



Module Handbook

[Modules are available to students coming on the following incoming programmes: non-European exchange; European exchange; full-year fee-paying study abroad]

Incoming Students

2025/2026

Philosophy

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A: THE DEPARTMENT

The members of staff in the Department of Philosophy are all dedicated to teaching in addition to undertaking their own research. The Department offers degrees at both undergraduate and graduate level. A number of events and research seminars are hosted by the Department throughout the year. Student activities are co-ordinated by the undergraduate Philosophical Society and EIDOS, the postgraduate philosophical society.

The Department of Philosophy is located in an eighteenth-century building in Old Elvet (one of Durham's most elegant streets) which is easy to reach from all parts of the city. The Department has its own student common room and dedicated philosophy library. The main University lecture halls are a short walk away, and the main University Library is ten minutes away.

A1: Exchange Coordinator

Exchange Coordinator:

Dr Tadhg Ó Laoghaire

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Exchange Administrator:

Miss Ruth Smith

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B: DEGREE STRUCTURE

All degrees at Durham have a modular structure, consisting of six modules each year for three years. Modules are usually studied over all three terms of the teaching year, except in Level 2 where several single term modules are available. All modules are examined or assessed in the year in which they are taught: this means that at the end of the first year there are preliminary examinations, and that the final degree class is determined by the examinations taken in the second and third year.

C: REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS

This section contains important information for setting up your academic schedule at Durham University. Please read through this section carefully before considering your modules and filling in the Learning Agreement!

C1: General

Choice of Modules

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR STUDENTS: PLEASE READ BEFORE COMPLETING YOUR LEARNING AGREEMENT

At Durham University European agreements are signed by individual university departments and are not university-wide agreements. This means that, in general, students will have to choose modules (courses) within the Durham University department through which the European agreement with their home university has been signed (students should check with the Exchange Coordinator in their university if they are not sure which department this is). Modules offered by other departments are subject to availability and can only be taken with prior consent from the relevant department. *Incoming students must take at least 50% of their modules in the host department and can take modules outside in no more than two additional departments.* Certain restrictions may also apply to courses in some departments and students need to follow the advice below carefully before completing their application form.

Please clearly indicate the modules you wish to take in the application form for approval by the respective department(s). Before completing your application form, it is very important that you read carefully the relevant departmental section(s) of the Module Handbook to check which modules are available to you and any restrictions which may apply. It is imperative that a properly completed application form is submitted. Only complete applications can be processed.

Section *D: Module Details* provides a list of modules available for European students in the department where the agreement has been established (receiving department) as well as a list of modules available for students coming in through other departments (external departments). Please choose from these modules only!

To find out about the details for each module (teaching methods and contact hours, prerequisite academic background, method of assessment, content, etc) please refer to the Faculty Handbook online under <http://www.dur.ac.uk/faculty.handbook/>.

C2: Departmental Requirements and Restrictions

The Philosophy Department admits both European students coming to Durham through its own links and, subject to places still available, those coming in through other departments. Students wishing to take a Level 2 or 3 module would be expected to have sufficient philosophical knowledge.

D: MODULE DETAILS

This section contains a list of modules European students can choose from. To find out about the details for each module (teaching methods and contact hours, prerequisite academic background, method of assessment, content, etc.) please refer to the Faculty Handbook online: [Philosophy modules](#)

D1: Modules available to all European students

Undergraduate students visiting Durham via an exchange arrangement between their home department and Durham Philosophy department can select from any of the modules below.

Undergraduate students visiting Durham via an exchange agreement with another department can choose from the following modules but need to get approval from the Exchange Coordinator.

LEVEL 1

MODULE CODE	MODULE TITLE	DURHAM CREDITS	SINGLE TERM MODULE (Y/N)*
PHIL1011	Ethics & Values	20	N
PHIL1021	Knowledge & Reality	20	N
PHIL1041	Reading Philosophy	20	N
PHIL1091	The Philosophical Traditions	20	N
PHIL1101	Being Human	20	N
PHIL1111	Science, Medicine and Society	20	N

LEVEL 2

MODULE CODE	MODULE TITLE	DURHAM CREDITS	SINGLE TERM MODULE (Y/N)*
PHIL2011	Philosophy of Mind	20	N
PHIL2021	Language, Logic and Reality	20	Y (MICHAELMAS)
PHIL2031	Early Modern Philosophy	20	Y (EPIPHANY)
PHIL2041	Moral Theory	20	Y (EPIPHANY)
PHIL2081	Political Philosophy	20	N
PHIL2091	Philosophy of Religion	20	N
PHIL2151	Philosophy of Science	20	Y (EPIPHANY)
PHIL2171	Philosophy of Economics and Politics: Theory, Methods and Values	20	Y (MICHAELMAS, TBC)
PHIL2181	Fundamentals of Logic	20	Y (EPIPHANY)
PHIL2191	History, Science and Medicine	20	N
PHIL2201	Feminist Philosophy	20	Y (TBC)
PHIL2211	Epistemology	20	Y (MICHAELMAS, TBC)
PHIL2221	World Philosophy	20	Y (MICHAELMAS)

LEVEL 3

MODULE CODE	MODULE TITLE	DURHAM CREDITS	SINGLE TERM MODULE (Y/N)*
PHIL3011	Revolutions in Modern Philosophy: Kant and other Trailblazers	20	N
PHIL3021	Philosophical Issues in Contemporary Science	20	N
PHIL3031	Aesthetics	20	N
PHIL3051	20 th Century European Philosophy	20	N
PHIL3131	Issues in Contemporary Ethics	20	N
PHIL3171	Metaphysics	20	N
PHIL3181	History & Philosophy of Psychiatry	20	N

PHIL3191	Ethics in Business Practice	20	N
PHIL3201	Formal & Philosophical Logic	20	N
PHIL3211	Biomedical Ethics Past and Present	20	N
PHIL3221	Philosophy, Climate Change and the Environment	20	Y (MICHAELMAS)

* Students staying in Durham for either one or two terms may take modules which are delivered over the full academic year. Alternative assessment will be offered for these modules.

Master's students visiting via an exchange agreement with the Philosophy Department can also select the modules listed above. If they have strong philosophical knowledge, they can also select MA modules in the department, linked here: [Philosophy MA programme modules](#). Please contact the Director of the Philosophy MA through the links [here](#) to discuss the availability of specific courses during your stay.