Programme Specification: Undergraduate

For students starting in Academic Year 2020/21

1. Course Summary

Names of programme and award title(s)	BA (Hons) Philosophy BA (Hons) Philosophy with International Year (see Annex for details)
Award type	Combined Honours
Mode of study	Full-time
Framework of Higher Education Qualification (FHEQ) level of final award	Level 6
Normal length of the programme	3 years; 4 years with the International Year between years 2 and 3
Maximum period of registration	The normal length as specified above plus 3 years
Location of study	Keele Campus
Accreditation (if applicable)	Not applicable
Regulator	Office for Students (OfS)
Tuition Fees	**UK/EU students:** Fee for 2020/21 is £9,250* **International students:** Fee for 2020/21 is £14,750** *or* £15,000** *(if combined with a laboratory-based Principal Subject)* The fee for the international year abroad is calculated at 15% of the standard year fee

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 Personal Tutors 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;
- Elective modules - a free choice of modules that count towards the overall credit requirement but not the number of subject-related credits.

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.

For further information on the content of modules currently offered, including the list of elective modules, please visit:
https://www.keele.ac.uk/recordsandexams/modulecatalogue/

Year	Compulsory	Optional		Electives	
		Min	Max	Min	Max
Level 4	30	15	45	0	30
Level 5	30	15	45	0	30
Level 6	0	45	75	0	30

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.

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
Moral Philosophy	PHI-10013	15	Semester 1
Ancient Philosophy	PHI-10015	15	Semester 1
Continental Philosophy	PHI-10016	15	Semester 2
Philosophy and Film	PHI-10017	15	Semester 2
Justice, Authority and Power	PIR-10045	15	Semester 2

Level 5

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Pursuit of the Good	PHI-20019	15	Semester 1
Epistemology and Metaphysics I	PHI-20016	15	Semester 2

Optional modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Philosophy of Mind	PHI-20018	15	Semester 1
Knowledge and Reality	PHI-20021	15	Semester 1
Work Experience in Politics, International Relations and Philosophy	PIR-20082	15	Semester 1-2
Philosophy of Religion	PHI-20017	15	Semester 2
Philosophy of Science	PHI-20020	15	Semester 2
Freedom and Equality	PIR-20066	15	Semester 2

Level 6

Optional modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Metaphysics	PHI-30021	15	Semester 1
Epistemology &Metaphysics ll	PHI-30026	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
Rorty and the Mirror of Nature	PHI-30024	15	Semester 2
GREAT PHILOSOPHERS OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY	PHI-30027	15	Semester 2
Philosophy of Language	PHI-30029	15	Semester 2

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

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Epistemology &Metaphysics ll	PHI-30026	15	Semester 1
PHILOSOPHY DISSERTATION - ISP	PHI-30025	30	Semester 1-2

Optional modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Metaphysics	PHI-30021	15	Semester 1
Philosophical Counselling	PHI-30030	15	Semester 1
Human Rights: Concepts, Norms and Identities	PIR-30126	15	Semester 1
Rorty and the Mirror of Nature	PHI-30024	15	Semester 2
GREAT PHILOSOPHERS OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY	PHI-30027	15	Semester 2
Philosophy of Language	PHI-30029	15	Semester 2

Learning Outcomes

The table below sets out what students learn in the programme and the modules in which that learning takes place. Details of how learning outcomes are assessed through these modules can be found in module specifications.

Level 4

In Year 1 (Level 4) and Year 2 (Level 5) these learning outcomes are achieved in the compulsory modules which all students are required to take. Some of these outcomes may also be achieved or reinforced in optional modules together with other outcomes not stated here. In Year 3 (Level 6) the stated outcomes are achieved by taking any of the modules offered in each semester.

Year 1 (Level 4)

First-year modules provide students with a thorough grounding in the study skills needed for philosophy, and present an overview of its main areas, namely epistemology and metaphysics, logic and critical thinking, moral philosophy and political philosophy.

Subject Knowledge and Understanding	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Explain the distinctive characteristics of philosophy and its various sub-disciplines	10 Problems of Philosophy - PHI-10010
Recognise some of the central problems of philosophy	10 Problems of Philosophy - PHI-10010
Critically engage with philosophical problems	10 Problems of Philosophy - PHI-10010
Recognise the main theoretical traditions in philosophy and illustrate their application to a variety of philosophical problems	10 Problems of Philosophy - PHI-10010
Develop their own philosophical views and defend them using rational argument	10 Problems of Philosophy - PHI-10010
Recognise basic argument forms and apply the basic principles of deductive logic	How To Think - PHI-10011
Recognise and apply reasoning skills essential for the proper presentation, analysis and criticism of arguments	How To Think - PHI-10011
Identify common fallacies and rhetorical devices	How To Think - PHI-10011
Apply logical and critical thinking skills to philosophical problems, as well as to arguments encountered in everyday contexts	How To Think - PHI-10011

Subject Specific Skills	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Use appropriate bibliographic search tools to find relevant materials in hard copy and electronic formats	10 Problems of Philosophy - PHI-10010
Present written work in an appropriate scholarly style for contemporary philosophy, using the Harvard system of citation and referencing	10 Problems of Philosophy - PHI-10010
Identify the main points of key texts, and use them in developing arguments and making judgements about philosophical positions	How To Think - PHI-10011 10 Problems of Philosophy - PHI-10010
Distinguish between, and appropriately engage with both, primary and secondary sources	10 Problems of Philosophy - PHI-10010

Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Develop and present their own views, as well as devise solutions to problems, on the basis of valid forms of argumentation	How To Think - PHI-10011
Identify the general logical principles that apply to all forms of argument	How To Think - PHI-10011
Evaluate arguments for validity, soundness, reliance upon rhetorical devices, and fallacies	How To Think - PHI-10011
Communicate ideas and arguments orally and in writing to an audience of their peers using appropriate visual presentation aids	10 Problems of Philosophy - PHI-10010 How To Think - PHI-10011
Work with others, demonstrating the capacity to plan, share goals, cooperate and collaborate with other members of a team	10 Problems of Philosophy - PHI-10010 How To Think - PHI-10011
Use IT for the retrieval and presentation of information in support of ideas and arguments	10 Problems of Philosophy - PHI-10010
Reflect on and plan their own learning by acting appropriately on feedback	How To Think - PHI-10011 10 Problems of Philosophy - PHI-10010

Level 5

The second year builds on the foundations laid in the first, by continuing discussion of the central philosophical areas of epistemology, metaphysics and moral philosophy, and also by introducing more specialised areas of debate, with modules in the philosophy of religion, philosophy of mind, philosophy of science and political philosophy.

Subject Knowledge and Understanding	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Recognise changes to the subject matter and methodology of philosophy that occurred in the 17th and 18th centuries; relate the philosophy of this period to ancient and contemporary concerns	Epistemology and Metaphysics I - PHI-20016
Summarise and evaluate some of the canonical texts of philosophy in the modern period	Pursuit of the Good - PHI-20019 Epistemology and Metaphysics I - PHI-20016
Analyse the major metaphysical and epistemological theories developed in the modern period in light of subsequent critiques	Epistemology and Metaphysics I - PHI-20016
Summarise and compare the moral theories of Aristotle and Kant, both in their common aspects and their specificity	Pursuit of the Good - PHI-20019
Analyse specific arguments concerning Aristotelian and Kantian moral philosophy in the primary literature, and engage with objections in the secondary literature	Pursuit of the Good - PHI-20019

Subject Specific Skills	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Evaluate the theories of 17th and 18th century philosophers and apply them to traditional philosophical problems	Epistemology and Metaphysics I - PHI-20016
Discern relationships between rationalist and empiricist systems of philosophy, and identify their presuppositions	Epistemology and Metaphysics I - PHI-20016
Adjudicate between competing philosophical theories and methodologies	Pursuit of the Good - PHI-20019 Epistemology and Metaphysics I - PHI-20016
Conduct independent research in order to identify, locate, and retrieve appropriate paper and electronic materials to supplement module reading lists	Epistemology and Metaphysics I - PHI-20016 Pursuit of the Good - PHI-20019
Summarise and explain the moral theories of Aristotle and Kant with reference to their specific intellectual contexts	Pursuit of the Good - PHI-20019
Approach their own moral questions through the Aristotelian and Kantian conceptual frameworks	Pursuit of the Good - PHI-20019

Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Summarise, analyse and collate the central ideas of highly complex and abstract theoretical texts	Epistemology and Metaphysics I - PHI-20016 Pursuit of the Good - PHI-20019
Analyse and formulate solutions to problems, working alone and as a member of a team	Epistemology and Metaphysics I - PHI-20016 Pursuit of the Good - PHI-20019
Communicate complex arguments supported by appropriate evidence, both orally and in writing	Epistemology and Metaphysics I - PHI-20016 Pursuit of the Good - PHI-20019
Undertake a range of basic research tasks making appropriate use of information technology	Pursuit of the Good - PHI-20019 Epistemology and Metaphysics I - PHI-20016

Level 6

In the third year students deepen their knowledge of philosophy by choosing to study two or more modules in a range of subjects selected to provide students with a broad cross-section of philosophical inquiry. The third year gives students the options to continue studying the core areas of metaphysics and epistemology, to explore other more specialised areas of philosophy, or to specialise in political philosophy. Which modules are offered may vary slightly from year to year, but they will all reflect the specialist expertise and active research interests of members of staff. Students may also choose to write a dissertation in philosophy tailored to their own particular research interests and supervised by an appropriate member of staff.

Subject Knowledge and Understanding	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Recognise, interpret and critically evaluate theories, concepts and research in defined areas, some of which are at the forefront of philosophical research	All modules approved as part of the Philosophy Programme
Apply established philosophical theories and methodologies to understanding and resolving new and unfamiliar philosophical problems	All modules approved as part of the Philosophy Programme

Subject Specific Skills	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Describe and make critical judgements about developments in current areas of philosophical research	All modules approved as part of the Philosophy Programme
Communicate ideas effectively and fluently, informed by contemporary research in philosophy both orally and in writing	All modules approved as part of the Philosophy Programme
Formulate research questions and identify appropriate research strategies to address them	All modules approved as part of the Philosophy Programme
Manage their own learning, making use of appropriate materials in a current area of philosophical research	All modules approved as part of the Philosophy Programme

Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Work productively in both structured and largely unstructured research contexts exercising initiative and personal responsibility	All modules approved as part of the Philosophy Programme
Make decisions and plan activity in uncertain and unpredictable contexts	All modules approved as part of the Philosophy Programme
Undertake appropriate further training of an academic, professional or practical nature	All modules approved as part of the Philosophy Programme

9. Final and intermediate awards

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

Honours Degree	360 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at levels 4, 5 and 6 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'. 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'.
Diploma in Higher Education	240 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher and at least 120 credits at level 5 or higher
Certificate in Higher Education	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.

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

	Scheduled learning and teaching activities	Guided independent Study	Placements
Year 1 (Level 4)	14%	86%	0%
Year 2 (Level 5)	13%	87%	0%
Year 3 (Level 6)	13%	87%	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. What are the typical admission requirements for the Programme?

See the relevant course page on the website for the admission requirements relevant to this programme: https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/

Applicants who are not currently undertaking any formal study or who have been out of formal education for more than 3 years and are not qualified to A-level or BTEC standard may be offered entry to the University's Foundation Year Programme.

Applicants for whom English is not a first language must provide evidence of a recognised qualification in English language. The minimum score for entry to the Programme is Academic IELTS 6.0 or equivalent.

Please note: All non-native English speaking students are required to undertake a diagnostic English language assessment on arrival at Keele, to determine whether English language support may help them succeed with their studies. An English language module may be compulsory for some students during their first year at Keele.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is considered on a case-by-case basis and those interested should contact the Programme Director. The University's guidelines on this can be found here: http://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/accreditationofpriorlearning/

15. How are students supported on the programme?

Support for student learning on the Programme is provided in the following ways:

- Module coordinators and tutorial group leaders provide support for learning on the modules and in the tutorial groups for which they are responsible. They also give individual feedback on in-course assessments and more general feedback on examinations.
- Every student is allocated to a personal tutor who is responsible for reviewing and advising on students' academic progress in Philosophy and on their other Principal Programme.
- Personal tutors also act as a first point of contact for students on non-academic issues which may affect their learning and can refer students on to a range of specialist health, welfare and financial services co-ordinated by the University's Student Services Team.
- The International Student Support section in the Student Services Team provided specialist help and advice to international students on visa and immigration matters, information about working and assistance with any personal or academic issues that might arise during their time at Keele
- The Student Services Team can provide additional help with skills for studying at University level.

All members of teaching staff on the programme are available to see students during advertised weekly office hours and at other times by appointment.

16. Learning Resources

Philosophy is taught in modern teaching rooms across the University, almost all of which are equipped with computers, internet access and electronic whiteboards or projection equipment. Rooms may be arranged either in traditional lecture format or more informally to allow students to work together in small groups.

The learning resources available to students on the Programme include:

- The collection of philosophy materials relevant to undergraduate study held in the University Library. This extensive collection of books and journals has been built up over 60 years of delivering philosophy at this level. Much of this material is also accessible online to Keele students from anywhere in the world with a University username and password.
- The Keele Learning Environment (KLE), which provides easy access to a wide range of learning resources including lecture notes, electronic materials available in a repository maintained by the University Library and other resources - video, audio and text-based - accessible from external providers via the internet.
- The web-spaces created in the KLE for each individual module taught by the School host material tailor-made to support Philosophy students. They contain a wealth of electronically accessible materials giving often interactive guidance on almost all aspects of study, including: finding and evaluating sources of information; planning and writing essays, research papers and dissertations; acknowledging sources appropriately using the Harvard system; working with others in groups and teams, and preparing and delivering oral presentations.
- The Student Services Team can provide additional help with skills for studying at University level.
- Electronic Access to Periodicals: the library has increased its subscription to journals and resources in electronic form, enabling students to make full use free of charge of the over 650 academic journals relevant to their degree programmes.

17. 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.

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 studying in Erasmus+ destinations 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.

18. 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 undergraduate programme.

19. Quality management and enhancement

The quality and standards of learning in this programme are subject to a continuous process of monitoring, review and enhancement.

- The School Education Committee is responsible for reviewing and monitoring quality management and enhancement procedures and activities across the School.
- Individual modules and the programme as a whole are reviewed and enhanced every year in the annual programme review which takes place at the end of the academic year.
- The programmes are run in accordance with the University's Quality Assurance procedures and are subject to periodic reviews under the Internal Quality Audit (IQA) process.

Student evaluation of, and feedback on, the quality of learning on every module takes place every year using a variety of different methods:

- The results of student evaluations of all modules are reported to module leaders and reviewed by the Programme Committee as part of annual programme review.
- Findings related to the programme from the annual National Student Survey (NSS), and from regular surveys of the student experience conducted by the University, are subjected to careful analysis and a planned response at programme and School level.
- Feedback received from representatives of students in all three years of the programme is considered and acted on at regular meetings of the Student Staff Voice Committee.

The University appoints senior members of academic staff from other universities to act as external examiners on all programmes. They are responsible for:

- Approving examination questions
- Confirming all marks which contribute to a student's degree
- Reviewing and giving advice on the structure and content of the programme and assessment procedures

Information about current external examiner(s) can be found here:
http://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/externalexaminers/currentexternalexaminers/

20. The principles of programme design

The programme described in this document has been drawn up with reference to, and in accordance with the guidance set out in, the following documents:

a. UK Quality Code for Higher Education, Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education: http://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code
b. QAA Subject Benchmark Statement: Philosophy (2015) https://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code/subject-benchmark-statements?indexCatalogue=document-search&searchQuery=philosophy&wordsMode=AllWords
c. Keele University Regulations and Guidance for Students and Staff: http://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations

21. 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.

International Year Programme

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 60% 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 54% across all Level 5 modules with no module fails. 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 personal tutor, 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 Personal Tutoring 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

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 studying in Erasmus+ destinations 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.

Version History

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Previous documents

Version No	Year	Owner	Date Approved	Summary of and rationale for changes
2	2019/20	JAMES TARTAGLIA	30 July 2019	
1	2019/20	EDWARD MCCAULEY	30 July 2019	