Philosophy
Undergraduate study 2016
www.nottingham.ac.uk/philosophy

For general undergraduate enquiries contact:
The Enquiry Centre
t: +44 (0)115 951 5559
e: undergraduate-enquiries@nottingham.ac.uk
w: www.nottingham.ac.uk/faqs
Welcome to the Department of Philosophy

Thank you for your interest in studying philosophy at The University of Nottingham. This brochure is designed to provide you with information on the Department of Philosophy and the courses we offer.

Our vibrant department has an excellent reputation for both teaching and research, with expertise in a number of different areas. We offer a range of undergraduate degrees and have an exceptionally able body of students. We will be taking about 60 single honours students next session and we also participate in 10 joint honours courses.

We have tried to answer some of the questions you might have on what and how we teach, what we look for in an applicant and what it’s like to be a student here. We have also included some information on the career opportunities that might be open to you when you have completed your degree course.

If we have not answered all your questions, please visit our departmental website at www.nottingham.ac.uk/philosophy or contact us using the details on page 38. Good luck with your studies and your applications, wherever you choose to study.

Associate Professor Jonathan Tallant
Head of the Department of Philosophy

Don’t forget to watch our videos to hear from staff and students from across the Faculty of Arts: www.nottingham.ac.uk/go/watch-artsfaculty
Academic excellence
A commitment to academic excellence drives everything we do and has earned us international recognition. It is evident in our teaching and research and our recent results speak for themselves. In the latest independent review of teaching quality carried out by the Quality Assurance Agency, Nottingham was awarded the highest possible score.

In the latest Research Excellence Framework, 69% of the department’s research activity was rated as being ‘world leading’, or ‘internationally excellent’, with the remainder being ‘recognised internationally’. The scope of our expertise means that we can offer specialist teaching in a broad range of different areas, allowing you to pursue your particular interests while studying with us.

Facilities and resources
Library and computing services
The main library for humanities is the Hallward Library located on University Park Campus. To find out about the wide range of facilities and resources on offer go to www.nottingham.ac.uk/library/hallward

Of specific relevance to our current students is the Manuscripts and Special Collections archive, which holds an impressive collection of printed manuscripts and archive collections. These provide an opportunity to use rare primary sources in your studies. Dedicated, expert staff are on hand to offer guidance and support. For more information visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/manuscriptsandspecialcollections

Student societies
The department has an extremely active Philosophy Society (PhilSoc), which is run by students. PhilSoc organises many academic and social events during the year, including lectures from visiting speakers, debates, staff versus students football matches and social weekend trips.

Our innovative teaching and our committed attitude towards our students is reflected in our impressive score in the National Student Survey 2014, in which 91% of our students who responded said our staff were good at explaining things.
## Degree courses

### Single honours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree title</th>
<th>UCAS code</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>A levels</th>
<th>IB</th>
<th>Places</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BA Philosophy</td>
<td>V500</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>AAB (we also accept A<em>BB or A</em>A*C)</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
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### Joint honours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree title, Department of Philosophy</th>
<th>UCAS code</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>A levels</th>
<th>IB</th>
<th>Places</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BA Classical Civilisation and Philosophy</td>
<td>QV85</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>AAB (we also accept A<em>BB or A</em>A*C)</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA Economics and Philosophy</td>
<td>LV15</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>A<em>AA-AAA; plus GCSE maths, A or above (A</em>ABB-AABB for those taking four full A level subjects, excluding general studies)</td>
<td>38-36</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA English and Philosophy</td>
<td>QV35</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>AAB (we also accept A<em>BB or A</em>A<em>C); including A/A</em> in English language/ literature</td>
<td>34; 6 in English at Higher Level</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA Music and Philosophy</td>
<td>WV35</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>AAB/ABB; including music or music technology, plus Grade 5 Theory (ABRSM)^</td>
<td>32; 5 in music at Higher Level</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA Philosophy and Theology</td>
<td>VV56</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>AAB (we also accept A<em>BB or A</em>A*C)</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA Philosophy, Politics and Economics</td>
<td>VLL5</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>A<em>AA-AAA; plus GCSE maths, A or above (A</em>ABB-AABB for those taking four full A level subjects, excluding general studies)</td>
<td>38-36</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

^ If no A level in music, then Grade 8 Performance (ABRSM, LCM, Trinity, Rockschool) and Grade 5 Theory (ABRSM).

### Joint honours continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree title</th>
<th>UCAS code</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>A levels</th>
<th>IB</th>
<th>Places</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BSc Physics and Philosophy</td>
<td>FV35</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>A*AA-AAA; including maths and physics</td>
<td>34; 6, 6 in maths and physics at Higher Level, plus 5 in a third subject at Higher Level</td>
<td>155**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSc Psychology and Philosophy</td>
<td>CV85</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>AAB; plus GCSE English and maths, B or above</td>
<td>34; 6, 5 at Higher Level</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Joint honours with a year abroad

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree title</th>
<th>UCAS code</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>A levels</th>
<th>IB</th>
<th>Places</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BA French and Philosophy</td>
<td>RV15</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>ABB; including B in French, if applicable</td>
<td>32; 5 at Higher Level or 6 at Standard Level (B programme) in French, if applicable</td>
<td>15***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA German and Philosophy</td>
<td>RV25</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>ABB; including B in German, if applicable</td>
<td>32; 5 at Higher Level or 6 at Standard Level (B programme) in French, if applicable</td>
<td>15***</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** For all courses in the School of Physics and Astronomy.
*** 15 places across RV15 and RV25.
Modular degrees
Almost all undergraduate degree programmes at the University are modular, which means you undertake modules of study with assessment at the end of each semester. Under the modular system you will normally be required to take modules totalling 60 credits in each semester.

To graduate with a BA degree from The University of Nottingham you must take 360 credits of modules – 120 in each year of study. Each module is usually worth 10 or 20 credits – the higher the number of credits, the greater the amount of work on the module.

Single honours degrees
In your three years at Nottingham you will take a combination of compulsory and optional modules, mainly from those offered by the Department of Philosophy but also with a choice of optional modules from outside the department, particularly in your first and second years. Philosophy students often choose to study modules in archaeology, business, economics, history of art, languages, psychology, sociology and theology. You may continue studying a language learned at school or college, or begin an entirely new language. A full list of optional modules will be available at registration each year.

Joint honours degrees
A joint honours degree is usually split evenly between your two subjects, so the philosophy half of your degree is made up of 60 credits each year (although regulations for some joint honours courses vary a little). Each year of your course will consist of modules in both degree subjects.

Please note that this brochure contains information on philosophy and on the philosophy contribution to your course. If you are considering applying for a joint honours course, you should also look at the information provided by the other school or department in our online prospectus: www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy

Dissertation
In your final year you might choose to replace one of your scheduled modules with a dissertation on a subject that particularly interests you. Some students carry out further work on a topic introduced in a module they’ve studied previously; others write on a new topic agreed after discussion with tutors. The dissertation option is particularly good if you plan to undertake postgraduate study, as it will give you experience of the self-motivation and discipline required to carry out a relatively large project. If there is something you’ve always wanted to write about, it might end up being your dissertation topic.
BA Philosophy

This course offers a rigorous training in analytical philosophy. You will gain important skills in clear thinking, argument and communication, and knowledge of some main areas of philosophical thought. You will take a combination of compulsory and optional modules, mainly from those offered by the Department of Philosophy but also with a choice of subsidiary modules from outside the department, particularly in your first and second years.

You also have the opportunity to study abroad for one or two semesters of the course.

Year one

You will be introduced to the subject through a series of core modules dealing with central philosophical problems and you will also be able to choose optional modules.

Year two

You will choose from a variety of optional modules, which will build on material studied in year one, allowing you to develop and broaden your philosophical skills and knowledge.

Year three

There will be free choice from a wide variety of more advanced modules, including the opportunity to write a dissertation on a topic of your own choosing.

Typical modules

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year one</th>
<th>Year two</th>
<th>Year three</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Core modules:</td>
<td>Optional modules*:</td>
<td>Optional modules*:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Appearance and Reality</td>
<td>• Being, Becoming and Reality</td>
<td>• Advanced Logic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Elementary Logic</td>
<td>• Freedom and Obligation</td>
<td>• Buddhism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Introduction to Ethics</td>
<td>• History of Philosophy</td>
<td>• Communicating Philosophy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Reasoning and Argument: An Introduction to Philosophical Method</td>
<td>• Knowledge and Justification</td>
<td>• Environmental Ethics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Self, Mind and Body</td>
<td>• Mind and Consciousness</td>
<td>• Free Will and Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional modules include*:</td>
<td>• Social Philosophy</td>
<td>• Issues of Indeterminism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Applied Ethics</td>
<td>• The Nature of Meaning</td>
<td>• Marx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Introduction to Feminist Philosophy Plato</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Merleau-Ponty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The Existence of God</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Metaethics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The History of Western Philosophy</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Naming and Necessity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 20-40 credits in other subjects</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Personal Identity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Options on offer vary a little from year to year, depending on staff availability.

For more detailed module information, please visit the individual course listings at www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy
Joint honours

BA Classical Civilisation and Philosophy
This course combines the study of the classical world with a rigorous training in analytic philosophy. You will have the opportunity to study classical history, art and visual culture, thought, religion and social life as well as some key thinkers, ideas and movements that have shaped philosophical thought. The study of Greek or Latin is not required, but may be undertaken as part of the course.

For more information on the classical civilisation element of your degree, please visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/classics

BA Economics and Philosophy
On this course you will divide your time equally between the two subjects. You will study the central aspects of each discipline in the first two years, and in the final year you select modules from a variety of specialist subjects offered by the two departments. Both economics and philosophy look at fundamental aspects of human society. This combination allows a deeper understanding of how societies work and the course will provide a unique blend of knowledge from the two disciplines.

For more information on the economics element of your degree, please visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/economics

BA Music and Philosophy
This course provides the opportunity to study the theory and practice of music and acquire a grounding in philosophy; it is equally weighted between the two subjects. In philosophy, you will be introduced to the subject through a series of core modules in central philosophical problems. A wide range of optional modules allows you to tailor the degree to suit your own interests and passions. The music course covers a wide range of repertory, including all periods of western art music, jazz, popular music and film music as well as offering a variety of critical, analytical, historical and sociological approaches. You will gain a solid grounding in basic skills in the first year; the flexible modular structure and choice of topics will enable you either to specialise, or to maintain a breadth of interests as you progress through the course.

For more information on the music element of your degree, please visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/music

BA Philosophy and Theology
This course combines a rigorous training in analytic philosophy with the study of some of the main areas of theological thought. You will gain a good grounding in the sources and contemporary context for theological reflection by studying the biblical writings together with key thinkers, ideas, events and movements that shaped the course of western Christian thought, and by studying other religious traditions. You will also develop an understanding of the central ideas and movements in analytic philosophy, while acquiring important skills in clear thinking, argument and communication.

For more information on the theology element of your degree, please visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/theology

BA Philosophy, Politics and Economics
This degree offers a holistic approach to the understanding of the world around us. You will apply the complementary analytical frameworks of philosophy, political science and economics to gain a rich understanding of the roots of, and solutions to, real world problems. It is probably no coincidence that many world leaders – our own Prime Minister among them – have studied philosophy, politics and economics.

You will spend one-third of your time studying modules in each discipline. The modules offered are tailored to the interdisciplinary nature of the course, binding the three elements into a coherent and rigorous programme of study.

For more information on this degree, please visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/economics

BSc Psychology and Philosophy
This course provides you with a well-rounded education in the principles of psychology and philosophy. The teaching programme provides a solid understanding of psychological and philosophical theories, as well as the knowledge, analytical tools and skills needed to assess and conduct empirical research.

For more information on the psychology element of your degree, please visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/psychology

BA French and Philosophy
On this course you will combine studies in French language, literature and culture with a wide range of philosophical topics. You will normally devote half your time to each discipline. Core French language modules are followed, along with core modules in logic, moral philosophy and other philosophical problems. Additional modules can be selected in a variety of topics including Plato, feminist philosophy, theory of knowledge, French literature, linguistics, history, politics, culture and film.

For more information on the French element of your degree, please visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/french

BA German and Philosophy
You will normally divide your time equally between German and philosophy, taking core modules in German language plus further optional modules from a wide range covering German literature, politics, history, media and linguistics. In philosophy, you will take core modules in philosophical problems and optional modules in areas of philosophy that interest you.

For more information on the German element of your degree, please visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/german
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year one</th>
<th>Year two</th>
<th>Year three (year four for those on RV15/RV25)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Core modules:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Optional modules include:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Joint honours with psychology</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Appearance and Reality</td>
<td>60 credits from the following list of modules:</td>
<td>(40-60 credits in philosophy)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Introduction to Ethics*</td>
<td>• Being, Becoming and Reality</td>
<td>• Joint honours with classical civilisation, French, German, English and music (at least 40 credits in philosophy)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Reasoning and Argument: An Introduction to Philosophical Method</td>
<td>• Freedom and Obligation</td>
<td>• Joint honours with theology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Self, Mind and Body</td>
<td>• History of Philosophy</td>
<td>(40-80 credits in philosophy)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Optional modules include:</strong></td>
<td>• Knowledge and Justification</td>
<td>• Joint honours with economics and physics (60 credits in philosophy)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 credits in philosophy** – you can choose from:</td>
<td>• Mind and Consciousness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Applied Ethics</td>
<td>• Normative Ethics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Introduction to Feminist Philosophy</td>
<td>• Social Philosophy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Plato</td>
<td>• The Nature of Meaning</td>
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<tr>
<td>• The Existence of God</td>
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* Not core for joint honours with physics or psychology.
** Excluding joint honours with physics, economics or psychology.

For more detailed module information, please visit the individual course listings at [www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy)
How will I study?

Our course is delivered through lectures, seminars, tutorials and one-to-one supervision for the dissertation. The aim is to stimulate your curiosity and provide you with essential information by means of lectures in the first instance, so as to establish a solid grounding in the core of the subject. In addition, all tutors have drop-in sessions when you can talk privately with them about your work.

Lectures
Lectures are the most formal type of instruction and are valuable in that they:
- present information which is not readily available in books
- can give you an opportunity to hear a specialist develop a significant (perhaps as yet unpublished) argument
- show visual material – for example, slides, CDs, PowerPoint images and DVDs or video clips

Seminars
In seminars you will be taught with a group of fellow students, with discussion focusing on a text or topic you’ve previously prepared, in an atmosphere that is friendly and informal. The purpose of the seminar is to provide an opportunity to try out new ideas and to think through difficulties with the support of fellow learners. Students often establish friendships through seminar groups, as well as learning more about other people’s ideas.

Most modules combine lecture and seminar instruction, so you will have a chance to discuss and question the material presented in lectures.

Your week
Your typical week’s work will feel strange at first after school or college since there are fewer timetabled teaching hours. Each week in the first year you can expect to attend about 12-14 hours of lectures and seminars.

For the rest of the time you will be working independently, doing the necessary reading in preparation for seminars, writing essays or working on seminar presentations. If you would like to start preparing for your degree in advance, have a look at some of the books on the first-year pre-arrival reading list at www.nottingham.ac.uk/philosophy

Key Information Sets
Key Information Sets (KIS) are comparable sets of information about full or part-time undergraduate courses and are designed to meet the information needs of prospective students. All KIS data is published on the Unistats website: www.unistats.com

For Nottingham’s KIS data, please see individual course entries at www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy

“The course is varied and gives you a chance to grapple with topics from contemporary and traditional schools of thought. You certainly won’t be bored.”

Philosophy student
The degree programmes are modular, which means you undertake modules of study with assessment at the end of each semester.

The teaching year
The teaching year is divided into two semesters. The first semester lasts for 14 weeks, with 12 weeks for teaching and revision and two weeks for assessment. The second semester follows the same pattern, but there are an additional two weeks at the end to complete the assessment process and to enable returning students to discuss their results with tutors and begin to plan the next session’s work.

Although the teaching year is divided into two semesters for organisational purposes, the semesters fit the traditional pattern of three terms: one before Christmas, one between Christmas and Easter, and one after Easter. Thus, the first semester begins with the first term, and ends part way through the second term at the end of January. The second semester starts at the beginning of February, and finishes at the end of the third term.

Assessment methods
Assessment for your degree is based on a combination of coursework (including essays but also less formal kinds of writing for some modules), oral presentations and formal examinations. The precise assessment varies from one module to another.

Where a module lasts for one semester, assessment is undertaken at the end of that semester. Where a module fills two semesters, assessment is at the end of the second semester, although your progress will be measured throughout the year.

Your final degree classification
For all philosophy degrees, your final year is weighted more heavily than your second year. In most cases, your second year is worth 40%, and your final year is worth 60% of your final, overall grade. However, our different joint honours programmes have slightly different requirements, so you should check the online prospectus information for the degree that interests you. The first year is a qualifying year, which means you must pass this year to progress to the second year, but your mark will not contribute to your degree classification. Nevertheless, it is a very important year, as there is a strong correlation between the mark gained in year one, and final degree classification.

“How will I be assessed?”

“The lecturers offer all the support you might need and the course encourages good personal and academic development; it also mixes well with other subjects.”

Philosophy student
Study abroad

As a University of Nottingham student, you will be able to apply for a variety of study abroad options. Whether studying at a partner institution or undertaking a work experience placement, spending time abroad is a fantastic opportunity to broaden your horizons, experience different cultures, meet new people and develop skills that will prove invaluable in the future and also look good on your CV. We have developed links with more than 300 partner universities in over 40 countries.

Universitas 21 (University-wide programme)
The Universitas 21 (U21) programme is a competitive scheme that offers full-time undergraduate students the opportunity to study at one of our 34 University-wide partner universities – for one semester or one academic year – as part of their Nottingham degree programme. Applicants must have attained a 60% average in their first year in order to be considered.

Below and opposite are examples of some of the partner institutions you could apply to under the U21 scheme:

- University of Adelaide, Australia
- University of Sydney, Australia
- University of Western Australia, Perth, Australia
- Concordia University, Montreal, Canada
- McGill University, Montreal, Canada
- University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada
- University of Toronto, Canada
- University of Auckland, New Zealand

Erasmus programme
The department also takes part in the Erasmus programme – a European-wide initiative based on subject-specific exchange agreements between schools and departments at Nottingham and academic counterparts at partner universities across Europe.

Under the Erasmus programme, students have the opportunity to apply to take a study placement and/or a work placement in another European country, depending on their degree programme. Study placements take place at one of our European partner universities. Work placements include the opportunity to work as a language assistant or undertake paid or unpaid work in another European country. Find out more: www.nottingham.ac.uk/internationalstudents/exchanges/exchanges-overseas

Summer schools
The University also offers the chance to apply to study abroad at overseas summer schools. As these programmes are offered during holiday periods, they do not contribute towards your degree credits so you can study whatever is of interest to you.

Further information on studying abroad, including fact sheets on the opportunities available for each department, can be found at www.nottingham.ac.uk/internationalstudents/exchanges

Dedicated support
If you do decide to apply to study abroad, the University’s International Office will offer support from the application stage right through to your return to the UK, with advice on everything from immigration to possible sources of financial support. Find out more: www.nottingham.ac.uk/studyabroad

• University of Canterbury, New Zealand
• Bucknell University, Pennsylvania, USA
• University of Connecticut, Storrs, USA
• University of South Florida, USA
• University of Tennessee, Knoxville, USA
• University of Virginia, Charlottesville, USA

The CN Tower dominates the Toronto skyline.
Career and employment prospects

Philosophy graduates are recognised by graduate recruiters as highly adept in analytical reasoning, clear presentation of ideas, constructive discussion and the ability to articulate complex ideas and lines of reasoning in accessible ways. These highly transferable skills mean that individuals are well equipped for a range of careers.

Data from the US provides striking support for this. The Graduate Record Examinations is the main aptitude test for entry to graduate school in the United States of America. It tests key transferable skills, and is also used for entry to some business schools. Results are published according to the subject examinees intend to study at graduate school, which closely corresponds to their undergraduate major. The most recent data shows that philosophy majors scored better than any other undergraduate major in two of the three sections – verbal reasoning and analytical writing. In the quantitative reasoning section, philosophy majors scored better than any other arts, humanities or social science disciplines, beaten only by physics, science, engineering and accounting (subjects one would expect to do well in this section). Philosophy graduates also perform extremely well on the LSAT (the entrance exam for law school in the US), where their average scores correspond to their undergraduate major. The most recent data shows that philosophy majors tend to place them in the top four.

For more information, see www.nottingham.ac.uk/philosophy/prospective/careers

Graduate career destinations
Our philosophy graduates perform well in the job market, and go on to a range of different careers in the public, private and third sectors. To give you some idea of the sorts of career paths open to you, here are just a few examples of the jobs held by our recent graduates: charity administrator; journalist; film location manager; office manager; management consultant; researcher; sales adviser; senior civil servant; teacher; and renewable energy engineer.

Around a third of our philosophy graduates go on to further study in a broad range of subjects. Most recently, these have included graduate diploma in law; international business; international development; healthcare; philosophy; postgraduate certificate in education; public policy; radio broadcasting; speech therapy; and television journalism. See page 25 for more information on postgraduate opportunities at Nottingham.

Average starting salary
In 2014, 93% of first-degree graduates in the department who were available for employment had secured work or further study within six months of graduation. The average starting salary was £20,769 with the highest being £28,000.*

Recent graduates
*I studied philosophy at The University of Nottingham from 2008–11, graduating with a 2:1 BA Honours degree. My degree has provided me with the ability to analyse a situation quickly and efficiently, to prioritise my work and to interact with all levels of seniority. I chose human resources (HR) as a career, as it fitted with both my learned skills and my personal interest in working with, and helping a wide spectrum of, different people. I was lucky enough to be offered the HR graduate position at Whitbread, which will hopefully lead me into a long and happy career in HR.

Eleanor Speed, BA Philosophy (2011)

The University’s Careers and Employability Service
Our Careers and Employability Service, which is based on University Park Campus, offers an extensive range of careers-oriented services, including CV-writing sessions, interview advice, presentations by major employers and general career advice. As a University of Nottingham graduate, you will receive lifelong support from the service. This means that you can ask a careers adviser to look over your job application in person, by email or Skype, and you can also access a database of graduate vacancies. For more information see www.nottingham.ac.uk/careers

The Nottingham Advantage Award
The University’s Advantage Award is a programme of activities developed to recognise and reward extracurricular responsibilities. It allows you to gain recognition for participating in a wide range of activities accredited by the University and delivered by top graduate employers, professional services and members of staff of the University. It also shows employers that you have gone above and beyond your degree and gained valuable transferable skills.

“The Award has been a worthwhile scheme for me and I would highly recommend it. I can reflect upon the skills I developed during my work experience and present them to an employer.”

Bethan Parry, BA History of Art and English (2010)

For further information, please visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/careers/advantage

Data source:
* Known destinations of full-time home and EU first-degree graduates, 2013/14.

The University of Nottingham is consistently named as one of the most targeted universities by Britain’s leading graduate employers.

The Graduate Market in 2013, 2014 and 2015, High Fliers Research
Postgraduate opportunities

Nottingham offers a focused taught Masters in Philosophy programme and expert supervision for philosophy MPhil/PhD courses. We have a lively and successful postgraduate programme, with students working on a range of projects that reflect the department’s areas of expertise.

Taught masters
MA Philosophy
Our MA allows you to take your studies and passion for philosophy to the next level. Teaching draws directly on the extensive and world-leading research expertise of staff within the Department of Philosophy. You can choose your own pathway through the course, by selecting modules from a choice of aesthetics, ethics, knowledge, theory of value, metaphysics and philosophy of mind. You will also be encouraged to engage with our vibrant research culture.

Research opportunities
Philosophy MPhil/PhD
Nottingham’s PhD students are among the most successful in the country according to a new report by the Higher Education Funding Council for England, that underlines the quality of our postgraduate education and the support available to doctoral students. We are ranked joint 2nd in England on a measure of PhD completion rates.

We offer supervision for PhD students in a wide range of subject areas. There is a concentration of staff with research interests in metaphysics, ethics, aesthetics and philosophy of language.

To give you some idea of the range of subject matter that has been supervised at PhD level in the past, successful PhDs have had titles such as:
• Hume’s Naturalism and Scepticism
• Mind-Bending: Probing the terra incognita between the physical and the phenomenal
• Private Worlds in Public Places
• The Subjectivity of Secondary Properties and Sensations

Other areas of philosophy in which expert supervision can be offered are phenomenology, philosophy of action, formal and philosophical logic, philosophy of science, and political philosophy – this list is not exhaustive.

Find out more about postgraduate study at www.nottingham.ac.uk/philosophy/prospective/postgraduate

Graduation days are a chance for students to celebrate their success with family, friends and University staff.
“I love what you can discover with this subject – it covers almost everything. Nottingham has opened up courses that I didn’t even know existed. I think they got the balance right between the classics and the new, current, happening philosophy that keeps the subject alive.”

Tom Ivens, BA Philosophy

Find out more about Tom’s experience at www.nottingham.ac.uk/go/tomivens

Scan the code to watch this video on your smartphone.

Tom is pictured studying outside the Council Room in the Trent Building on University Park Campus.
You’ve read lots about the degree programme you’re interested in, now it’s time to explore life outside the lecture theatre. There’s so much for you to get involved in and explore at the University and around the city. We are proud to be one of the leading universities for student experience in the UK*, which will ensure that you have a university experience you’ll never forget.

Your University of Nottingham – at home and around the world

We are proud of our stunning campuses and are continually investing in our grounds, buildings and amenities to ensure that you only have the best surroundings in which to live and study. Our main UK campuses have a mix of state-of-the-art facilities, including sports centres, places to eat and excellent learning facilities on every campus.

We’ve made getting from campus to campus as easy as possible and students can benefit from our free inter-campus Hopper Bus, so you’re never far away from the striking architecture and innovative technology of Jubilee Campus, the rolling parkland and period buildings at University Park, or the cutting-edge features of Sutton Bonington.

The University of Nottingham is Britain’s global university with campuses in the UK, China and Malaysia. We also have links with more than 300 universities in over 40 countries, adding a truly global flavour to your degree and giving you the chance to explore the world. Find out more: www.nottingham.ac.uk/about/campuses

Your new home from home

At Nottingham we offer a range of different accommodation options, rooms are available as single or shared, en suite or shared bathroom, all the way through to studio flats, and vary from self-catered to fully catered (19 meals per week). We also offer a guarantee of University accommodation for one year to all new full-time undergraduate students, subject to the following conditions: you firmly accept your course place at Nottingham, accept your offer of accommodation by the deadline given in your offer letter, and have an unconditional status no later than 31 August in the year you intend to begin your studies. If you are a new, full-time undergraduate student who is classified as international for fee purposes, this guarantee applies for three years**. For more information, including a breakdown of pricing, see www.nottingham.ac.uk/accommodation

Your support network

Throughout your university journey there will be numerous people on hand to support you, including tutors and dedicated staff who will be able to advise you on various aspects of life as a student. We have Student Services Centres on all three of our UK campuses, which provide a range of support, information and specialist services to enhance your student experience. This support includes:

- **Academic Support** – can provide practical advice on areas of academic study; the service also provides specialist academic support for students with dyslexia, dyspraxia and other specific learning difficulties
- **Disability Support** – coordinates support and access arrangements for students with a disability or long-term medical condition
- **Financial Support** – provides information on the sources of finance available from government agencies and the University itself, and gives advice about financial matters
- **Student Services** – also advise on issues ranging from childcare, counselling and health to international student support, chaplaincy and faith support, as well as offering advice on paying your tuition and accommodation fees

Whatever you may need support with, they will either be able to help or point you in the direction of someone who can. Find out more: www.nottingham.ac.uk/studentservices

** Providing you submit your returners’ application in line with the requirements of the accommodation providers.

“Nottingham is traditionally one of the most popular universities for undergraduates.”

The Guardian University Guide 2014
Getting involved in your Students’ Union

As soon as you start at The University of Nottingham, you are automatically enrolled as a member of our Students’ Union, which is considered to be one of the best in the country. There are hundreds of activities that you could be part of, providing you with the perfect opportunity to take up a new hobby or pursue existing interests. Choose from over 200 student-run societies, covering all interests and abilities, as well as local and national volunteering projects, to which you can commit as much or as little time as you wish.

Our Students’ Union is home to a number of award-winning student-run media groups, which give you the chance to gain practical work experience both behind the scenes or centre stage as a presenter, actor or journalist. The Nottingham New Theatre, Impact magazine, Nottingham Student Television (NSTV) and University Radio Nottingham (URN) have all been recognised as the best in their field, winning a clutch of awards for outstanding achievements.

However you decide to become involved in the Union, you can be sure you will make new friends and learn new skills, all while having a lot of fun! Find out more: www.su.nottingham.ac.uk

Sports

We offer sport at all levels and an excellent all-inclusive student membership offer, so whether you enjoy sport as a hobby or are an elite athlete we will have just what you need. We have over 70 sports clubs, which means we have the 2nd highest number of sports clubs of any UK university. If you’re not interested in joining a team but want to stay fit, we have sports centres on all of our main UK campuses. Find out more: www.nottingham.ac.uk/sport

Exploring your new city

With Nottingham city centre just a 10-minute bus ride away from University Park Campus, our students are always close to the action. Buses run through campus regularly and many run late-night services too, which is handy if you’re a night owl.

For music lovers, you can take your pick from the world-famous Rock City, Capital FM Arena or one of the smaller gig venues for a more intimate live show. Nottingham is rich in performance venues, with comedy clubs and theatres catering for lovers of drama, musicals, ballet and panto. We are very proud of our sporting heritage, and with football clubs Nottingham Forest and Notts County in the city, as well as Trent Bridge cricket ground and the National Ice Centre on your doorstep, you might just become a sports fan if you’re not one already.

History and culture can be found in all corners of the city, with Nottingham Castle, Nottingham Contemporary arts centre, the Galleries of Justice Museum, Nottingham Lakeside Arts – the University’s public arts centre located on our University Park Campus – arthouse cinemas and three of the world’s oldest pubs all providing points of interest. If you enjoy shopping, Nottingham is perfect for you; independent boutiques and vintage shops in the bohemian area of Hockley mix with high street names in our large shopping centres to make Nottingham a veritable shopping haven.

Find out more: www.nottingham.ac.uk/nottinghamlife

Download our city guide: www.nottingham.ac.uk/go/cityguide
Applying for a place

We are looking for students who have the ability and motivation to benefit from our courses, and who will make a valued contribution to the department and the University. Candidates for full-time admission are considered on the basis of their Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) form. For more information on how to make your application stand out, have a look at our online prospectus: www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/applying

Application process
All applications for an undergraduate place to study at The University of Nottingham (including applications by overseas students) must be made through UCAS. Applications should be made online at www.ucas.com. Candidates will be notified of decisions through UCAS Track at track.ucas.com

Applying with achieved A level grades
If you apply to us having already completed your A levels, your application will be considered in exactly the same way as those from candidates with predicted grades. Please tell us something about your gap-year activities in your UCAS personal statement.

Entry numbers
For information on how many students the department plans to admit on each course, please see the table on page 6.

The selection procedure
We do not require any particular A level subjects to study single honours philosophy, and we are happy to accept most A level qualifications. However, we are looking for a combination of A level subjects that show you are prepared to embark on degree-level study of philosophy. This requires the capacity to make sense of often difficult material, think critically about the different arguments and ideas you encounter, and communicate the results of your thinking in written and verbal form.

Certain A levels – those sometimes called ‘academic’ or ‘traditional’ subjects – are better preparation for a philosophy degree than their vocational counterparts, because they will help you to start developing these skills. Therefore we recommend that you study at least two traditional subjects for entry to single honours philosophy. Each of our joint honours programmes has its own entry requirements. Please consult the online prospectus for more information: www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy

Your personal statement
This is the section of your UCAS form that tells us the most about you, and you should make the best use of it. Be as specific and detailed as you can – we would like to see that you are a student who can work hard, be self-motivating and make the best possible use of the opportunities this course might have to offer you.

Alternative qualifications
In this brochure you will find our A level entry requirements but we accept a much broader range of qualifications.

These include:
- Access to HE Diploma
- Advanced Diploma
- BTEC HND/HNC
- BTEC Extended Diploma
- Cambridge Pre-U
- International Baccalaureate
- Irish Leaving Certificate
- Scottish Advanced Highers
- Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced Diploma

This list is not exhaustive; we will consider applicants with other qualifications on an individual basis. The entry requirements for alternative qualifications can be quite specific – for example, you may need to take certain modules and achieve a specified grade in those modules. Please contact us to discuss the transferability of your qualification.

Flexible admissions policy
In recognition of our applicants’ varied experience and educational pathways, we employ a flexible admissions policy. If we judge that your situation has adversely affected your achievement, then we will consider this when assessing your academic potential. If you wish to mention information about your experiences in your personal statement, then you should ask the teacher or tutor writing your reference to confirm what you have written. We may ask for further evidence and may consider a range of factors. For more information, please see www.nottingham.ac.uk/go/admissionspolicies

Mature applicants
We encourage applications from mature students (which means all those aged 21 or over when the course begins). You should apply in the normal way through UCAS (unless you want to study part-time, in which case you should apply directly to the department). While we accept a range of qualifications, you should check our specific requirements on UCAS course entry profiles. If in doubt, please contact the admissions tutor, who will be happy to answer any specific queries you have about applying as a mature student. Please email your questions to philosophy-enquiries@nottingham.ac.uk

We sometimes invite mature applicants in whom we are interested to come for an interview, where we will look for evidence of your ability to study at a high academic level and of commitment to the subject.

For more information about being a mature student, please see www.nottingham.ac.uk/mature

For tips and advice at every step of your application journey, visit our undergraduate applicants’ area: www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugapplicants
International applicants
We welcome applications from international students and have students from many parts of the world studying with us at undergraduate and postgraduate level. All international candidates for undergraduate courses should apply through UCAS. The University’s International Office offers guidance and advice on matters such as visa and immigration regulations, working and living in the UK, entry requirements and preparing for coming to Nottingham – and arranges a Welcome Programme for new international students each September. If you would like to visit the University and are unable to attend an open day, the International Office will be happy to arrange an individual visit for you. For further information please visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/studywithus/international-applicants

English language requirements
IELTS 7.0 (no less than 6.0 in any element). For more information and a list of the alternative English language requirements we accept, please see www.nottingham.ac.uk/go/alternativerequirements

Preparing to study in English – academic English preparation and support
The University of Nottingham Centre for English Language Education (CELE) offers high-quality academic English and study skills (presessional) programmes to prepare you to study your degree in English. Our programmes are designed to give international students excellent preparation for their academic studies and are taught by experienced, professional tutors.

CELE provides a range of programmes throughout the year, including five-week subject-specific courses (in some subjects) and a four-week course in September for students with unconditional offers, with a focus on academic study skills.

You can continue to benefit from academic English support with free classes and one-to-one consultations throughout your study (insessional programmes).

For more information about CELE, please visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/cele

Deferred entry
Applicants who wish to defer their entry by a year will not be at a disadvantage. Please tell us something about your plans for your gap year in your UCAS personal statement.

Equal opportunities policy
The University aims to create the conditions whereby students and staff are treated solely on the basis of their merits, abilities and potential, regardless of gender, race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, age, socio-economic background, disability, religious or political beliefs, trade union membership, family circumstances, sexual orientation or other irrelevant distinction.
How much are the fees?
Like many universities in England, Nottingham charges full-time UK and EU students an annual tuition fee of £9,000. However, you will not have to pay your fees while studying – the government will lend eligible students the money, which you will start to pay back once you have left university and are earning at least £21,000. For more information, please see www.nottingham.ac.uk/fees

Fees for students from outside the EU vary from subject to subject. For more information, please see the ‘New international students’ section on www.nottingham.ac.uk/fees

What bursaries are available?
Although bursary figures for 2016/17 are yet to be finalised, the University will continue to offer a generous package of bursary support to students from lower income households. These are in addition to any support you may receive from the government. For more information please see www.nottingham.ac.uk/financialsupport or take a look at the funding tab on the relevant course entry in our online prospectus: www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy

If you are an international applicant (outside of the EU), please see the ‘New international students’ section on www.nottingham.ac.uk/fees

What support is available for students with children?
There are a range of services provided to support students with children, including a University day nursery, a playscheme, and playcentre day care. There is also a scheme to help students fund childcare. For more information, see www.nottingham.ac.uk/child-care

What support do you offer for students with a disability or dyslexia?
The department, like the University, is committed to promoting access for students who have a disability, dyslexia or a long-term medical condition. Services provided by the University aim to enable students to fulfil the inherent requirements of the course as independently as possible. Students who have a disability, specific learning difficulty or long-term medical condition can contact the disability liaison officer in the School of Humanities to ensure that support is available from the start of the degree. The University’s Disability Statement, which lists services, facilities and opportunities available throughout the University can be viewed at www.nottingham.ac.uk/disability

Visit our website for more frequently asked questions: www.nottingham.ac.uk/faqs
Visiting and contacting us

Open days
If you’re considering applying to The University of Nottingham we recommend that you try to attend one of the University-wide open days, which are held in June and September each year and attract around 30,000 visitors. Find out more: www.nottingham.ac.uk/opendays

Mini open days
Mini open days are much smaller than the main open days but offer the same opportunities to attend various talks and tours as well as speak to current students and academics. Find out more: www.nottingham.ac.uk/go/miniopendays or call +44 (0)115 951 5559.

Virtual open day
If you can’t attend one of our open days in person, or would like to explore our campuses before visiting, take a look at our virtual open day: www.nottingham.ac.uk/virtualnottingham

UCAS visit days
Once you’ve been offered a place at Nottingham, you may be invited to attend a UCAS visit day, which is an opportunity for you to visit the department and to find out more about your chosen course. You will also be given a short tour of the campus by current students.

Other visits
If you wish to make an informal visit to the University prior to applying here, you are welcome to do so, but you should contact us in advance if you wish to visit the department or speak to an admissions tutor, and we will do our best to oblige.

Contact us
Department of Philosophy
The University of Nottingham
University Park
Nottingham
NG7 2RD
t: +44(0)115 951 5646
e: philosophy-enquiries@nottingham.ac.uk
w: www.nottingham.ac.uk/philosophy

For international student enquiries, please contact:
The International Office
t: +44 (0)115 951 5247
t: +44 (0)115 951 5155
e: international-office@nottingham.ac.uk
w: www.nottingham.ac.uk/international

You can also connect with fellow applicants and current students on our applicants’ Facebook and Twitter pages:

@UoNAplicants

STUDY WHAT YOU LOVE

#STUDYWHATYOULOVE

Arts and Humanities

Your passion can be your success. Study what you love.

Our creative responses help make us unique. Learn about the lives of others, their thought processes and their influences and explore your own reactions. We’ll help you turn an inspiring degree into an inspiring career.

Find out more: www.nottingham.ac.uk/studywhatyoulove

Printed May 2015.