
Baccalaureate in Philosophy

Course Director: Rev Dr Thomas Casey SJ

The Baccalaureate in Philosophy (B Phil) is a full-time Level 8 Award. The programme provides an opportunity to study Philosophy in the Christian and Western Intellectual Traditions.

Rationale: The programme aims to:

- Foster knowledge and understanding of key areas of Philosophy and the Christian Intellectual Tradition;
- Develop the capacity to make informed, evaluative judgements about the arguments, approaches and methods within the different areas of the philosophical and Christian Intellectual Traditions;
- Foster the skills of clear logical thought and presentation, careful analysis of ideas and imaginative deployment of argument;
- To develop students' ability to fashion thoughts and concepts with precision, rigour and clarity to enable students to assess the source and nature of values;
- Develop appreciation of some fruitful interconnections between Philosophy and other areas of Intellectual Thought;
- Develop intellectual curiosity and the capacity for independent thought and critical reflection.

Entry

The programme is a one year full-time award, designed to build upon study already undertaken in appropriate subject-areas and at an appropriate level. In particular, the following pathways apply:

- Completion of the *Higher Diploma in Philosophy and Arts/Diploma in Philosophy and Arts*
- Completion of a primary award in Philosophy alone or as a cognate subject (minimum of 50%).

Candidates are required to present for interview, either in person or by video link, before undertaking the programme.

Prospective candidates should contact the Pontifical University Office for further details.

Programme Level Learning Outcomes

By the end of this programme, graduates will be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding

- Demonstrate a detailed and systematic knowledge and understanding of key texts, events, doctrines, theories, interpretations and arguments relating to the study of Philosophy and the Christian Intellectual Tradition, at least some of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of the disciplines
- Show awareness of a range of approaches/interpretations where applicable

Intellectual and Cognitive Skills

- Select and organise material from a wide range of complex primary and secondary sources
- Demonstrate intellectual flexibility through the appropriate use of a range of methodological approaches
- Conduct a detailed critical analysis of texts, theories or arguments
- Construct a strongly sustained argument, which may also show the implications of the findings for further study of the subject.

Practical and Transferrable Skills

- communicate clearly and concisely in written formats of varying types and lengths
- present well-structured thought orally
- debate complex issues in an open-minded but rigorous way
- abstract and synthesise relevant information from a range of sources including books, journal articles, library and internet resources
- manage time and undertake tasks without assistance

Programme Structure

The programme is comprised of core and elective modules combined to a total 60 credits

- Core Modules are designed to enable study in areas central to philosophy in the Christian tradition. They include *Academic and Personal Philosophy*, *Major Essay*, *Readings in Philosophy in the Christian tradition*.
- Elective Modules open up the possibility of a holistic approach to the philosophical endeavour, such as, learning an academic language, praxis (volunteering) and theory (reflection), and taking courses from a suite of modules in Maynooth University or the Pontifical University. *Such modules can only be chosen in consultation with the Dean of Philosophy.*

Indicative Programme Structure			
<i>Please note: The Programme of Study must be arranged in consultation with the Dean of Philosophy</i>			
Module Title	Code	Semester	Total ECTs
<i>Compulsory Core Modules</i>			
Readings in Philosophy in the Christian tradition	TBC	1	5
Research Paper	TBC	2	5
Academic and Personal Philosophy	TBC	2	5
<i>Optional Modules</i>			
Elective Stream 1 (From suite of Modules in the Pontifical University or Maynooth University)	TBC	1 / 2	10
Elective Stream 2 (From suite of Modules in the Pontifical University or Maynooth University)	TBC	1 / 2	10
Elective Stream 3 (From suite of Modules in the Pontifical University or Maynooth University)	TBC	1 / 2	10
Introduction to a Contemporary Academic Language	TBC	1 / 2	10
Praxis and Theory (Volunteering with Reflection)	TBC	1 / 2	10

