

## Masters in Philosophy

### Programme Requirements

The Department of Philosophy, in collaboration with the Department of Philosophy at the University of Stirling, offer the following postgraduate taught one-year programme in Philosophy. It is designed as a research training and preparation year for doctoral studies but may be followed as a self-standing course. The course leads to the following:-

**Taught Element:**

60 credits: PY5101, PY5102 and PY5103

60 credits: PY5201 - PY5502, ML5201, ML5202 including at least one of PY5201 - PY5205.

**MLitt:**

120 credits as for the Taught Element plus PY5099

**MPhil:**

120 credits as for the Taught Element plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words.

### Compulsory modules - Semester 1:

PY5101 Current Issues in Philosophy 1				
<b>SCOTCAT Credits:</b>	20	SCQF Level 11	<b>Semester:</b>	1
<b>Planned timetable:</b>	11.00 am - 1.00 pm Mon (at the University of Stirling)			
<p>This module, together with PY5102 Current Issues 2 in semester 2, covers recent work in four central areas of philosophy, each of them in a section of 11 hours. The four areas are Epistemology, Ethics, Philosophy of Language and Philosophy of Mind.</p> <p>Epistemology and Ethics will be covered in PY5101, Philosophy of Language and Philosophy Mind will be covered in PY5102.</p> <p>The Epistemology section will include topics from among the following: definition of knowledge; tracking and reliability conditions for knowledge; modal requirements on knowledge (safety and sensitivity); scepticism, contextualism and closure; peer-disagreement.</p> <p>The Ethics section will include topics from among the following: the relation between morality, human nature and the diversity of human practices and societies; what the concept of rights adds to a morality of duties, goals and reasons; double effect and the moral significance of intention; questions in meta-ethics about the supervenience of the normative on non-normative facts.</p>				
<b>Programme module type:</b>	Compulsory for Epistemology, Mind and Language, Logic and Metaphysics, History of Philosophy, Moral, Political and Legal Philosophy and Philosophy Postgraduate Programmes.			
<b>Learning and teaching methods and delivery:</b>	<b>Weekly contact:</b> 2 hours.			
<b>Assessment pattern:</b>	Coursework = 100%			
<b>Module Co-ordinator:</b>	Dr R Cruft			
<b>Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):</b>	Dr S Roca Royes			

## Philosophy - Philosophy MLitt & MPhil - 2015/6 - November 2015

PY5103 Research Methods				
<b>SCOTCAT Credits:</b>	20	SCQF Level 11	<b>Semester:</b>	1
<b>Planned timetable:</b>	3.00 pm - 4.30 pm Mon (at the University of Stirling)			
<p>The Research Methods module is a core module for all students taking the Graduate Diploma or MLitt programme. The module aims to foster the range of skills required for independent research in philosophy. These skills run from the most concretely practical, such as knowledge of the main research resources and how to access them, to the most abstract, such as the ability to uncover the background and context of a specific issue (how it originated, what framework is presumed in a particular author's treatment of it, what other ways of thinking of the issue might be available, what literature is relevant to it, and so forth) in a way that allows one to develop an independent conception of how the issue is best addressed.</p> <p>While these are general skills that will be important in your work in any branch of philosophy, they can be developed only in application to some substantive philosophical position or issues. For that reason, the module is run as a book seminar; weekly meetings will involve discussion introduced by student presentations on issues drawn from or connected with the chosen book.</p>				
<b>Programme module type:</b>	Compulsory for Epistemology, Mind and Language, Logic and Metaphysics, History of Philosophy, Moral, Political and Legal Philosophy and Philosophy Postgraduate Programmes.			
<b>Learning and teaching methods and delivery:</b>	<b>Weekly contact:</b> 2 hours.			
<b>Assessment pattern:</b>	Coursework = 100% (Research Proposal - 33%, 4,000 Word Essay - 67%)			
<b>Module Co-ordinator:</b>	Dr P Ebert			
<b>Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):</b>	Dr J Harris, Dr C Johnston, Dr J Tomalty			

## Compulsory module - Semester 2:

PY5102 Current Issues in Philosophy 2				
<b>SCOTCAT Credits:</b>	20	SCQF Level 11	<b>Semester:</b>	2
<b>Planned timetable:</b>	11.00 am - 1.00 pm Wed			
<p>This module continues the critical survey of recent work in philosophy begun in PY5101. PY5102 covers Philosophy of Mind and Philosophy of Language as main components.</p> <p>The Philosophy of Mind section will include some of the following topics: the relation between the mental and the physical; mental causation; consciousness; rationalizing explanation; the normative dimension of mentality.</p> <p>The Philosophy of Language section will include topics from among the following: how words come to have content, the relation between use, meaning and saying, the relation between meaning, truth, and reference.</p>				
<b>Programme module type:</b>	Compulsory for Epistemology, History of Philosophy, Logic and Metaphysics, Mind and Language, Moral, Political and Legal Philosophy and Philosophy Postgraduate Programmes.			
<b>Learning and teaching methods and delivery:</b>	<b>Weekly contact:</b> 2 hours.			
<b>Assessment pattern:</b>	Coursework = 100%			
<b>Module Co-ordinator:</b>	Dr D Ball and Dr E Glick			
<b>Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):</b>	Dr D Ball and Dr E Glick			

Compulsory module - Whole Year:

PY5099 Dissertation for MLitt Programme				
<b>SCOTCAT Credits:</b>	60	SCQF Level 11	<b>Semester:</b>	Whole Year
<b>Planned timetable:</b>	At times to be arranged with the supervisor.			
Student dissertations will be supervised by members of the teaching staff who will advise on the choice of subject and provide guidance throughout the research process. The completed dissertation of not more than 15,000 words must be submitted by mid-August.				
<b>Programme module type:</b>	Compulsory for Epistemology, Mind and Language, Logic and Metaphysics, History of Philosophy, Moral, Political and Legal Philosophy and Philosophy Postgraduate Programmes.			
<b>Learning and teaching methods and delivery:</b>	<b>Weekly contact:</b> Individual supervision.			
<b>Assessment pattern:</b>	Coursework (Dissertation) = 100%			
<b>Module Co-ordinator:</b>	None - individual supervision			

At Least one of:

PY5201 Classical Philosophy				
<b>SCOTCAT Credits:</b>	20	SCQF Level 11	<b>Semester:</b>	1
<b>Planned timetable:</b>	11.00 am - 1.00 pm Tue			
The module will address topics in ancient metaphysics and ethics concentrating on selected readings from the works of Plato or Aristotle. We shall engage with philosophical questions about love and friendship through lenses provided by the ancient and unrivalled discussions of Plato (dialogues Lysis, Symposium, and Phaedrus ) and Aristotle (Nicomachean Ethics VIII and IX).				
<b>Programme module type:</b>	Optional for History of Philosophy, or Moral, Political & Legal Philosophy or Philosophy Postgraduate Programmes.			
<b>Learning and teaching methods and delivery:</b>	<b>Weekly contact:</b> 2 hours.			
<b>Assessment pattern:</b>	Coursework = 100%			
<b>Module Co-ordinator:</b>	Dr B Sattler			
<b>Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):</b>	Dr B Sattler and Prof S Broadie			

## Philosophy - Philosophy MLitt & MPhil - 2015/6 - November 2015

PY5203 Kant				
<b>SCOTCAT Credits:</b>	20	SCQF Level 11	<b>Semester:</b>	2
<b>Planned timetable:</b>	12.00 noon - 2.00 pm Thu			
This module will be discussing selected topics from Kant's Doctrine of Virtue, which forms part II of Kant's late "Metaphysics of Morals". Topics include duties to oneself, suicide, conscience, lying, animal ethics, the duty of beneficence, gratitude, sympathy, friendship and ethical methodology. The Cambridge translation (ed. M. Gregor) is recommended. Secondary reading: Timmermann, J., Sensen, O., & Trampota, A. (edd.). Kant's "Tugendlehre": A Commentary. Berlin: De Gruyter, 2013.				
<b>Programme module type:</b>	Optional for History of Philosophy, Moral, Political & Legal Philosophy and Philosophy Postgraduate Programmes.			
<b>Learning and teaching methods and delivery:</b>	<b>Weekly contact:</b> 2 hours.			
<b>Assessment pattern:</b>	Coursework = 100%			
<b>Module Co-ordinator:</b>	Dr J Timmermann			
<b>Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):</b>	Dr J Timmermann			

PY5205 Origins and History of Analytic Philosophy				
<b>SCOTCAT Credits:</b>	20	SCQF Level 11	<b>Semester:</b>	1
<b>Planned timetable:</b>	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm Tue			
The object of this module is to provide an introduction to central themes in the work of some of the founding figures of the analytic tradition in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The primary focus of the module will be on developments in logic and its philosophy initiated in Frege's work and continued in Cambridge by Russell, the early Wittgenstein, and Ramsey.				
<b>Programme module type:</b>	Optional for Epistemology, Mind & Language, or History of Philosophy, or Logic and Metaphysics or Philosophy Postgraduate Programmes.			
<b>Learning and teaching methods and delivery:</b>	<b>Weekly contact:</b> 2 hours.			
<b>Assessment pattern:</b>	Coursework = 100%			
<b>Module Co-ordinator:</b>	Prof P Sullivan			
<b>Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):</b>	Prof P Sullivan			

Optional modules - Semester 1:

PY5207 Action and Intention				
<b>SCOTCAT Credits:</b>	20	SCQF Level 11	<b>Semester:</b>	1
<b>Planned timetable:</b>	9.00 am - 11.00 am Wed			
"Often quoted, sometimes read, rarely understood, [G.E.M.] Anscombe's Intention is nevertheless the defining moment in twentieth-century philosophy of action." So wrote David Velleman. In this module, we shall read, sometimes quote, and - if all goes well - thereby come to understand Anscombe's classic essay. We shall read it alongside other seminal essays - by Davidson, Hornsby, Thompson, and others - with a view to understanding, not only Anscombe's essay, but some of the most interesting debates in twentieth and twenty-first century philosophy of action.				
<b>Programme module type:</b>	Optional module for Epistemology, Mind & Language or Philosophy Postgraduate Taught Programmes.			
<b>Learning and teaching methods and delivery:</b>	<b>Weekly contact:</b> 22 hours.			
<b>Assessment pattern:</b>	Coursework = 100%			
<b>Module Co-ordinator:</b>	Dr A Haddock			
<b>Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):</b>	Dr A Haddock			

PY5319 Topics in Recent Moral Theory				
<b>SCOTCAT Credits:</b>	20	SCQF Level 11	<b>Semester:</b>	1
<b>Planned timetable:</b>	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm Thu			
This module aims to provide in-depth critical discussion of selected work in ethics from the last five years or so. Topics will be chosen in consultation with students. The module may range into meta-ethics as well as normative moral theory and will take the form of seminars with detailed discussion of a selected book or series of papers.				
<b>Programme module type:</b>	Optional for Moral, Political and Legal Philosophy or Philosophy Postgraduate Programmes.			
<b>Learning and teaching methods and delivery:</b>	<b>Weekly contact:</b> 2 hours.			
<b>Assessment pattern:</b>	Coursework = 100%			
<b>Module Co-ordinator:</b>	Dr J Snedegar and Dr T Pummer			
<b>Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):</b>	Dr J Snedegar and Dr T Pummer			

Optional modules - Semester 2:

PY5302 Advanced Logic B: Classical Metatheory				
<b>SCOTCAT Credits:</b>	20	SCQF Level 11	<b>Semester:</b>	2
<b>Planned timetable:</b>	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm Mon			
<p>This module begins with elementary aspects of the theory of cardinality, concentrating on equinumerosity and denumerability. The next topic is computability, focusing on two apparently quite different characterisations of this notion: computability by Turing machines and recursive functions. Fairly complete proofs of their equivalence are given. (Ultimately, we need this notion to give exact sense to the notion of a formal system.) This material serves as background to the remainder of the module which establishes the famous limitative results of Gödel (incompleteness of arithmetic), Tarski (non-definability of arithmetic truth), and Church (undecidability of first-order logic). To obtain these results we must show that the recursive functions are representable in a formal theory of the arithmetic of the natural numbers.</p>				
<b>Programme module type:</b>	Optional for Logic and Metaphysics, Philosophy, Postgraduate Programmes.			
<b>Learning and teaching methods and delivery:</b>	<b>Weekly contact:</b> 2 hours.			
<b>Assessment pattern:</b>	Coursework = 100%			
<b>Module Co-ordinator:</b>	Prof P Milne			
<b>Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):</b>	Prof P Milne			

PY5312 Aesthetics				
<b>SCOTCAT Credits:</b>	20	SCQF Level 11	<b>Semester:</b>	2
<b>Planned timetable:</b>	10.00 am - 12.00 noon Fri			
<p>This module will consider a number of philosophical questions that arise from reflection on the creation, understanding and evaluation of works of art. Topics to be covered may include the nature of art and the aesthetic, the logic of aesthetic judgement, aesthetic value, interpretation and appreciation.</p>				
<b>Programme module type:</b>	Optional for Moral, Political and Legal Philosophy or Philosophy Postgraduate Taught Programmes.			
<b>Learning and teaching methods and delivery:</b>	<b>Weekly contact:</b> 2 hours.			
<b>Assessment pattern:</b>	Coursework = 100%			
<b>Module Co-ordinator:</b>	Prof B Gaut			
<b>Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):</b>	Prof B Gaut			

**Philosophy - Philosophy MLitt & MPhil - 2015/6 - November 2015**

<b>PY5315 Philosophy of Law</b>				
<b>SCOTCAT Credits:</b>	20	SCQF Level 11	<b>Semester:</b>	2
<b>Planned timetable:</b>	11.00 am - 1.00 pm Tue			
<p>This module will feature multiple independent topics in the philosophy of law. One of them will be the scope of legal personhood. Other possible topics include the normativity of the law, the use of the law to enforce morality, and the use of law to deter coercion, exploitation and blackmail. Which of these further topics are actually covered will be determined by the preferences of those enrolled. No prior exposure to philosophy of law will be presumed.</p>				
<b>Programme module type:</b>	Optional for Moral, Political and Legal Philosophy or Philosophy Postgraduate Taught Programmes.			
<b>Learning and teaching methods and delivery:</b>	<b>Weekly contact:</b> 2 hours.			
<b>Assessment pattern:</b>	Coursework = 100%			
<b>Module Co-ordinator:</b>	Dr B Sachs			
<b>Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):</b>	Dr B Sachs			

<b>PY5318 Political Philosophy</b>				
<b>SCOTCAT Credits:</b>	20	SCQF Level 11	<b>Semester:</b>	2
<b>Planned timetable:</b>	1.00 pm - 3.00 pm Tue			
<p>This module will focus on liberalism and its critics. We will examine liberalism's central features and explore the variety of liberal theories (from minimal-state 'classical liberalism' to 'welfare capitalism'). Criticisms of liberalism take many forms, and initially we shall investigate the contemporary communitarian critique of liberalism. If time permits we may also look at some feminist theories which are critical of both liberalism and communitarianism.</p>				
<b>Programme module type:</b>	Optional for History of Philosophy, Moral, Political and Legal Philosophy or Philosophy Postgraduate Programmes.			
<b>Learning and teaching methods and delivery:</b>	<b>Weekly contact:</b> 2 hours.			
<b>Assessment pattern:</b>	Coursework = 100%			
<b>Module Co-ordinator:</b>	Dr E Ashford and Dr B Ho			
<b>Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):</b>	Dr E Ashford and Dr B Ho			

<b>PY5324 Philosophy of Logic</b>				
<b>SCOTCAT Credits:</b>	20	SCQF Level 11	<b>Semester:</b>	2
<b>Planned timetable:</b>	3.00 pm - 5.00 pm Tue			
<p>This module covers foundational issues in the philosophy of logic. Key questions include: 'Is there a correct logic for natural language?', 'Does indeterminacy demand a revision of classical logic?', 'Is the world precise or vague?'.</p>				
<b>Programme module type:</b>	Optional for Epistemology, Mind & Language, or Logic and Metaphysics, or Philosophy Postgraduate Programmes.			
<b>Learning and teaching methods and delivery:</b>	<b>Weekly contact:</b> 2 hours.			
<b>Assessment pattern:</b>	Coursework = 100%			
<b>Module Co-ordinator:</b>	Dr P Greenough			
<b>Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):</b>	Dr P Greenough			

## Philosophy - Philosophy MLitt & MPhil - 2015/6 - November 2015

PY5325 Texts in Contemporary Metaphysics				
<b>SCOTCAT Credits:</b>	20	SCQF Level 11	<b>Semester:</b>	2
<b>Planned timetable:</b>	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm Fri			
<p>This module will focus on puzzles about and theories of causation, mental causation, and group agency. We will read a selection of contemporary articles and book excerpts on these subjects, covering questions such as: What is causation? What philosophical puzzles do different theories of causation bring up? For which theories of the mind is mental causation a problem? How many problems of mental causation are there anyway? Are there group agents that constitute agents in their own right, independently of the individual agents that make them up? If so, how can such a group be in control of what it does? How does it causally influence what happens in our world? By the end of the module, students will understand some of the major contemporary views on these questions and will be able to engage critically with those views.</p>				
<b>Programme module type:</b>	Optional for Logic and Metaphysics or Philosophy Postgraduate Programmes.			
<b>Learning and teaching methods and delivery:</b>	<b>Weekly contact:</b> 2 hours.			
<b>Assessment pattern:</b>	Coursework = 100%			
<b>Module Co-ordinator:</b>	Dr A Crean			
<b>Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):</b>	Dr A Crean			

PY5402 Advanced Epistemology				
<b>SCOTCAT Credits:</b>	20	SCQF Level 11	<b>Semester:</b>	2
<b>Planned timetable:</b>	2.00 noon - 2.00 pm Mon			
<p>In this module we will address a range of advanced issues in contemporary Epistemology. Topics will include: Basic Knowledge, Contextualist and Relativist Theories of Knowledge, Epistemic Closure, Sceptical Paradoxes, Lottery Paradoxes, Self-knowledge, The possibility of Apriori Knowledge, Knowledge and Assertion, Knowledge and Practical Interests, Internalism and Externalism, Fallibilism, Intuition, Reliabilism, Minimalist Theories of Knowledge.</p>				
<b>Programme module type:</b>	Optional for Epistemology, Mind and Language, Philosophy Postgraduate Programme.			
<b>Learning and teaching methods and delivery:</b>	<b>Weekly contact:</b> 2 hours.			
<b>Assessment pattern:</b>	Coursework = 100%			
<b>Module Co-ordinator:</b>	Dr P Ebert			
<b>Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):</b>	Dr P Ebert			



ML5201 Film and Issues of European Identity				
<b>SCOTCAT Credits:</b>	20	SCQF Level 11	<b>Semester:</b>	2
<b>Planned timetable:</b>	2.00 pm Tue and Wed			
<p>A team-taught interdisciplinary module, designed to give an introduction to some central issues in the theory and practice of cinema. Issues covered characteristically include identities, the relation of political power to the cinema, film narrative, gender issues and representation, cinema realism and semiotics. The topics will be drawn from a list including film theory and the philosophy of film, and from aspects of French, Italian, Spanish, German and/or Soviet film. The availability of the module in any given year will be conditional on adequate student numbers.</p>				
<b>Programme module type:</b>	<p>Optional for Comparative Literature, Cultural Identity Studies and Crossways in Cultural Narratives Mundus Postgraduate Programmes.</p> <p>Optional for other MLitt students outside Modern Languages with permission of both Schools.</p>			
<b>Learning and teaching methods and delivery:</b>	<b>Weekly contact:</b> 22 hours over semester.			
<b>Assessment pattern:</b>	Coursework = 100%			
<b>Module Co-ordinator:</b>	TBC			