Southampton

Programme Specification

Philosophy, Ethics, and Religion (2020-21)

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

Awarding Institution	University of Southampton
Teaching Institution	University of Southampton
Mode of Study	Full-time
Duration in years	3
Accreditation details	None
Final award	Bachelor of Arts with Honours (BA (Hons))
Name of award	Philosophy, Ethics, and Religion
Interim Exit awards	Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE)
	Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE)
FHEQ level of final award	Level 6
UCAS code	V504
Programme code	6258
QAA Subject Benchmark or other external reference	Philosophy 2007, Theology And Religious Studies 2007
Programme Lead	Conor McHugh

Programme Overview

Brief outline of the programme

A Philosophy, Ethics, and Religion degree at Southampton provides you with an excellent and rigorous education exploring fundamental and far-reaching issues. You will engage with questions that have puzzled great thinkers for millennia but are still relevant today: How should we live? What can we really know? Can religious beliefs be justified? And what is their role in society?

You will explore these fundamental questions using the philosophical method of reasoned argument and critical scrutiny. You will have the opportunity to explore ethical questions and views, and issues about the nature of religion and its place in society, as they are studied in a wide-range of fields, including anthropology, archaeology, history, and politics. This will give you an unparalleled opportunity to develop your ability to think clearly, critically and imaginatively, to understand varying points of view, to organise ideas and develop ideas and to work independently. The flexible curriculum will enable you to balance your choice of modules according to your own interests, while also ensuring that you graduate with skills essential to a successful career or further study.

Your contact hours will vary depending on your module/option choices. Full information about contact hours is provided in individual module profiles.

Learning and teaching

Our teaching draws upon the cutting-edge research of Southampton's philosophers, all of whom are actively engaged in presenting and publishing their work to international audiences.

We place special emphasis on small group teaching. Alongside lectures, you will participate from your first part of study in tutorials and seminars in which you will explore and develop your own ideas in discussion with fellow students and staff.

Each student is assigned a personal academic tutor, a leading academic who provides help and support at every part of study.

Throughout the degree, we impart advanced skills in reasoning, research, communication, and analysis, skills which, alongside the support offered by the University's career service, will prepare you for further study or a future career.

Assessment

You will be assessed by more than just essays and exams. Depending on the modules you choose, you will work in teams, give presentations, submit group projects, engage in debates, and manage larger research projects such as dissertations. The nature of the assessment task is appropriate to the issues you are studying and the range of tasks allows you to develop the skills you need for further study or the world of work.

Please note: As a research-led University, we undertake a continuous review of our programmes to ensure quality enhancement and to manage our resources. As a result, this programme may be revised during a student's period of registration, however, any revision will be balanced against the requirement that the student should receive the educational service expected. Please read our Disclaimer to see why, when and how changes may be made to a student's programme.

Programmes and major changes to programmes are approved through the University's programme validation process which is described in the University's Quality handbook.

Special Features of the programme

N/A

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Programmes and major changes to programmes are approved through the University's <u>programme validation</u> <u>process</u> which is described in the University's <u>Quality handbook</u>.

Educational Aims of the Programme

The aims of the programme are to: The aims of the programme are to provide you with:

• Knowledge and understanding of some of the main ideas and arguments of major philosophers in the Western tradition, and of central theories and issues in philosophy, including the philosophical study of ethics and religion.

• The opportunity to acquire knowledge and understanding of some of the main ideas and theoretical approaches in the study of ethics and religion in other disciplines, including Archaeology, History, Anthropology

and Management.

 \cdot The ability to engage with issues and ideas at the cutting-edge of contemporary research in philosophy and the study of religion.

- The ability to think and learn in an independent, creative and disciplined fashion.
 - The skills and abilities required for further study and/or your future career path.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Having successfully completed this programme you will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

Knowledge and Understanding

On successful completion of this programme you will have knowledge and understanding of:

- A1. some of the views and arguments advanced and explored in the work of key thinkers within Western Philosophy, and the relevance of those views, arguments and positions to contemporary philosophy.
- A2. the defining problems of central areas of philosophy and prominent attempts to resolve those problems.
- A3. the philosophical issues concerning ethics and religion.
- A4. the wide range of techniques of reasoning philosophers employ in analysing, exploring and evaluating ideas and arguments.
- A5. ideas at the forefront of current philosophical thinking and scholarship.

Teaching and Learning Methods

· Lectures

This is an effective way of conveying information concerning the above topics and explaining ideas to students. As your study progresses, the lectures explore the relevant issues in greater depth to reflect and further the development of your knowledge and understanding.

In-class discussion

This provides an opportunity for students to engage in discussion with peers and to raise questions concerning the material covered in lectures. Sometimes discussion is initiated by student presentations.

Tutorials and seminars

These small group sessions offer students the chance to engage in debate (facilitated by a tutor) concerning the topics raised in lectures and to explore through discussion issues which go beyond the material covered in lectures.

The compulsory 1st part modules, Ethics and Knowledge and Mind, involve tutorials of 4-6 students, the primary purpose of which is to assist students in their early attempts to read, write about and understand philosophical arguments. The starting-point for discussion is often the topic of a short essay, which students revise in light of that discussion and individual meetings with the tutor. The compulsory 2nd part module, Appearance and Reality, involves weekly seminars of 8-12 students. Individual presentations, focused on extracts from key historical texts, initiate discussion of the issues the extracts raise.

Consultation with academic staff

All academic staff hold 'advice and feedback hours' during which you can drop in for individual discussion of the ideas and arguments encountered in lectures and your reading, or which you have arrived at yourself. You may also arrange to meet with staff by appointment.

Research supervision

In the final part, you will undertake a dissertation (an extended research project), supervised by a member of academic staff with expertise in the area it concerns. In preparing the dissertation, you will have the opportunity to meet regularly with the supervisor to explore the issues it concerns, to receive guidance on your research and reading, and to receive feedback on the work as it progresses.

· Independent study

Given the nature of the subjects, independent study forms an essential part in the development of your knowledge and understanding. This will involve careful reading of central texts, thoughtful reflection on issues raised in those texts or in class, and arriving at your own considered opinions on the topics you are studying.

Assessment Methods

We employ a wide variety of tasks which enable you, and staff, to assess your knowledge and understanding of the ideas and theories you are studying, as well as your grasp of the techniques for analysing and evaluating those ideas and theories. Some tasks contribute to the grade you receive and all allow you to be sure that you are working effectively. Written or oral feedback is available to students on all assessment tasks.

Methods of assessment may include:

- Essay
- Exam
- Textual commentaries
- Research proposal
- Individual presentation
- Group research project
- Dissertation
- Annotated bibliography
- Reflective statement and peer evaluation
- Essay plan
- Reading tests and exercises
- Debates

Particular assessment tasks are appropriate to the area of study, and the exact nature of the task is determined by the level at which you are studying. For example, an exam in your first part might involve several questions while an exam in your final part might involve one question, inviting you to examine a single issue in depth and detail. Likewise, with each part of study, you can expect the assessment task to call for more independent study and thinking. For example, in your final part you complete a dissertation, which is the product of your own research (guided by a supervisor).

Subject Specific Intellectual and Research Skills

On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

- B1. interpret and extract information from complex texts, including historical texts from a variety of traditions.
- B2. identify, evaluate and analyse problems, positions and arguments in philosophy and concerning ethics and religion.
- B3. present and debate positions concerning philosophical, ethical and religious issues, orally and in writing, in an open-minded, clear and rigorous way.

B4. formulate your own views with respect to various philosophical, ethical and religious issues and defend those views with arguments.

Teaching and Learning Methods

Activities designed to enhance the above skills are integrated into all aspects of the teaching of this degree programme (see above). Activities particularly important for the enhancement of your skills in thinking and research include:

 \cdot 1st part Philosophy tutorials, which help students to develop their skills in extracting ideas and arguments from texts, and presenting and assessing those arguments in writing.

• 2nd part seminars, in which students give individual presentations, presenting orally philosophical views and reasoning.

• A compulsory 1st part course in reason and argument, which introduces students to the formal and informal techniques philosophers use in presenting and assessing arguments (see below).

 \cdot In-class discussion which provides students with the opportunity to express their own views with respect to the issues they are studying, and debate those views with peers.

Assessment Methods

All assessment tasks are designed to encourage the above skills and give students a chance to demonstrate them (see above). Methods particularly important for the assessment of these skills include: • Essays, which demonstrate your ability to interpret and engage critically with texts, to construct

and develop arguments, and to show your command of the vocabulary used in the relevant subject areas.

• Presentations, which allow us to assess and provide feedback on your ability to express orally ideas and positions, including your own.

• The dissertation, in which you develop a sustained line of argument of your own and examine ideas in considerable depth and detail.

Transferable and Generic Skills

On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

- C1. Analyse and present ideas and positions, both orally and in writing.
- C2. Undertake independent work.
- C3. Work effectively to deadlines.
- C4. Argue in a reasoned and dispassionate fashion
- C5. Manage, plan and execute projects.
- C6. Understand and extract relevant information from complex texts

Teaching and Learning Methods

These skills are imparted in all aspects of teaching and learning involved in this programme. Methods particularly important for developing transferable skills include:

• Compulsory 1st part courses in reason and argument, which develops skills in critical thinking.

• Library skills sessions, which take place during new students' induction, as well as when embarking on the dissertation, which help students learn how to identify and make use of resources, including online resources.

· Seminars, in which students present their own views and those of others orally.

• Group presentations or written projects, which require students to work together in coordinating and executing a task. • Tutorials, in which students develop their skills in clearly presenting ideas and arguments in writing

• In-class discussion, which gives students the chance to advance and defend their own positions.

Assessment Methods

All assessment tasks are designed in part to encourage and assess the above skills. Methods particularly important for developing transferable skills include:

• Group research projects and presentations, which require students to work together effectively, to delegate responsibilities, and to manage time.

• Dissertations, which require independent study, research skills, time management, and the ability to present complex ideas in writing.

• Essays, in which students demonstrate their ability to interpret complex texts, to present their views and those of others in writing, to argue for and against various positions, and to work to a deadline.

• Exams, which test your ability to present and debate ideas in writing and to communicate effectively under strict time constraints.

• Textual commentaries, which demonstrate your ability to extract key information from difficult texts.

• Presentations, which require you to articulate ideas and arguments verbally and in an engaging fashion.

Programme Structure

The programme structure table is below:

Information about pre and co-requisites is included in individual module profiles.

Where optional modules have been specified, the following is an indicative list of available optional modules, which are subject to change each academic year. Please note in some instances modules have limited spaces available.

Part I

The programme is normally studied over three years full-time. However, it may also be taken on a part-time basis for a period of not less than four and not more than eight academic years. Study is undertaken at three levels (each corresponding to one year of full-time study, excluding study abroad).

The programme is divided into modules (courses devoted to specific topics). Single modules have a credit value of 15, while double modules have a credit value of 30. Full-time students take 120 credits at each level, 60 credits in each semester. Some modules are compulsory, though most are optional.

You must take at least 60 credits (equivalent to four single modules) in Philosophy at each level, inclusive of any compulsory modules. 30 further credits at each level must be taken either in Philosophy or in the non-Philosophy modules available in this degree (see below). The remaining 30 credits may be taken in any available subject.

Philosophy Assessment:

Formative assessment tasks (e.g. essay drafts or plans) will enable you to receive feedback to guide you in your work for summative assessments. In some modules these formative assessment tasks may be mandatory and non-submission or fail may incur a penalty to your mark for the module.

The modules on offer can vary from year to year but the following is a list of those which are typically available. Some modules have pre-requisites, i.e. require you to have taken certain other modules at an earlier stage. Information about the modules, including their pre-requisites, can be found here:

http://www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/undergraduate/courses/philosophy/v504-ba-philosophy-ethics-and-religion.page?#modules

Given the scope for module choice, the variety in teaching, learning, and assessment methods, and the support on offer (see below), the programme is both flexible and inclusive. Any student who meets the entry requirements should be able to access the curriculum and demonstrate achievement of all the intended learning outcomes.

The programme is designed to ensure that your learning is progressive. Level 1 is foundational. You will take four compulsory modules which introduce you to fundamental areas of Philosophy and the philosophical study of ethics and religion and provide you with crucial skills in reason and argument. In addition, you will take optional modules in central areas of Philosophy or in the study of Ethics and Religion in other disciplines, including Anthropology, Archaeology, and History.

At every level of study, you have the opportunity to exercise module choice. In addition to selecting from a range of optional modules in Philosophy, Ethics, and Religion, you will have the opportunity to select modules in other subject areas and thereby to broaden your education.

Exit Award: Certificate of Higher Education

Part I Compulsory Modules

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Туре
PHIL1005	Ethics	7.5	Compulsory
PHIL1020	Faith and Reason	7.5	Compulsory
PHIL1002	Knowledge and Mind	7.5	Compulsory
PHIL1016	Reason and Argument	7.5	Compulsory

Part I Optional Modules

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Туре
ARCH1030	Ancient and Medieval Worlds	7.5	Optional
PHIL1003	Ancient Greek Philosophy	7.5	Optional
PHIL1026	Applied Ethics	7.5	Optional
ARCH1002	Emergence of Civilisation: domesticating ourselves and others	7.5	Optional
PHIL1021	Existentialism and its Origins	7.5	Optional
ANTH1001	Exploring Other Cultures	7.5	Optional
PHIL1027	Freedom and Responsibility	7.5	Optional
HIST1145	From Shah to Ayatollah: The Establishment of the Clerical Power in Iran (1979 to Today)	7.5	Optional
HUMA2013	How the Arts Work: a practical introduction to cultural economics	7.5	Optional
PHIL1019	Puzzles about Art and Literature	7.5	Optional
HIST1019	The First Crusade: Sources and Distortions	7.5	Optional
ARCH1062	Wonderful things: World history in 40 objects	7.5	Optional

Part II

Exit Award: Diploma of Higher Education

Part II Compulsory Modules

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Туре
PHIL2028	Appearance and Reality	7.5	Compulsory
PHIL2012	Moral Philosophy	7.5	Compulsory
PHIL2037	Philosophy of Religion	7.5	Compulsory

Part II Optional Modules

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Туре
PHIL2001	Aesthetics	7.5	Optional
HUMA2016	Arabian Nights and Days: The World of the 1001 Nights	7.5	Optional
ANTH2001	Cosmology, Ritual and Belief	7.5	Optional
PHIL2021	Epistemology	7.5	Optional
UOSM2026	Ethics in Science, Engineering and Technology: Jekyll and Hyde	7.5	Optional
PHIL2039	Ethics of Global Poverty	7.5	Optional
HUMA2013	How the Arts Work: a practical introduction to cultural economics	7.5	Optional
ARCH2004	Introduction to European Prehistory	7.5	Optional
PHIL2027	Kant	7.5	Optional
PHIL2014	Logic	7.5	Optional
MANG2041	Management Ethics	7.5	Optional
PHIL2040	Metaethics	7.5	Optional
PHIL2032	Metaphysics	7.5	Optional
HIST2223	Myth and the Ancient World	7.5	Optional
PHIL2010	Philosophy of Language	7.5	Optional
PHIL2009	Philosophy of Mind	7.5	Optional
HIST2085	Rebels with a Cause: The Historical Origins of Christianity	15	Optional
HUMA2008	The Life and Afterlife of the Vikings	7.5	Optional

Part III

Exit Award: Conferment of award/graduation

Part III Compulsory Modules

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Туре
PHIL3013	Philosophy Dissertation	15	Compulsory

Part III Optional Modules

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Туре
HIST3255	A Short History of the Ethics of War	7.5	Optional
HIST3246	A Short History of the Homosexual	7.5	Optional
PHIL3035	Action, Reason and Ethics	7.5	Optional
PHIL3055	Classical Indian Philosophy	7.5	Optional
PHIL3042	Fiction and Fictionalism	7.5	Optional
PHIL3041	Happiness and Wellbeing	7.5	Optional
PHIL3009	Heidegger	7.5	Optional
HUMA2013	How the Arts Work: a practical introduction to cultural economics	7.5	Optional
HUMA3009	Humanities Undergraduate Ambassador Scheme Yr 3	7.5	Optional
ARCH3039	More than Pyramids & Pharaohs? Ancient Egypt in Context	7.5	Optional
PHIL3007	Nietzsche	7.5	Optional
PHIL3051	Other Minds	7.5	Optional
PHIL3054	Philosophical Logic	7.5	Optional
PHIL3034	Philosophy of Sex	7.5	Optional
PHIL3049	Puzzles and Paradoxes	7.5	Optional
PHIL3036	Self-Knowledge	7.5	Optional
ARCH3008	Stonehenge to Skara Brae: the Neolithic of Britain	7.5	Optional
PHIL3038	The Ethics of Belief	7.5	Optional
PHIL3037	Wittgenstein's Later Philosophy	7.5	Optional

Progression Requirements

The programme follows the University's regulations for <u>Progression, Determination and Classification</u> <u>of Results : Undergraduate and Integrated Masters Programmes</u> and <u>Progression, Determination</u> <u>and Classification of Results: Postgraduate Master's Programmes</u> Any exemptions or variations to the University regulations, approved by AQSC are located in <u>section VI of the University Calendar</u>.

Support for student learning

There are facilities and services to support your learning some of which are accessible to students across the University and some of which will be geared more particularly to students in your particular Faculty or discipline area.

The University provides:

- library resources, including e-books, on-line journals and databases, which are comprehensive and up-todate; together with assistance from Library staff to enable you to make the best use of these resources
- high speed access to online electronic learning resources on the Internet from dedicated PC Workstations onsite and from your own devices; laptops, smartphones and tablet PCs via the Eduroam wireless network. There is a wide range of application software available from the Student Public Workstations.
- computer accounts which will connect you to a number of learning technologies for example, the Blackboard virtual learning environment (which facilitates online learning and access to specific learning resources)
- standard ICT tools such as Email, secure filestore and calendars.
- access to key information through the MySouthampton Student Mobile Portal which delivers timetables, Module information, Locations, Tutor details, Library account, bus timetables etc. while you are on the move.
- IT support through a comprehensive website, telephone and online ticketed support and a dedicated helpdesk in the Hartley Library.
- Enabling Services offering support services and resources via a triage model to access crisis management, mental health support and counselling. Support includes daily Drop In at Highfield campus at 13.00 15.00 (Monday, Wednesday and Friday out of term-time) or via on-line chat on weekdays from 14.00 16.00. Arrangements can also be made for meetings via Skype.
- assessment and support (including specialist IT support) facilities if you have a disability, long term health problem or Specific Learning Difficulty (e.g. dyslexia).
- the Student Services Centre (SSC) to assist you with a range of general enquiries including financial matters, accommodation, exams, graduation, student visas, ID cards
- Career and Employability services, advising on job search, applications, interviews, paid work, volunteering and internship opportunities and getting the most out of your extra-curricular activities alongside your degree programme when writing your CV
- Other support that includes health services (GPs), chaplaincy (for all faiths) and 'out of hours' support for students in Halls and in the local community, (18.00-08.00)
- A Centre for Language Study, providing assistance in the development of English language and study skills for non-native speakers.

The Students' Union provides

- an academic student representation system, consisting of Course Representatives, Academic Presidents, Faculty Officers and the Vice-President Education; SUSU provides training and support for all these representatives, whose role is to represent students' views to the University.
- opportunities for extracurricular activities and volunteering
- an Advice Centre offering free and confidential advice including support if you need to make an academic appeal
- Support for student peer-to-peer groups, such as Nightline.

Associated with your programme you will be able to access:

- Student Handbooks.
- \cdot A Personal Academic Tutor, who will provide you with help and support at each part of study.
- guidance notes on specific forms of assessment.
- all academic and teaching staff in office hours or by appointment.
- Part-specific emailing lists.
- Student mentors.
- study skills toolkits.
- · detailed information about all modules, their learning outcomes, forms of assessment, etc.
- feedback from teaching staff on any aspect of your performance.
- a Royal Literary Fund Fellow for advice on essay writing.
- Induction meetings introducing you to the subject areas and alerting you to important information and

Methods for evaluating the quality of teaching and learning

You will have the opportunity to have your say on the quality of the programme in the following ways:

- Completing student evaluation questionnaires for each module of the programme.
- Acting as a student representative on various committees, e.g. Staff/Student Liaison Committees, School Programmes Committee OR providing comments to your student representative to feedback on your behalf.
- Serving as a student representative on Faculty Scrutiny Groups for programme validation.
- Taking part in programme validation meetings by joining a panel of students to meet with the Faculty Scrutiny Group.

Further details on the University's quality assurance processes are given in the **Quality Handbook**.

Career Opportunities

Our students have gone on to succeed in a dazzling range of careers, including business, law, medicine, journalism, teaching, IT, the civil service, advertising, film and television, and finance.

Career skills are embedded throughout every stage of our course and are developed at every moment of study. Certain modules offer specific teaching in reasoning and communications skills. In addition, there are work experience opportunities to help you understand how your transferable skills apply in the workplace. During your degree you will learn skills such as:

- · Critical thinking
- · Analysis
- · Clear oral and written communication
- · Mental agility
- · The ability to appreciate different points of view
- Working in groups

In a survey of results in the American GRE tests (tests of verbal, quantitative and analytical skills), Philosophy graduates achieved better average scores than graduates of any other humanities or social science subject.

External Examiner(s) for the programme

Name: Anthony Booth - University of Sussex

Students must not contact External Examiner(s) directly, and external examiners have been advised to refer any such communications back to the University. Students should raise any general queries about the assessment and examination process for the programme with their Course Representative, for consideration through Staff: Student Liaison Committee in the first instance, and Student representatives on Staff: Student Liaison Committees will have the opportunity to consider external examiners' reports as part of the University's quality assurance process.

External examiners do not have a direct role in determining results for individual students, and students wishing to discuss their own performance in assessment should contact their Personal Academic Tutor in the first instance.

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information can be found in the

Appendix 1:

Students are responsible for meeting the cost of essential textbooks, and of producing such essays, assignments, laboratory reports and dissertations as are required to fulfil the academic requirements for each programme of study. In addition to this, students registered for this programme also have to pay for:

Additional Costs

Туре	Details
Computer discs or USB drives	Students are expected to provide their own portable data storage device.
Hardware	It is advisable that students provide their own laptop or personal computer, although shared facilities are available across the University campus.
Placements (including Study Abroad Programmes)	Students on placement programmes can expect to cover costs for health and travel insurance, accommodation and living expenses; travel costs; visa costs. This will vary depending on which country you are travelling to. Specific details on what additional costs there will be are detailed in the individual module profiles which can be found under the modules tab of the programmes details of your programme.
Printing and Photocopying Costs	 Where possible, coursework such as essays; projects; dissertations is likely to be submitted on line. However, there are some items where it is not possible to submit on line and students will be asked to provide a printed copy. A list of the University printing costs can be found here: http://www.southampton.ac.uk/isolutions/students/printing/
Software Licenses	All software is provided
Stationery	You will be expected to provide your own day-to-day stationary items, e.g. pens, pencils, notebooks, etc.). Any specialist stationery items will be specified under the Additional Costs tab of the relevant module profile.
Textbooks	Where a module specifies core texts these should generally be available on the reserve list in the library. However due to demand, students may prefer to buy their own copies. These can be purchased from any source. Some modules suggest reading texts as optional background reading. The library may hold copies of such texts, or alternatively you may wish to purchase your own copies. Although not essential reading, you may benefit from the additional reading materials for the module.

In some cases you'll be able to choose modules (which may have different costs associated with that module) which will change the overall cost of a programme to you. Details of such costs will be listed in the Module Profile. Please also ensure you read the section on additional costs in the University's Fees, Charges and Expenses Regulations in the University Calendar available at www.calendar.soton.ac.uk.