



MA in Philosophy

(One Year Full Time or
Two Years Part Time)



Introduction

The MA Philosophy is designed for philosophy graduates who wish to develop an advanced competence in philosophy. You can choose to specialise in areas where UCD School of Philosophy has particular expertise such as contemporary European (continental) philosophy, analytic philosophy, classical philosophy, philosophy of law, political philosophy, and cognitive science. Through advanced training in philosophy, students will acquire valuable transferable skills for a professional career in business, government or the media.

The MA in Philosophy in UCD provides a solid foundation for further graduate study in top ranked doctoral programmes in philosophy. Faculty in the School have published widely and are prominent in international academic circles.

In the past, the School has welcomed renowned figures such as Noam Chomsky, Hilary Putnam, John McDowell, Alasdair MacIntyre, Charles Taylor, Jürgen Habermas and Judith Butler. Students will become part of a thriving graduate community and enjoy a vibrant intellectual atmosphere in a supportive environment.

Programme Highlight

As the largest teaching and research centre in philosophy in Ireland, the programme benefits from many world-leading figures in philosophy that give invited seminars and conferences throughout the year. Small group seminars and participation in conferences and workshops are a key element of the programme design. As such, the programme uses key approaches to teaching such as philosophical debates, critical reflections, essays and paper presentations.

Programme Content and Structure



Taught Modules:

Students select three modules from the following for Autumn Trimester:

- Consciousness, Agency & the Self
- Problems from Kant
- Feminist & Gender Theory
- Topics in Continental Philosophy
- Philosophy of the Emotions
- Moral Agency
- Critique & Destruction
- Philosophy of Life Writing

Students select three modules from the following list for Spring Trimester:

- The Good Society – Protest and Resistance
- Merleau-Ponty's Phenomenology of Perception
- Philosophy & Literature
- Newman – a Philosophical Perspective
- The Cultural Mind
- Ethics in Public Life

(These are an indicative list of modules and there may be some minor changes)

Why study at UCD?



Graduate Education

12,000 graduate students; 17% graduate research students; structured PhDs



Graduate Employability

Ranked no. 1 in Ireland in QS Graduate Employability ranking



Global Careers

Dedicated careers support; 2 year stayback visa to work in Ireland



Global Community

8,500 international students and 300,000 alumni network across 165 countries



Global Profile

UCD is ranked in the top 1% of higher education institutions worldwide



Welcoming Campus

Modern parkland campus with 24 hr security. Wide range of facilities, clubs, societies and supports



Career Opportunities

Philosophy graduates work in diverse fields including business, public-sector management, marketing and advertising, media and broadcasting, recruitment and human resources.

Graduates of UCD School of Philosophy have continued to have successful academic careers in Ireland, UK and the US. Others are prominent playwrights, journalists, human-rights activists, broadcasters, film-makers and musicians.

Graduate Profile



Ranier Abengana
MA Philosophy
International Graduate, 2022

The UCD School of Philosophy is a lively environment for anyone intending to do postgraduate studies. The teaching staff is composed of diverse and well-renowned experts in their respective areas, and they show a genuine commitment to the growth and wellbeing of postgraduate students. Despite being an international student, I felt a sense of belonging thanks to the welcoming community of students and staff. The diverse composition of the postgraduate body allowed me to expand my interests, and I felt immersed in a group where everyone was genuinely interested in the members' respective concentrations. I was also able to take part in different postgraduate-led initiatives, such as the projects of the local chapter of Minorities and Philosophy (MAP).

Apart from the active involvement of the staff and the dedication of my fellow students, the success of the various endeavours I took part in is also attributable to the tireless support and accommodation provided by the administrative staff, who have likewise been very helpful in concerns that international students such as myself would have. The trust, support, and encouragement provided by everyone in this very welcoming community has not only motivated me to pursue a PhD, but has also created and sustained a feeling of the School being a home away from home.

Applicant Profile

- This programme is intended for students with a primary degree in Philosophy, or in another degree that has significant philosophical components; an upper second class honours, or international equivalent is required.
- Candidates with an upper second class honours in a postgraduate conversion course such as a Higher Diploma in Philosophy may be considered. MA students may be required to attend an interview either via Zoom or in person.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 in each element), or equivalent.

Fees and Scholarships

Tuition fee information is available on www.ucd.ie/fees. Please note that UCD offers a number of graduate scholarships for full-time, self-funding international students, holding an offer of a place on a UCD masters programme. Please see www.ucd.ie/global/scholarships for further information.

Related Masters

- MA Philosophy & Literature
- MA Philosophy & Public Affairs
- MA Cognitive Science
- MA Contemporary European Philosophy

CONTACT US

EU Students

t: 353 1 716 8186

e: gillian.johnston@ucd.ie

w: www.ucd.ie/philosophy

International Students

e: internationalenquiries@ucd.ie

w: www.ucd.ie/global

APPLY NOW

This programme receives significant interest so please apply early online at

www.ucd.ie/apply