with a global issue or 'challenge' which directly relates to societal issues, needs and debates. They will be invited to take part in academic and external facing projects which address these issues, within an interdisciplinary community of students and staff. Students completing a Global Challenge Pathway will receive recognition on their degree certificate.

<b>Digital Futures</b>	<p>The Digital Futures pathway offers you the opportunity to become an active contributor to current debates, cutting-edge research, and projects with external partners, addressing both the exciting potential and the challenges of disruptive digital transformation across all spheres of life.</p> <p>Part of a diverse and interdisciplinary pathway community, you will engage in exciting, impactful collaborative project work in innovative formats. Engaged in real-world scenarios, you will use digital technology and creativity to promote inclusive, empowering, and sustainable change at local and global levels.</p> <p><b>Level 4 Module: A digital life: challenges and opportunities (GCP-10005)</b></p> <p><b>Level 5 Module: Digital World - People, Spaces, and Data (GCP-20005)</b></p>
<b>Climate Change &amp; Sustainability</b>	<p>Through the Climate Change &amp; Sustainability pathway you will develop the skills, understanding and drive to become agents of change to tackle climate change and wider sustainability challenges.</p> <p>You will work with international partners to explore climate change and sustainability in different international contexts; lead your own projects to drive real change in your communities; and be part of educating others to help achieve a more sustainable future.</p> <p><b>Level 4 Module: Climate Change and Sustainable Futures: Global Perspectives (GCP-10009)</b></p> <p><b>Level 5 Module: Climate Change and Sustainability: Action and Activism (GCP-20009)</b></p>
<b>Social Justice</b>	<p>Students on this pathway will embark on a reflective journey drawing upon decolonising, feminist, and ethical perspectives on social justice, forging transformative outputs as agents of change.</p> <p>You will enter a dialogue with local, national, and international partners from Universities, NGOs, International Human Rights Committees. You will engage with key societal challenges, for example Covid 19 as a social crisis with impact on gender and racial identities. The pathway will allow you to monitor and critically evaluate policies and human rights treaties, and produce and disseminate digitally fluent, international and sustainable project findings.</p> <p><b>Level 4 Module: Reflections on Social Injustices, Past and Present (GCP-10003)</b></p> <p><b>Level 5 Module: Strategic Interventions for Social Justice (GCP-20003)</b></p>
<b>Enterprise &amp; the Future of Work</b>	<p>If we are to achieve the promise of Sustainable Development Goals, solve the climate crisis and take advantage of the changes that the digital revolution provide, we need to understand the power of enterprise and prepare for future contexts of work, creativity and disruption.</p> <p>Supporting you to be part of future-facing solutions, this pathway will give you the ability to make judgements on the utilisation of resources, labour and capital. It will support you in developing creative, original thinking, allowing you to collaborate on projects that persuade and effect change, setting you up to thrive in future environments of work and innovation.</p> <p><b>Level 4 Module: Enterprise and the Future of Work (GCP-10007)</b></p> <p><b>Level 5 Module: Enterprise and the Future of Work: Collaborate to Innovate (GCP-20007)</b></p>



<b>Global Health Challenges</b>	<p>By taking the global health challenge pathway you will develop solutions to improve the health and quality of life for particular people and communities, engaging with these groups to co-design interventions.</p> <p>This pathway will provide you with skills that go beyond a focus on health and will allow you to develop your ability to work in a team and lead change in society. The knowledge, skills and work experience will complement your core degree and enhance your career opportunities and graduate aspirations.</p> <p><b>Level 4 Module: Key concepts and challenges in global health (GCP-10001)</b></p> <p><b>Level 5 Module: Using Evidence to Improve Global Health (GCP-20001)</b></p>
<b>Languages &amp; Intercultural Awareness</b>	<p>An understanding of language and culture opens the doorway to understanding what happens, why it happens and how you can make a difference. Why learn Russian now? How will an understanding of intercultural values impact on global development? How can you use English to work your way around the world? Importantly - how do language and culture impact on the UN Sustainability Goals?</p> <p>The Languages and Intercultural Awareness pathway offers you four distinct strands.</p> <p>The Language Specialist: Become a specialist in one of our languages and graduate with a degree title that includes '... with competency in (Language)'.</p> <p>The Language Taster: Explore a new language every year</p> <p>The Certificate in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages): Train to teach English as a Foreign Language, gain a globally recognised teaching qualification and work with asylum seekers and refugees.</p> <p>The Intercultural Explorer: Explore cultural practices around the world and discover how the power of language and culture can be forces for breaking down barriers and achieving intercultural understanding, but how they can also be used to create political and social barricades.</p> <p><b>Modules available:</b></p> <p><b>The Language Specialist:</b></p> <p>Any Semester 1 Language Module (the level at which you enter will be determined by your previous language learning experiences).</p> <p><b>The Language Taster:</b></p> <p>Any Semester 1 Language Module (the level at which you enter will be determined by your previous language learning experiences)</p> <p><b>The Certificate in TESOL:</b></p> <p>ENL-10053 TESOL 1</p> <p>ENL-20007 TESOL 2</p> <p><b>The Intercultural Explorer:</b></p> <p>ENL-10057 The stories we live by</p> <p>ENL-20009 Who do you think you are?</p>

Information on Global Challenge Pathways can be found here:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/globalchallengepathways/>

### Language modules

You can enrol on the continuing Modern Language module [more information available at this [link](#)] (Semester 1 only) or the continuing TESOL (Semesters 1 and 2) module (ENL-20007).

If you choose a Modern Language, you will automatically be enrolled on a Semester 2 Modern Language module as a continuation of your GCP Modern Language of choice. Undertaking a Modern Languages module in Semester 2 is compulsory if you wish to continue to the language GCP the following academic year.

## **Level 6**

<b>Optional modules</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Period</b>
Jurisprudence	LAW-30082	15	Semester 1
Philosophy of Language	PHI-30029	15	Semester 1
Philosophical Counselling	PHI-30030	15	Semester 1
Human Rights: Concepts, Norms and Identities	PIR-30126	15	Semester 1
PHILOSOPHY DISSERTATION - ISP	PHI-30025	30	Semester 1-2
Metaphysics	PHI-30021	15	Semester 2
Rorty and the Mirror of Nature	PHI-30024	15	Semester 2
Epistemology &Metaphysics II	PHI-30026	15	Semester 2
Contemporary Democratic Theory	PIR-30150	15	Semester 2

If you choose to specialise in this subject in your final year you will study the following modules:

<b>Compulsory modules</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Period</b>
PHILOSOPHY DISSERTATION - ISP	PHI-30025	30	Semester 1-2
Epistemology &Metaphysics II	PHI-30026	15	Semester 2

<b>Optional modules</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Period</b>
Jurisprudence	LAW-30082	15	Semester 1
Philosophy of Language	PHI-30029	15	Semester 1
Philosophical Counselling	PHI-30030	15	Semester 1
Human Rights: Concepts, Norms and Identities	PIR-30126	15	Semester 1
Metaphysics	PHI-30021	15	Semester 2
Rorty and the Mirror of Nature	PHI-30024	15	Semester 2
Contemporary Democratic Theory	PIR-30150	15	Semester 2

**Language modules:** You can enrol on a Modern Language module (Semester 1 or Semester 2).

## **9. Final and intermediate awards**

Credits required for each level of academic award are as follows:

<b>Honours Degree</b>	360 credits	<p>You will require at least 120 credits at levels 4, 5 and 6</p> <p>You must accumulate a minimum of 135 credits in each Principal Subject (270 credits in total), with at least 45 credits at each level of study (Levels 4, 5 and 6) in each of two Principal Subjects (90 credits per year). Your degree title will be 'subject X and subject Y'.</p> <p>If you choose to study one Principal subject in your final year of study a minimum of 90 credits in that subject is required. Your degree title will be 'subject X with subject Y'.</p>
<b>Diploma in Higher Education</b>	240 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher and at least 120 credits at level 5 or higher
<b>Certificate in Higher Education</b>	120 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher

**International Year option:** in addition to the above students must pass a module covering the international year in order to graduate with a named degree including the 'international year' wording. Students who do not complete, or fail the international year, will be transferred to the three-year version of the programme.

**Work Placement Year option:** in addition to the above students must pass a non-credit bearing module covering the work placement year in order to graduate with a named degree including the 'with Work Placement Year' wording. Students who do not complete, or fail the work placement year, will be transferred to the three-year version of the programme.

## 10. How is the Programme Assessed?

The wide variety of assessment methods used on this programme at Keele reflects the broad range of knowledge and skills that are developed as you progress through the degree programme. Teaching staff pay particular attention to specifying clear assessment criteria and providing timely, regular and constructive feedback that helps to clarify things you did not understand and helps you to improve your performance. The following list is representative of the variety of assessment methods used on your programme:

- **Unseen examinations** in different formats test students' knowledge of the relevant aspects of philosophy. Most examinations require students to answer questions by writing a number of short essays, while some involve multiple-choice questions;
- **Essays** test the quality and application of subject knowledge, as well the student's ability to empathise with philosophical problems and develop responses to them based upon the literature. In addition, they allow students to demonstrate their ability to carry out basic bibliographic research and to communicate their ideas effectively in writing in an appropriate scholarly style using the Harvard system of referencing;
- **Class tests** taken either conventionally or online via the KLE, assess students' subject knowledge and their ability to apply it in a more structured and focused way;
- **Bibliographic exercises** require students to critically evaluate the arguments of philosophers, in addition to summarising the key points of specific texts as they assemble a short annotated bibliography of published materials that they judge to be especially useful in addressing a set question or solving a particular problem;
- **Oral and group presentations** assess students' subject knowledge and understanding. They also test their ability to work effectively as members of a team, to communicate what they know orally and visually, and to reflect on these processes as part of their own personal development;
- **Portfolios** may consist of a range of different pieces of work but routinely include a requirement that students provide some evidence of critical reflection on the development of their own learning;

- **Reviews** of other scholars' work test students' ability to identify and summarise the key points of a text and to evaluate the quality of arguments and the evidence used to support them.

Marks are awarded for summative assessments designed to assess your achievement of learning outcomes. You will also be assessed formatively to enable you to monitor your own progress and to assist staff in identifying and addressing any specific learning needs. Feedback, including guidance on how you can improve the quality of your work, is also provided on all summative assessments within three working weeks of submission, unless there are compelling circumstances that make this impossible, and more informally in the course of tutorial and seminar discussions.

## 11. Contact Time and Expected Workload

This contact time measure is intended to provide you with an indication of the type of activity you are likely to undertake during this programme. The data is compiled based on module choices and learning patterns of students on similar programmes in previous years. Every effort is made to ensure this data is a realistic representation of what you are likely to experience, but changes to programmes, teaching methods and assessment methods mean this data is representative and not specific.

Undergraduate courses at Keele contain an element of module choice; therefore, individual students will experience a different mix of contact time and assessment types dependent upon their own individual choice of modules. The figures below are an example of activities that a student may expect on your chosen course by year stage of study. Contact time includes scheduled activities such as: lecture, seminar, tutorial, project supervision, demonstration, practical classes and labs, supervised time in labs/workshop, fieldwork and external visits. The figures are based on 1,200 hours of student effort each year for full-time students.

### Activity

	<b>Scheduled learning and teaching activities</b>	<b>Guided independent Study</b>	<b>Placements</b>
<b>Year 1 (Level 4)</b>	17%	83%	0%
<b>Year 2 (Level 5)</b>	13%	87%	0%
<b>Year 3 (Level 6)</b>	10%	90%	0%

## 12. Accreditation

This programme does not have accreditation from an external body.

## 13. University Regulations

The University Regulations form the framework for learning, teaching and assessment and other aspects of the student experience. Further information about the University Regulations can be found at: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>

If this programme has any exemptions, variations or additions to the University Regulations these will be detailed in an Annex at the end of this document titled 'Programme-specific regulations'.

A student who has completed a semester abroad will not normally be eligible to transfer onto the International Year option.

## 14. Other Learning Opportunities

### Study abroad (semester)

Students on the programme have the potential opportunity to spend a semester abroad in their second year studying at one of Keele's international partner universities. Please note that students cannot take both a Global Challenge Pathway (GCP) and the semester abroad option.

Exactly which countries are available depends on the student's choice of degree subjects. An indicative list of countries is on the website (<http://www.keele.ac.uk/studyabroad/partneruniversities/>); however this does not

guarantee the availability of study in a specific country as this is subject to the University's application process for studying abroad.

No additional tuition fees are payable for a single semester studying abroad but students do have to bear the costs of travelling to and from their destination university, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending on the destination they are studying at additional costs may include visas, study permits, residence permits, and compulsory health checks. Students should expect the total costs of studying abroad to be greater than if they study in the UK, information is made available from the Global Education Team throughout the process, as costs will vary depending on destination.

Whilst students are studying abroad any Student Finance eligibility will continue, where applicable students may be eligible for specific travel or disability grants. Students who meet external eligibility criteria may be eligible for grants as part of this programme. Students studying outside of this programme may be eligible for income dependent bursaries at Keele. Students travel on a comprehensive Keele University insurance plan, for which there are currently no additional charges. Some governments and/or universities require additional compulsory health coverage plans; costs for this will be advised during the application process.

## **Study Abroad (International Year)**

A summary of the International Year, which is a potential option for students after completion of year 2 (Level 5), is provided in the Annex for the International Year.

### **Enhanced Degree: With Language Competency/With Advanced Language Competency**

Philosophy students successfully completing a series of language elective modules have the opportunity to gain an enhanced degree title including their language competency such as, "BA (Hons) Philosophy and Politics with competency in German". Students taking language modules of at least 60 credits counting towards their main degree at Keele, and successfully completing minimum stage 6 in the chosen language, will be awarded an enhanced degree title with the designation 'with competency in [Language]'. Students taking language modules of at least 60 credits counting towards their main degree at Keele, and successfully completing stage 10 in the chosen language, will be awarded an enhanced degree title with the designation 'with advanced competency in [Language]'

### **TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) electives pathway**

Philosophy students who successfully complete a series of 4 TESOL electives modules have the opportunity to acquire the externally accredited and internationally recognised teaching Qualification 'Trinity (London) CertTESOL'. A small administration charge of currently £150 is payable to Trinity College (London) if students opt for (when available) external accreditation modules relevant for Philosophy.

## **15. Additional Costs**

In relation to the Work Experience module, there may be some limited costs related to the student's internship, depending on where this is arranged.

These costs have been forecast by the University as accurately as possible but may be subject to change as a result of factors outside of our control (for example, increase in costs for external services). Forecast costs are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure they remain representative. Where additional costs are in direct control of the University we will ensure increases do not exceed 5%.

As to be expected there will be additional costs for inter-library loans and potential overdue library fines, print and graduation. We do not anticipate any further costs for this programme.

## **16. Annex - International Year**

### **Philosophy with International Year**

Please note: in order to be eligible to take the International Year option your other subject must also offer this option. Please refer to the information published in the course document for your other subject.

<b>International Year Programme</b>
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Students registered for this Combined Honours programme may either be admitted for or apply to transfer during their period of study at Level 5 to the Combined Honours programme in both their principal subjects, providing that they meet the progression criteria outlined in this document. Students accepted onto the International Year programme will have an extra year of study at an international partner institution after they have completed Year 2 (Level 5) at Keele.

Students who successfully complete both the second year (Level 5) and the International Year will be permitted to progress to Level 6. Students who fail to satisfy the examiners in respect of the International Year will normally revert to the Combined Honours programme without the International Year and progress to Level 6 on that basis. The failure will be recorded on the student's final transcript.

Study at Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6 will be as per the main body of this document. The additional detail contained in this annex will pertain solely to students registered for the International Year option.

### **International Year Programme Aims**

In addition to the programme aims specified in the main body of this document, the international year programme of study aims to provide students with:

1. Personal development as a student and a researcher with an appreciation of the international dimension of their subject
2. Experience of a different culture, academically, professionally and socially

### **Entry Requirements for the International Year**

Students may apply to the 4-year programme during Level 5. Admission to the International Year is subject to successful application, interview and references from appropriate staff.

The criteria to be applied are:

- Academic Performance (an average of 55% across all modules in Semester 1 at Level 5 is normally required. Places on the International Year are then conditional on achieving an average mark of 55% across all Level 5 modules. Students with up to 15 credits of re-assessment who meet the 55% requirement may progress to the International Year. Where no Semester 1 marks have been awarded performance in 1st year marks and ongoing 2nd year assessments are taken into account)
- General Aptitude (to be demonstrated by application for study abroad, interview during the 2nd semester of year 2 (Level 5), and by recommendation of the student's Academic Mentor, 1st and 2nd year tutors and programme director)

Students may not register for both an International Year and a Placement Year.

### **Student Support**

Students will be supported whilst on the International Year via the following methods:

- Phone or Skype conversations with Study Abroad tutors, in line with recommended Academic Mentoring meeting points.
- Support from the University's Global Education Team

### **Learning Outcomes**

In addition to the learning outcomes specified in the main text of the Programme Specification, students who complete a Keele undergraduate programme with International Year will be able to:

1. Describe, discuss and reflect upon the cultural and international differences and similarities of different learning environments
2. Discuss the benefits and challenges of global citizenship and internationalisation
3. Explain how their perspective on their academic discipline has been influenced by locating it within an international setting.

Please note that students on Combined Honours programmes with International Year must meet the subject-specific learning outcomes for BOTH their principal subjects.

These learning outcomes will all be assessed by the submission of a satisfactory individual learning agreement, the successful completion of assessments at the partner institution and the submission of the reflective portfolio element of the international year module.

### **Course Regulations**

Students registered for the International Year are subject to the programme-specific regulations (if any) and the University regulations. In addition, during the International Year, the following regulations will apply:

Students undertaking the International Year must complete 120 credits, which must comprise *at least 40%* in the student's discipline area.

This may impact on your choice of modules to study, for example you will have to choose certain modules to ensure you have the discipline specific credits required.

Students are barred from studying any module with significant overlap to the Level 6 modules to be studied on their return. Significant overlap with Level 5 modules previously studied should also be avoided.

### **Additional costs for the International Year**

Tuition fees for students on the International Year will be charged at 15% of the annual tuition fees for that year of study, as set out in Section 1. The International Year can be included in your Student Finance allocation, to find out more about your personal eligibility see: [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

Students will have to bear the costs of travelling to and from their destination university, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending on the destination they are studying at additional costs may include visas, study permits, residence permits, and compulsory health checks. Students should expect the total costs of studying abroad be greater than if they study in the UK, information is made available from the Global Education Team throughout the process, as costs will vary depending on destination.

Students who meet external eligibility criteria may be eligible for grants as part of this programme. Students studying outside of this programme may be eligible income dependent bursaries at Keele.

Students travel on a comprehensive Keele University insurance plan, for which there are currently no additional charges. Some Governments and/or universities require additional compulsory health coverage plans; costs for this will be advised during the application process.

## **17. Annex - Work Placement Year**

### **Philosophy Combined Honours with Work Placement Year**

#### **Work Placement Year summary**

Students registered for this programme may either be admitted for or apply to transfer during their studies to the 'with Work Placement Year' option (NB: for Combined Honours students the rules relating to the work placement year in the subject where the placement is organised are to be followed). Students accepted onto this programme will have an extra year of study (the Work Placement Year) with a relevant placement provider after they have completed Year 2 (Level 5) at Keele.

Students who successfully complete both the second year (Level 5) and the Work Placement Year will be permitted to progress to Level 6. Students who fail to satisfactorily complete the Work Placement Year will normally revert to the 3-year programme and progress to Level 6 on that basis. The failure will be recorded on the student's final transcript.

Study at Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6 will be as per the main body of this document. The additional detail contained in this annex will pertain solely to students registered for the Work Placement Year option.

### **Work Placement Year Programme Aims**

In addition to the programme aims specified in the main body of this document, the Work Placement Year aims to provide students with:

1. The opportunity to carry out a long-term, placement-based learning experience between Years 2 and 3 of their degree programme
2. Enhanced employability
3. The opportunity to develop and consolidate the knowledge and skills they have gained during the course of their studies at Level 4 and 5.
4. A professional CV and portfolio that they can use when applying for employment

### **Entry Requirements for the Work Placement Year**

Admission to the Work Placement Year is subject to successful application, interview and references from appropriate staff. Students have the opportunity to apply directly for the 4-year 'with work placement year' degree programme, or to transfer onto the 4-year programme at the end of Year-1 and in Year-2 at the end of Semester 1. Students who are initially registered for the 4-year degree programme may transfer onto the 3-year degree programme at any point in time, prior to undertaking the year-long work placement. Students who fail to pass the work placement year, and those who fail to meet the minimum requirements of the work placement year module (minimum 30 weeks full time (1,050 hours), or equivalent, work placement), will be automatically transferred onto the 3-year degree programme.

The criteria to be applied are:

- A good University attendance record and be in 'good academic standing'.
- Passed all Year-1 and Year-2 Semester 1 modules
- Students undertaking work placements will be expected to complete a Health and Safety checklist prior to commencing their work experience and will be required to satisfy the Health and Safety regulations of the company or organisation at which they are based.
- (*International students only*) Due to visa requirements, it is not possible for international students who require a Tier 4 Visa to apply for direct entry onto the 4-year with Work Placement Year degree programme. Students wishing to transfer onto this programme should discuss this with student support, the academic tutor for the work placement year, and the Programme Lead. Students should be aware that there are visa implications for this transfer, and it is the student's responsibility to complete any and all necessary processes to be eligible for this programme. There may be additional costs, including applying for a new Visa from outside of the UK for international students associated with a transfer to the work placement programme.

Students may not register for both an International Year and a Work Placement Year.

### **Student Support**



Students will be supported whilst on the Work Placement Year via the following methods:

- Regular contact between the student and a named member of staff who will be assigned to the student as their University supervisor. The University supervisor will be in regular contact with the student throughout the year, and be on hand to provide advice (pastoral or academic) and liaise with the Placement supervisor on the student's behalf if required.
- Two formal contacts with the student during the placement year: the University supervisor will visit the student in their placement organisation at around the 5 weeks after the placement has commenced, and then visit again (or conduct a telephone/video call tutorial) at around 15 weeks into the placement.
- Weekly supervision sessions will take place with the placement supervisor (or his/her nominee) throughout the duration of the placement.

## **Learning Outcomes**

In addition to the learning outcomes specified in the main text of the Programme Specification, students who complete the 'with Work Placement Year' option will be able to:

1. Understand the variety of ways in which skills developed during the study of Social Sciences can be deployed in non-academic contexts
2. Assess their own strengths and weaknesses in an employment context through a SWOT analysis, design learning outcomes, and reflect on their own progress throughout the module
3. Articulate their placement experiences effectively and critically reflect on their enhanced skill set in front of an audience
4. Understand the aims and priorities, as well as the strengths and possible limitations, of an external organisation and complete tasks as directed
5. Reflect on and critically evaluate their learning from the work placement, showing evidence that they have researched their sector and evaluated the effectiveness of their activities with this in mind

These learning outcomes will be assessed through the non-credit bearing Work Placement Year module (SOC-30051) which involves:

1. Supporting students in locating and securing a relevant work placement in any workplace where the research, analytical, and communication skills as a developed part of a Social, Political and Global Studies degree can be used
2. Students completing a SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) at the beginning of the placement, reflecting on their employability skills in terms of their assessment of sector skill demands. This will be used to create Intended Placement Outcomes and contribute to Continuing Professional Development. The action plan will be negotiated and agreed by the student, module convenor and employer.
3. Students creating a professional CV and portfolio that can be used when seeking employment after graduation
4. Students completing a 15-20 minute presentation in June/July, critically reflecting on the activities/projects they have completed so far, and the skills they have learned/developed. The audience will primarily be other students on this module, to ensure shared experiences and to create connections in preparation for returning to Keele for third year (Level 6)
5. Students developing a heightened awareness of the various ways in which their knowledge and skills can be utilised in real-world situations

## **Regulations**

Students registered for the 'with Work Placement Year' option are subject to programme-specific regulations (if any) and the University regulations. In addition, during the Work Placement Year, the following regulations will apply:

- Students undertaking the Work Placement Year must successfully complete the zero-credit rated 'Work Placement Year' module (SOC-30051)
- In order to ensure a high quality placement experience, each placement agency will sign up to a placement contract (analogous to a service level agreement).
- Once a student has been accepted by a placement organisation, the student will make a pre-placement visit and a member of staff identified within the placement contract will be assigned as the placement supervisor. The placement supervisor will be responsible for ensuring that the placement experience meets the agreed contract agreed with the University.
- The placement student will also sign up an agreement outlining his/her responsibilities in relation to the requirements of each organisation.

Students will be expected to behave professionally in terms of:

(i) conforming to the work practices of the organisation; and

(ii) remembering that they are representatives of the University and their actions will reflect on the School and have an impact on that organisation's willingness (or otherwise) to remain engaged with the placement.

### **Additional costs for the Work Placement Year**

Tuition fees for students on the Work Placement Year will be charged at 20% of the annual tuition fees for that year of study, as set out in Section 1. The Work Placement Year can be included in your Student Finance allocation; to find out more about your personal eligibility see: [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

Students will have to bear the costs of travelling to and from their placement provider, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending on the placement provider additional costs may include parking permits, travel and transport, suitable clothing, DBS checks, and compulsory health checks.

A small stipend may be available to students from the placement provider during the placement but this will need to be explored on a placement-by-placement basis as some organisations, such as charities, may not have any extra money available. Students should budget with the assumption that their placement will be unpaid.

Eligibility for student finance will depend on the type of placement and whether it is paid or not. If it is paid, this is likely to affect student finance eligibility, however if it is voluntary and therefore unpaid, should not affect student finance eligibility. Students are required to confirm eligibility with their student finance provider.

International students who require a Tier 4 visa should check with the Immigration Compliance team prior to commencing any type of paid placement to ensure that they are not contravening their visa requirements.

## **Version History**

### **This document**

**Date Approved:** 14 April 2023

### **Previous documents**

<b>Version No</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Date Approved</b>	<b>Summary of and rationale for changes</b>
1	2022/23	SOPHIE ALLEN	04 May 2022	
1	2021/22	JAMES TARTAGLIA	05 February 2021	
1	2020/21	JAMES TARTAGLIA	19 December 2019	
2	2019/20	JAMES TARTAGLIA	30 July 2019	
1	2019/20	EDWARD MCCAULEY	30 July 2019	