

Explosive reflections...
Postgraduate studies
in Philosophy





Contents

Choices	6
Research Groups and Centres	8
The University of Southampton	11
Southampton and region	12
How to Apply	14

Originally built as a school and opened in 1926, Avenue Campus brings together contemporary and traditional architecture on a beautiful self-contained site with a wealth of facilities

Introducing Philosophy at Southampton



Philosophy at the University of Southampton has a variety of outstanding research strengths that are reflected in our activities at postgraduate level. We have a long-established international reputation for our work in 19th century German philosophy; in analytic aesthetics and its history; and in the thought of Wittgenstein. More recently, we have developed a very strong profile for our work on the normative dimensions of epistemology, ethics, and the philosophies of mind, language and practical reason. We also specialise in the thought of philosophers including Plato, Hume, Kant, Schopenhauer, Nietzsche, Kierkegaard, Russell and Heidegger.

Most members of staff work in at least two of these areas, which not only makes for a vibrant and collaborative research atmosphere but ensures that our postgraduate students, whatever their interests, have plenty of people to talk to. We are also energetic organisers of conferences, workshops, seminars, and other events in our areas of specialisation. For students wishing to work in any of these areas, Southampton is a natural choice.

As a result of our distinctive research profile, we have a lively, growing and strikingly cosmopolitan community of postgraduate students working on a rich variety of topics. Our students benefit, obviously, from the expertise of our staff, and from an environment that is collegial and highly active. But their studies also benefit from the excellent facilities that we are able to offer, and from our inclusion in the Humanities Graduate School, which offers a range of opportunities for those wishing to explore or develop their interests in an interdisciplinary direction.


If your philosophical passions lie close to ours, and you have postgraduate ambitions, we look forward to working with you.

Professor Denis McManus | Head of Philosophy



“Philosophy at Southampton brings together some of the best minds in aesthetic philosophy in the world right now. The professors are actively engaged in key debates, have excellent reputations in the field of philosophy, and are excited about the future.”
Visit www.southampton.ac.uk/philosophy/postgraduate/our_students to see what our other students have to say.

Kelsey Miller | MA Philosophy | USA



Is it time to re-evaluate our values? What we can learn from Nietzsche

“...I am dynamite”, said Friedrich Nietzsche, perhaps the 19th century’s most radical thinker. And we have been finding out why in a three year project funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council: Nietzsche and Modern Moral Philosophy. This is devoted to exploring the consequences of Nietzsche’s potentially devastating critique of traditional morality and his call for a “re-evaluation of all values”.

Our objectives are firstly, to situate Nietzsche’s naturalistic critique of traditional moral philosophy in the context of contemporary understandings of naturalism in morality; secondly, to understand how that critique bears, specifically, on neo-Kantian conceptions of autonomy and on neo-Aristotelian conceptions of the virtues, and finally, in light of the above, to consider the contemporary prospects for a re-evaluation of values.

The bark and bite of Nietzsche is an interest shared by several of our researchers but a fascination with challenging ideas and avenues of enquiry is shared by all of us. Join us for a highly distinctive – perhaps even an explosive – postgraduate experience.

Choices in Philosophy



Diverse postgraduate activities ensure a vibrant research culture

Philosophy at Southampton is part of Humanities, one of the country's leading centres for research and a multidisciplinary grouping of Archaeology Film Studies, English, History, Modern Languages, Music and Philosophy. Together these present our postgraduate students with a wealth of opportunities for interdisciplinary study.

Every year, we receive applications from students with a wide range of motivations and interests. Some have recently graduated and seek intellectual stimulation to complement their job, while others are looking to change career direction or wish to explore a new area of knowledge after a career. Whatever your situation, you will find postgraduate study an enriching experience.

We offer a masters level taught degree in Philosophy - Masters of Arts (MA). Many postgraduate students study on a part time basis so they can successfully balance home life with study, and continue in employment.

If you are considering doctoral study in Philosophy on an interdisciplinary basis, the outcome will be MPhil or PhD. Typically, you can expect to spend up to four years studying for your PhD on a full time basis or up to seven years if you choose to study part time. When you begin your research you will be supported by your supervisor, who will help you develop your personal knowledge within your chosen research area. As you progress, you will begin to make an independent contribution to knowledge. After two years full time study you will usually have completed the requirements for the MPhil and you will make the transfer to your PhD. We offer an international distance learning programme for international students who wish to study for their PhD in their home country.

The Graduate School

When you join us to study Philosophy you will become a member of the Humanities Graduate School.

The Graduate School provides you with additional help and support during the course of your studies. We have a broad focus, providing not only essential skills training and development, but also pastoral support, connections to funding opportunities, student-led activities and a social network.

We are particularly proud of our doctoral training programme. We offer PhD students an opportunity to take part in our Skills Development Training Programme

to enhance their research experience, life skills and employability. Now in its sixth year, the programme meets all of the Research Councils' criteria for training provision, and is delivered face-to-face and online.

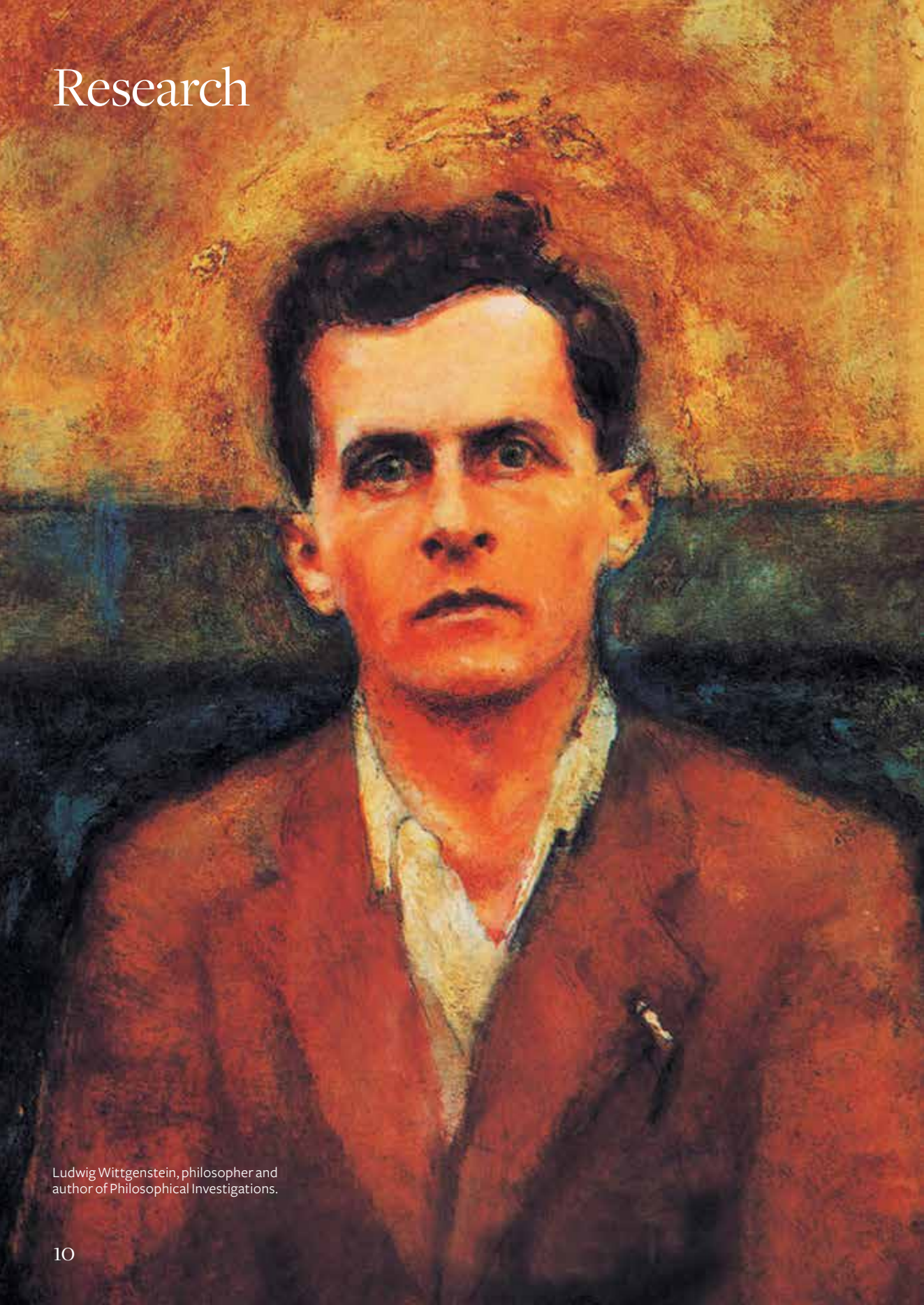
You can undertake as many sessions as you like, and concentrate on developing the skills that are important to you. You can learn how to plan your research project; raise funding; give a research paper; organise a conference to present your research; and turn your thesis into a book.

Our Graduate School encompasses a variety of student-led activities including regular social gatherings, a seminar series and a number of reading groups focusing on research areas across our seven disciplines. The highlight of the year for the Graduate School is the student-led annual conference that gives all postgraduates the chance to present their work to peers and staff. We also invite paper and poster submissions from students at other institutions, so you have an opportunity to network with others in your field. The best papers from the conference are published in our peer-reviewed Graduate School journal, *Emergence*.

Our postgraduate students are invited to attend weekly term-time seminars arranged by our Research Centres, academic disciplines and cross-disciplinary research groups. These events provide an invaluable opportunity to find out about other areas of study within Humanities.

We encourage you to be an active member of our Graduate School making your own contribution to our development. You will be regarded as a researcher in your own right and we expect you to apply for funding to run your own seminars, workshops and conferences; to take research trips when possible; and to attend relevant conferences in your area of interest. Your contribution is likely to be featured on our website and be included in our annual Graduate School newsletter which is written, edited and published by our students.

www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/postgraduate/graduate_school



Ludwig Wittgenstein, philosopher and author of *Philosophical Investigations*.

Our research interests span a wide range of areas and there is a considerable overlap. The principal areas of our research are: aesthetics; 19th century continental philosophy; and Wittgenstein and his place in modern philosophy.

Other significant areas of shared research include: philosophy of action and practical reason; and philosophy of language and mind. In addition, members of staff have research interests in: ancient philosophy; ethics; philosophical logic; philosophy of religion; philosophy of science; political philosophy; and on Collingwood, Heidegger and Russell.

If you choose to undertake your research with us, you will be joining a vibrant research community. We host a lively programme of events including the Mind Association's annual conference, which is now in its 11th year. In 2006, we hosted the prestigious Joint Session of The Aristotelian Society and we are now home to the Arts and Humanities Research Council's funded project: Nietzsche and Modern Moral Philosophy.

Research areas

Nineteenth-Century continental philosophy

Our principal interests are in the works of Nietzsche, Schopenhauer and Kierkegaard. We achieved international recognition in the 2006-2008 Philosophical Gourmet Report when we were rated first in the UK for our work on nineteenth century German philosophy.

Wittgenstein and his place in modern philosophy

Our interest is in Wittgenstein's early and late philosophy, its bearing on contemporary philosophy and its relationship to the philosophies of, among others, Russell, Kierkegaard and Heidegger.

Aesthetics

We were rated joint first in the UK for Aesthetics in the 2006-2008 Philosophical Gourmet Report. Our interests include: the philosophy of music; the philosophy of tragedy; and the history of aesthetics.

www.southampton.ac.uk/philosophy/research



“Although not resident in Southampton, the flexible approach of the Philosophy programme has ensured that I have been able to make a contribution to the vibrant and varied research community, as well as affording me the opportunity to gain valuable teaching experience. The breadth and quality of Wittgenstein scholarship, combined with the generous support on offer, has made Southampton the ideal place to commit to a philosophical research project.”
Visit www.southampton.ac.uk/philosophy/postgraduate/our_students to see what our other students have to say.

Kristen Jeffs | PhD Philosophy

The University of Southampton

The University is a member of the prestigious Russell Group of 20 major UK research universities and is a top 15 UK research university with a global reputation for leading-edge research and innovation.

World-class reputation

The University of Southampton was established in 1952, and since then it has continued to grow and flourish. We now have over 22,000 students including more than 5,700 postgraduates and approximately 5,000 international students from 130 countries. Furthermore, we are ranked in the top 75 universities in the world according to the most recent QS World Rankings.

In the latest assessment by the Quality Assurance Agency, which monitors the standards for teaching in the UK, we were awarded the highest level of achievement for the standard of our educational provision.

Outstanding facilities

Philosophy students have access to some of the best facilities in the country, which over the last four years have received more than £200 million of investment. The Hartley Library on the Highfield Campus is one of the leading research libraries in the UK and recently underwent a £12 million extension and refurbishment. Facilities include a state-of-the-art learning centre with consultation rooms, 'walk in' internet access, a language study area, a popular café and a lounge for more relaxed study. Additionally, it houses specialist collections including the Broadland Archives, the papers of the Duke of Wellington, world renowned collections relating to Jewish history and culture, and the Ford Collection of British Parliamentary Publications.

Three of the south of England's leading arts venues are located on the Highfield Campus: the Nuffield Theatre, Turner Sims Concert Hall and John Hansard Art Gallery. There are also branches of the major high street banks, a bookshop, post office, a choice of cafés and restaurants, a convenience store, travel centre, and a day nursery for children on campus. Postgraduate students also enjoy the facilities of the Staff Social Centre on site.

The £8.5 million Jubilee Sports Centre on the Highfield Campus has swimming, badminton, squash and fitness facilities. In addition, our £4.3 million outdoor sports facilities include tennis courts and synthetic and grass pitches.

The Students' Union, known as SUSU, is one of the leading students' unions in the country. Run by students for students, they are vocal on political matters and a number of ex-SUSU presidents have gone on to have political careers, with several of them currently serving as MPs. The recently refurbished Union building offers a range of places to eat great food, listen to live music, see the latest films, and get information and advice.

A few minutes' walk from Highfield is Avenue Campus, which houses most disciplines within Humanities and the Centre for Language Study. With its welcoming atmosphere, Avenue is a self-contained campus with its own library, lecture theatres, focused postgraduate study spaces and catering amenities.

For more information on our facilities please visit www.southampton.ac.uk/philosophy/postgraduate/study/facilities

Excellent accommodation

Our 20 halls of residence vary in size, character and facilities, but all provide the same high-quality accommodation in a safe, diverse, inclusive environment. We have accommodation specifically for postgraduates, from standard packages to self-catered studio flats. We can also give you help and advice on securing private rented accommodation. Accommodation in a University hall of residence is guaranteed (subject to terms and conditions) to all international postgraduate students without dependents, outside the EU, for the first year of their programme. Please see our website for further details: www.southampton.ac.uk/accommodation

Highfield Campus, just 10 minutes walk from Avenue Campus, offers some of the best facilities in the country

Southampton and the south coast

Southampton is a thriving modern city steeped in history and culture. Just over an hour south of central London, Southampton also has excellent transport links with the rest of the UK and Europe.

A connected city

Situated on the south coast of England in the county of Hampshire, Southampton boasts excellent transport links with the rest of the UK and internationally by road, rail, sea and air. The city is serviced by two mainline train stations with direct trains to London Waterloo and within easy reach of the Eurostar at St Pancras International. An international airport offers regular flights to UK and major European destinations and the University's own award-winning Uni-link bus service connects all Southampton campuses, halls of residence, the City Centre, airport and both railway stations.

More locally, the nearby towns and cities of Bournemouth, Poole, Winchester and Portsmouth offer a wealth of cultural and leisure attractions for any visitor. Bournemouth and Poole's award-winning Blue Flag beaches are just down the coast, and Winchester, once the country's capital city is perhaps best known for its 11th century cathedral and the Great Hall, which houses the mysterious Round Table of King Arthur. Portsmouth is 20 miles to the east of Southampton and home to historic ships including Lord Nelson's flagship HMS Victory, and Henry VIII's Mary Rose. The Isle of Wight is England's largest island and is located just off the Hampshire coast. It is easily accessible, and each summer hosts Cowes Week, the world's largest and most prestigious international sailing regatta.

A historic city

Once the home to the writer Jane Austen, Southampton also has a fascinating maritime and aviation history. It was from here, in 1415 that Henry V set sail for Agincourt, the Pilgrim Fathers began their historic journey to the New World in 1620 and the ill-fated Titanic departed on its maiden voyage in 1912. The Spitfire, the fighter aircraft that won the Battle of Britain, was developed in the region in the 1930s. And it was here in Southampton that British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and US President Eisenhower planned the D-Day landings during World War II. Southampton is also known for having the longest surviving run of medieval walls in England.

Less than half an hour from Southampton is the New Forest National Park, with vast open heathland and beautiful forest. Created by William the Conqueror in 1079 as a royal hunting area, it is now a unique area of historical, ecological and agricultural significance. Today the forest retains many historical rural practices, such as pasteurising of ponies, cattle, pigs and donkeys in the open forest by local inhabitants.

A modern city

Today Southampton is a truly multicultural city and is home to one of Europe's largest commercial ports, which handles in excess of 42 million tonnes of cargo annually. It is also the cruise capital of northern Europe and is renowned across the world as the home of the giant cruise liners, Queen Mary 2 and Queen Victoria. The city's coastal location means it offers a vast range of opportunities for sport and leisure, with waterfront marinas and a focus on water sports and sailing.

Southampton is also home to West Quay, one of the south coast's best shopping centres, as well as a superb array of entertainment venues that cater for all tastes including the ever popular Oxford Street with its seemingly endless choice of good quality restaurants.

The city's five Grade II listed central parks together with its huge 326 acre common make it the greenest city in the south of England. Throughout the year an abundance of events are arranged for the general public including guided walks, arts in the park, live music and a Thai food festival to name but a few.

Southampton is packed with exciting places to go. So whether you want to see the latest blockbuster film, visit an award-winning art gallery or fancy a night at the theatre, then Southampton is the city for you.

Southampton has a rich maritime heritage so it is unsurprising that today there is growing interest in water sports, sailing and ocean racing. For more information and a short video please visit: www.southampton.ac.uk/visitus/cityandregion



Within a short walk of the waterfront is Southampton's Old Town, with its historic buildings and museums. It was near here the Pilgrim Fathers set sail for America in 1620 before their unscheduled stop at Plymouth

How to apply

Entry requirements

We accept recognised qualifications from a wide range of UK and international universities.

Typical entry requirements for our masters programmes are a strong first degree. For further information: www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/postgraduate/taught_courses/our_courses

Applicants for our research degrees will be required to demonstrate a previous strong performance on a masters degree. For further information: www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/postgraduate/research_degrees/courses

International Students

Our dedicated International Office aims to make the process of joining the University as simple as possible, and is there to help you with any initial queries you may have before you make the decision to apply to Southampton. Staff members travel overseas throughout the year to meet with many of our potential students and are assisted by official University representatives in a wide variety of countries. For more information on the support services available to international students, both before and after arriving at Southampton please visit: www.southampton.ac.uk/international

English language

If English is not your first language, you will need to have already achieved a satisfactory standard in an approved test in English, such as IELTS, typically at grade 6.5 or above, by the time you start your course. You may choose to complete one of our pre-sessional English language courses, which provide excellent academic preparation for study at Southampton. www.southampton.ac.uk/cls

Fees and funding

Tuition fees vary according to the type of programme you choose. Fees charged to full time students include the full cost of tuition, examinations, Students' Union membership and research support expenses (where applicable). For further information visit: www.southampton.ac.uk/postgraduate/feesandfunding

Up to £1 Million of scholarships and funding available

Humanities offers up to £1 million in awards to postgraduate students every year. Our awards are open to all students intending to study at masters or doctoral level including UK, EU and International applicants. The awards available vary from year to year and range from studentships from £1,000 to full scholarships that cover tuition fees at the UK/EU rate. For up to date information on funding opportunities available for all Humanities disciplines, please visit: www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/postgraduate/money_matters

More information

For an up to date list of Philosophy masters programmes available along with detailed course descriptions please visit: www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/postgraduate/taught_courses/our_courses

For detailed information on Philosophy research degrees please visit: www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/postgraduate/research_degrees/courses

If you have any questions regarding the application process please feel free to contact us:
Email: pgapply.fh@southampton.ac.uk
Tel: +44 (0) 23 8059 8062
www.southampton.ac.uk/philosophy

Relevant web links are shown throughout the Humanities Postgraduate Prospectus. Please also consult: www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities online for further details and/or any changes which have appeared since first publication of the Humanities Postgraduate Prospectus.

Disclaimer

The University of Southampton will use all reasonable efforts to deliver advertised programmes and other services and facilities in accordance with the descriptions set out in its prospectuses, student handbooks, welcome guides and website. It will provide students with the tuition, learning support, services and facilities so described with reasonable care and skill.

The University, therefore, reserves the right if it considers it to be necessary to alter the timetable, location, content or method of delivery of events provided such alterations are reasonable.

Financial or other losses

The University will not be held liable for any direct or indirect financial or other losses or damage arising from changes made to the event timetable, location, content or method of delivery of various services and facilities set out herein.

Force majeure

The University will not be held liable for any loss, damage or expense resulting from any delay, variation or failure in the provision of services and facilities set out herein, arising from circumstances beyond the University's reasonable control, including (but not limited to) war or threat of war, riot, civil strife, terrorist activity, industrial dispute, natural or nuclear disaster, adverse weather conditions, interruption in power supplies or other services for any reason, fire, boycott and telecommunications failure.

In the event that such circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the University arise, it will use all reasonable endeavours to minimise disruption as far as it is practical to do so.

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This information can be made available, on request, in alternative formats such as electronic, large print, Braille or audio tape, and in some cases, other languages. Please call +44 (0)23 8059 7726 to request an alternative format.

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Designed by WAX sij, Winchester UK

“Southampton has a brilliant reputation in the field of value so it was an obvious choice in many ways. It also has experts on Wittgenstein and Nietzsche, two thinkers who I have always been interested in.”

Visit www.southampton.ac.uk/philosophy/postgraduate/our_students to see what our other students have to say.

Jeremy Page | BA Philosophy and MA Philosophy (part time)



Philosophy masters programmes

Our masters courses are a product of the broad and contemporary interests of our academic research community. The subjects you will study reflect developments in current thinking and will expose you to research outputs and achievements influencing thought across the academic world.

MA Philosophy

The MA in Philosophy provides a grounding for advanced work in philosophy. The MA is designed to cater both for those with an interest in doing a philosophy MA for its own sake and for those intending to go on to pursue research in philosophy (eg at PhD level). This programme will enable you to acquire a thorough training in research skills alongside the detailed study of the central works of philosophy. You will have the opportunity to choose from a wide range of options covering particular areas and particular philosophers. You can select your own pathway or adopt a pick-and-mix approach to your studies.

MA Aesthetics

Aesthetics covers the philosophy of art and questions about aesthetic judgement and value. This course gives you the opportunity to study both the history of aesthetics and some of the most recent arguments by contemporary philosophers.

The MA in Aesthetics offers a grounding in aesthetics and philosophy of the arts more generally. It allows students the opportunity to explore both the history of aesthetics and contemporary philosophical debate about the arts, and can provide the basis for future research at PhD level.

Further information

For more detailed information on our Philosophy masters programmes please visit: www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/taught_courses

Philosophy research interests

Philosophy at Southampton offers a wealth of opportunities for postgraduate research, the principal foci of which are:

Aesthetics

Our principal interests include: the philosophy of music; the philosophy of tragedy; and the history of aesthetics.

Nineteenth century continental philosophy

Our main focus includes the works of Nietzsche, Schopenhauer and Kierkegaard.

Wittgenstein and his place in modern philosophy

Our interest is in Wittgenstein's early and late philosophy, its bearing on contemporary philosophy and its relationship to the philosophies of, among others, Russell, Kierkegaard and Heidegger.

Other significant areas of shared research include philosophy of action and practical reason; and philosophy of language and mind. In addition, members of staff have research interests in ancient philosophy, ethics, philosophical logic, philosophy of religion, philosophy of science and political philosophy.

You will be supervised by one of our research active scholars who will support you in developing your skills, knowledge and capabilities as an active researcher.

Further information

For detailed information on our Philosophy MPhil or PhD programmes please visit www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/research_degrees

www.southampton.ac.uk/philosophy

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