PhD Programmes
2016/17
Welcome to Philosophy

Welcome to the Warwick Philosophy doctoral programme. I hope that you enjoy and benefit from your time here. The Department is unique in having world-class research strengths in both the continental and analytic philosophy traditions. It has a large graduate community and runs a number of reading groups and seminars in addition to timetabled classes. I encourage you to make the most of the opportunities studying at Warwick provides to learn about the full range of philosophy, and to take an active part in the life of the Department.

Professor Matthew Nudds
Head of Department
Our department is one of the most highly regarded Philosophy departments in the UK. In the 2014 Research Excellence Framework, we ranked first in the UK for the quality of our research and fourth overall, with over 90% of the research published by our staff in books and journal articles over a six year period from 2008 assessed as being ‘internationally excellent’ or ‘world leading’. The influential Leiter Report also lists Warwick Philosophy in the top groupings in six areas: epistemology; philosophy of art; philosophy of mind; political philosophy; 19th century continental philosophy; and 20th century continental philosophy.

While many UK philosophy departments possess strength in analytic philosophy or continental philosophy, we are distinctive in having world-leading philosophers from both fields.

**Wide-ranging expertise**

There are 22 full-time staff in our department with expertise in all of the major areas of philosophy. The department has particular research strengths in Philosophy of Mind & Psychology, Epistemology, The Philosophy of Art and Literature, Moral and Political Philosophy, 20th Century Continental Philosophy, and Kant and 19th Century Post-Kantian Philosophy.

We are keen to supervise doctoral research in any of these or related areas. In addition, individual members of staff have research expertise in areas able to supervise students who want to work on topics in linguistics and philosophy of language; metaphysics; aesthetics; philosophy of perception; and the philosophy of logic. This list is not exhaustive, however, and you are strongly encouraged to study the staff webpages to identify a potential supervisor for your thesis.

**A vibrant community**

Aside from our permanent staff members, the department has a number of research fellows and visiting fellows who, together with our postgraduate students, pursue a wide range of research activities. These currently include a postdoc working on the Arts and Humanities Research Council-funded project ‘Rethinking the Senses’ and another working on ‘Experimental and Empirical Philosophy: A Historical Reconstruction and Philosophical Assessment’. Therefore, members of staff aren’t just busily writing books and articles, but are also involved in a number of activities going on in the department that are collaborative, interdisciplinary and which involve the active participation of postgraduate students.

Learn more about our community online:

[warwick.ac.uk/philosophy/people/faculty](http://warwick.ac.uk/philosophy/people/faculty)
What is a PhD?

Technically speaking, the PhD, or ‘Doctor of Philosophy’, is the highest qualification that a student can achieve. Practically speaking, it’s a 3-4 year individual research project involving advanced scholarship focusing on a specific area of interest to you within the field of politics and international studies, and which makes an original contribution to knowledge.

Each student’s experience of the PhD is unique – some will undertake primary data collection through fieldwork and interviews, while others will do all their research in the library – but all PhDs require a high degree of self-motivation, self-reflection and self-discipline in order to be completed on time and in a way that accomplishes all they set out to do. While the degree can be lonely or exhausting at times, there are always opportunities to reach out to your peers, supervisors or other colleagues through conferences, workshops and study groups - both on and off campus - and through these, you’ll get important insights into your own topic and stay engaged in the wider academic community.

Throughout this process, all PhDs also gain valuable skills in research, writing, public speaking, networking and critical thinking which are important not only in academic careers, but also in many other professions.

What is a PhD in the UK?

As opposed to undertaking the degree in other countries, a PhD in the UK is based more around individual research. In Philosophy, it does not include any taught element, though you are expected to pursue the professional development programme offered by the Department and are encouraged to undertake additional training offered by the University (details on page 7). Your progress will be monitored in regular meetings with your supervisor and through an annual review with a committee made up of members from the Department (the Graduate Progress Committee). In addition, you will take part in a variety of research activities that will involve writing, presenting talks and taking part in work-in-progress meetings and research workshops. Your degree culminates in the submission of a thesis, which is examined by Viva.

Normally you will be expected to complete your thesis in three years, with a maximum registration period of four years if you require additional time. In contrast with some other countries, where a PhD can stretch to 7-8 years full time, a PhD in the UK is shorter because there is no significant taught component to the course. You are also not required to teach during the course of your PhD*, although optional teaching opportunities can provide you with valuable experience if you wish to pursue a career in academia.

*We encourage students on doctoral programmes to apply to assist in the teaching of undergraduate courses, typically by running seminars in support of lecture courses. Teaching assistants are trained and supported by a dedicated member of the department. We see the combination of teaching experience with dedicated support as an important part of philosophical training. Many students also see teaching as an important source of supplementary income.
Our exceptional PhD programmes

We offer both a PhD in Philosophy and a PhD in Philosophy and Literature. The latter is for students whose research projects combine philosophical and literary concerns. PhD degrees typically last between 2 and 4 years, depending on the route into the PhD. These degrees are aimed at outstanding students who wish to pursue advanced research in Philosophy and ultimately to become professional researchers in, and teachers of, philosophy. Students produce a maximum 80,000 word thesis that can provide the basis for professional publication.

Students normally take one of the following routes to a research degree:

- They take a taught/research MPhil in Philosophy as part of the ‘2+2’ program before they register for the PhD.*

- They take a relevant MA at Warwick or any other UK institution or an equivalent qualification and then go onto the MPhil/PhD in either Philosophy or Philosophy and Literature.

*Please note the potentially confusing distinction between the MPhil and MPhil/PhD: students may apply either for an MPhil or for an MPhil/PhD. The former is a two-year taught research degree, part of a ‘2+2’ doctoral programme, and is open to people with a BA or an MA (or equivalent). It is principally aimed at students who go on to complete a PhD.

In their first year on the MPhil, students receive supervision in three main areas of their choice within Philosophy with the aim of pursuing advanced research on those topics. During the second year, students prepare a research thesis of approximately 30,000 words. It is a rigorous and demanding programme, but one which provides excellent training for research students who go on to undertake a PhD.

The MPhil/PhD is a pure research degree, with the ‘MPhil’ signifying only the first research year prior to upgrading to a full PhD, and is open to people with an MA or non-Warwick MPhil, BPhil or equivalents. The normal minimum period of study on this route to the PhD degree is 3 years, including the first year prior to upgrading. Most students choosing this route have previously taken an MA degree.
The PhD programme

Undertaking a research project that spans at least three years* can be a daunting task. While not as structured as a taught postgraduate programme, the PhD is segmented into four stages, each with distinct milestones to help you monitor your progress and pursue your research at the best pace.

Year 1
Your first year lays the foundation for your research. During it, you will meet with your supervisors approximately once every month (as a minimum) to develop your research, discuss your progress and plans and prepare for appropriate meetings with a Graduate Progress Committee (GPC). You will also take our core PhD seminar, which engages you with a broad range of philosophical issues beyond your thesis topic that are central to different philosophical traditions. In the summer term, you will prepare and submit written work for the GPC in advance of your first year review, which is used to determine whether you are ready to upgrade from MPhil student to a full PhD.

Year 2
In your second year, you will continue to meet your supervisors at least once a month and prepare for your two major GPC meetings in the autumn and summer terms. By the second progress review meeting, you should have produced approximately 25,000 words towards your thesis and you should submit 3,000 words of new material produced since the last GPC.

Year 3
By summer term of your third year, you should have produced all of the first draft of your thesis and you should submit 30,000 words of new material produced since the autumn term GPC.

Continuation year
Although you should aim to finish in year 3, a number of students submit during their continuation year. In the autumn term, if a student’s supervisor deems it appropriate, students will prepare and submit written work for a GPC. Usually, however, students who are within two months of submitting their final thesis will not be required to attend a GPC in this continuation year.

Submission and the viva
You should aim to submit your finished thesis in the first six months of your fourth year. After you submit, you will defend your thesis in front of internal and external examiners as your final assessment for the degree (the viva).

*Full-time students are registered for four years initially, the fourth year being a writing-up period not subject to fees; part-time students are initially registered for five years
The PhD core seminar

The PhD core seminar is for first year PhD students and first year MPhil ‘2+2’ students, and it takes place every Wednesday during the first term. The key aims of the seminar are to develop your philosophical knowledge over a wide range of areas, to develop the skills of close reading, analysis and argument, and oral communication in a classroom setting. The topic of each seminar is a short piece of philosophical text, either contemporary or historical, drawn from anywhere across the discipline. Each week, a member of staff will provide an introduction to the text, setting it within its historical and philosophical context, and will go on to discuss issues and arguments that it raises. In the next part of the seminar, you will discuss the issues that the paper raises, guided by the member of staff. Specifically, you will focus on close reading of passages of philosophical prose, on presenting arguments and ideas clearly, and engaging sensitively and constructively with your peers in a classroom setting.

Dr Thomas Crowther
Module convenor

Additional training

Additional research training and personal and professional development are available through the department, the Social Sciences Doctoral Training Centre, the Graduate School and the Library. You can also sit in on MA modules by arrangement with your supervisor and relevant module director if appropriate. Warwick provides additional support through the Careers & Skills Office to help you build your CV and enhance your employment prospects well ahead of graduation.
The PhD experience

Research centres
Our department is home to four research groups and centres (the Consciousness and Self-Consciousness Research Centre, the Centre for Research in Philosophy, Literature and the Arts, the Post-Kantian European Philosophy group and the Centre for Ethics, Law and Public Affairs) that are led or co-led by members of our department. These interact across our research cluster areas - as well as across disciplines within the University and beyond - and frequently play host to guest workshops, conferences and seminars that you are welcome to join. There are also a number of student-led reading or discussion groups dedicated to specific areas of philosophy, such as the Foucault and Logic Reading Groups.

Additionally, the department has a limited budget to support postgraduate students attending conferences or events in the pursuit of their studies or academic career.

Student-led initiatives
There’s more to life as a PhD student than research—in fact, we offer many opportunities for you to engage with the academic community in the department and participate in university-wide activities. For example, the Departmental Graduate Seminar is a student-organised seminar providing an opportunity for all Warwick philosophy graduate students, and occasionally students from other universities, to present their work to a general philosophy audience. It’s also an excellent chance to meet and socialise with fellow graduate students and discuss each other’s research.

“There is a large, diverse philosophy PhD community at Warwick. You'll almost certainly be able to find others working on topics similar to your own off whom you can bounce ideas. During the autumn and spring terms, there are regular departmental colloquia featuring speakers from other universities. There are also many seminars and reading groups you can attend. PhD students are encouraged to attend MA seminars, and lectures for undergraduates, if they have a particular interest in the topics or wish to make up for gaps in their knowledge. So there’s plenty of philosophical action aside from your own research—if anything, the problem is not to let yourself get distracted by other things that are going on!”

Barney Walker
Current candidate, PhD Philosophy
The PhD experience

The Philosophy Department has a lot on offer for graduate students. In fact, it can be quite difficult to keep focused on your own research when there are so many things happening! There are different reading groups, seminars, talks and conferences during term time, so the way I try to handle it all is by carefully choosing two or three events that I attend each week. During one term, for example, I audited an MA module, ‘Hegel’s Logic’, went to a reading group on Meta-Ethics, and attended a work-in-progress seminar in which graduate students get the chance to present and discuss their work. The rest of the week is reserved for reading and writing.

It can be quite daunting in the beginning to be faced with such a huge project, but regular meetings with my supervisors helped me deal with that pressure. From my experience, the best way to decide where you want to study for your PhD is to visit relevant departments, speak to the people and get a sense of the community. That’s what I did before I came to Warwick, and the first impression that I had was very much confirmed when I started studying here.

Events and societies

There are various Research Activities and Seminar Series sponsored by the department and its research centres, including the weekly Graduate Research Seminar on Consciousness and Self-Consciousness and the fortnightly Graduate Research Seminar in Post-Kantian European Philosophy. By attending seminars, you can keep up to date with recent developments in philosophical thinking and philosophical writing introduced by a range of philosophers. You can also gain insight into how - and how not - to present a paper in preparation for your own, future presentations. Further to this, the department holds weekly ‘Work-in-Progress Days’ in which PhD students present work for discussion by other graduates and staff.

The department also hosts approximately two or three Departmental Colloquium per term as well as two annual events: the Warwick Graduate Conference in the Philosophy of Mind (MindGrad), the premier UK graduate conference for philosophers of mind which attracts graduate students from all over the world; and the London-Warwick Graduate Mind Forum, a research day where students from Warwick, King’s College London and University College London present their work for commentary and discussion.

Beyond our department, you can also join the Warwick Philosophy Society, which puts on a range of talks throughout the academic year, holds regular socials (including ‘Phil ’n’ Tea’, a weekly gathering in the Philosophy Common Room for all students, as well as the annual Phil-Psych Ball) and offers academic support.

Irina Schumski
Current candidate, PhD Philosophy

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Finding a supervisor

The supervisory relationship is at the heart of your research. Each student will be appointed a Primary and a Secondary Supervisor from the Department, including one from the English Department for PhDs in Philosophy and Literature. Your supervisors will be your guides and mentors as you design, research and finally write up your PhD project.

Supervision

Before you make your application, we strongly encourage you to make contact with a potential supervisor to discuss your application. You can find a list of academic staff together with details of their research interests on the staff webpages. You should email a potential supervisor directly with details of your proposed project to ask whether they are able to supervise the project. If you are not sure who to contact, you can email the Director of Graduate Studies for advice. Your potential supervisor will then be able to offer you advice on your research proposal and help with funding applications.

Please note that if the department does not have a member of staff in your specialist area, or if all academics in your area are currently at full supervisory capacity, we will not be able to make an offer no matter the quality of your application as a whole.

Making contact

Once you have identified a potential supervisor, you are very welcome to approach them to see whether they would be interested in your particular project. The best method for making contact is by emailing your proposal with an introductory letter and project summary to your potential supervisor(s).

Please note that an expression of interest from a supervisor, or even their involvement in refining your proposal, is not a guarantee that your application will be successful—particularly if your submitted proposal is not up to scratch.

One of the primary reasons for unsuccessful applications is an inadequately specified research proposal which does not go far enough in convincing potential supervisors that the applicant has it within them to write a successful PhD. In order to get your prospective supervisor(s) to say ‘yes’, you really do have to submit an excellent proposal!

Find a suitable supervisor through our staff listing online:

warwick.ac.uk/philosophy/people/faculty
On supervision

“The supervisor plays a vital role in the intellectual development and progress of a PhD student. I know my own students look to me for intellectual guidance, even leadership, and I try not to disappoint. I aim to share intellectual activity with my PhD students through the setting up of workshops and the running of reading groups. It can be quite vibrant, and all the time, one is seeking to expose one’s students to good intellectual practice, such as the importance of lucid writing, judicious argumentation and coming up with fresh and original insights. Being a supervisor is one of the most important - and enjoyable - aspects of my existence as an academic. One gets the chance to educate the next generation of intellectual pioneers, which makes it very exciting.”

Professor
Keith Ansell-Pearson
The research proposal

When you make your application, you will need to submit a detailed research proposal in support of your application. This needs to be a convincing research proposal, which is sufficiently rigorous and of sufficient quality to demonstrate that you are ready to begin independent research at PhD level. Typical proposals are 2,000-3,000 words long; however, this is only a guideline. The emphasis will be on the quality of the proposal and whether or not it fits with a particular supervisor’s research interests.

We understand that this is a provisional statement of your research. We expect that your research will develop as you carry it out and as you read further into your area of study, and it is likely that your supervisor will suggest changes or developments to your research during the course of your study, but you should treat the proposal as an opportunity to show that you have begun to explore an important area of study and that you have a question, or questions, that challenge and develop that area. It is also necessary to demonstrate that you can express your ideas in clear and precise English.

The points you must address in your proposal are:

Central research question

This should be simply stated in the first instance and then suitably fleshed out to show why it is timely and important for you to be writing a PhD on this topic. The central research question is your first chance to make the case for being accepted onto our programme by capturing the attention of potential supervisors. You need to set out your research questions as clearly as possible, explain problems that you want to explore and say why it is important to do so.

Context

You must show how your central research question relates to existing academic studies in your field. Think about how to situate your project in the context of your discipline. Refer explicitly to work that is similar to that which you are planning or which is influential on your ideas. What are the key texts and approaches in the field, and how does your proposal differ from existing lines of argument? What distinctive contribution will your research make? How will it extend our understanding of particular questions or topics? Ideally, you should be able to demonstrate how your proposed research fills a gap in the literature and therefore adds substantially and can make a lasting contribution to academic debates. One key criterion for writing a successful PhD is that it is original work, so you must try to avoid setting out a proposal in a way that simply replicates work which can already be found within the literature.
Research methods
This should set out the methods you will use to conduct your research. This will obviously depend very much on your research topic. What sources will you use? E.g. does your project involve archival sources, or specialist libraries? Is your study interdisciplinary? What theoretical resources do you intend to use and why? How will you set about answering your research questions?

Problems
You should reflect on the types of problems you are likely to encounter whilst undertaking your research and how these might be overcome. This will demonstrate that you are forward-thinking in your approach to doctoral studies.

Bibliography
Include a bibliography listing the books and articles to which you refer in the proposal.

Robert Locatelli
Current candidate, PhD Philosophy

I came to Warwick as a PhD visiting student while I was in a doctoral programme in Paris, and I was so struck by the welcoming environment and by the quality of the philosophical discussions with both staff members and fellow graduate students (and how all this positively impacted in only a few months on the quality of my own research) that I decided to stay and complete my PhD here.

For studying philosophy of mind, and in particular philosophy of perception (as I do), Warwick Philosophy is among the best departments in the world. A huge number of staff members are leading researchers in the field and they made themselves available to discuss my work, regardless of whether or not they are my official supervisors. This, combined with the numerous occasions for discussion provided by weekly graduate seminars, departmental seminars and reading groups, make me feel that I am part of a thriving and supportive intellectual community.
Examples of current PhD project titles include:

- Deliberative Democracy, Legitimacy and the Limits of the Public Sphere
- From Nature to Spirit: A Study in Absolute Idealism
- Cultivation of the Self in Foucault and Nietzsche
- Naïve Realism and Epistemic Warrant
- Desires and Values in Practical Reasoning
- The Problem of the Specificity of Philosophy in the Early Deleuze

Thesis title: Experiencing Lyric Poetry: Emotional Responses, Philosophical Thinking and Moral Enquiry

“Our experience of reading poetry is unique, since poetic devices used by the poet can create a rich and powerful imaginative and emotional experience which I do not think we can have while reading other forms of literature. In my research, I look at our emotional response to poetry and, in order to answer the question ‘how is it that we come to be moved by poetry?’ and also ‘what is the role of the imagination in producing our emotional responses to poetry?’, I argue that we respond emotionally to more than just the subject matter of the poem—we also respond to the feel of the poem. This is produced by the formal features of the poem, including the use of ambiguity, metaphor and lyrical quality. I also consider what type of emotional response we have to poetry, if it can tell us anything of universal human concern, and whether this can inform our moral reasoning.”

Karen Simecek
PhD Philosophy and Literature 2013
British nineteenth-century children’s literature displays a recurring concern with the awakening and development of knowledge and belief in both its child and adult audiences. However, the period saw a dramatic shift in thought on how best to do this. Overtly didactic texts such as those by Sarah Trimmer and Maria Edgeworth, which simply used the fictional nature of their tales as sugar-coating for necessary lessons, were being replaced with stories which attempted to foster a deeper and lasting form of knowledge through more autonomous learning, such as those by George MacDonald, Juliana Ewing, and Lewis Carroll. These later texts moved the focus of education of the young and re-education of the old towards a more student-centred rather than lesson- and teacher-centred model. An examination of this move reveals the developing construct of the ‘childlike’ learner, i.e. one full of wonder and epistemological humility, how and why this should be fostered, and helps us examine the educational role of children’s literature in general.

Once the ‘childlike learner’ has been established, I will seek to place it into contemporary epistemological debate in order to highlight and argue for certain epistemological virtues: a concern with belief over knowledge; a refined ability to interact with authorities; interdisciplinary approaches; a search for wonder and awe; humility in relation to routes to knowledge; and so on.

This notion of the ‘childlike learner’ is also important for the study of philosophy and literature, where I use it to defend the existence and usefulness of the category ‘artistic knowledge’ and the notion of literature as thought experiment. Beyond this, the ‘childlike learner’ also has implications for the notion of the ‘authentic’ learner in the philosophy of education, and in how we conceive of teacher-student interaction and the ‘space’ of learning in the classroom.”

**Philip Gaydon**
Current candidate, PhD Philosophy and Literature
Careers

Whether your aim is to join academia, engage in other professional research or otherwise put your expertise and research skills to use, your Warwick PhD will give you a competitive edge in the job market. Warwick Philosophy has a good record of placing recent graduates in academic positions and the Department has a dedicated placement officer. We also offer career training and skills sessions, such as mock interviews, to students who are about to go on the job market.

Warwick Philosophy PhD graduates have gone on to academic positions such as:

- Lecturer, University of Colorado
- Postdoctoral Fellow, Oxford University
- Associate Professor, University of Karachi
- Lecturer, Royal Holloway University of London
- Associate Professor, National University of Colombia

Examples of Warwick Philosophy PhD graduates’ job titles include:

- Trader and Analyst, Central Bank of Italy
- Trainee Research Executive, Ipsos Mori
- Portfolio Support Assistant, National Institute for Health Research
- Freelance writer
- Gallery Technician, Warwick Arts Centre

Over 70% of Warwick Philosophy PhD Graduates were in jobs or further study six months after graduating.

To learn more about where a Warwick Philosophy degree can take you - and to see where some of our other alumni have ended up - check out our Careers page online:

[warwick.ac.uk/philosophy/postgraduate/student_support/careers](http://warwick.ac.uk/philosophy/postgraduate/student_support/careers)
"I was blessed with an enthusiastic and dedicated supervisor and a very large and active graduate community at Warwick. A great part of the maturation process of the PhD is to understand the community you’ll be addressing as a researcher. Warwick was a safe and rich environment in which to explore the relationship between researcher and audience, in both directions. Several colleagues were studying similar subjects, but most importantly, several of them were studying noticeably different subjects. This offered the mixture of familiarity and challenge that a PhD is all about. Many of the friendships started then continue and remain precious to me to this day, both on a personal and professional level. My co-students are now colleagues whom I respect and continue to learn from. The other side of the experience had to do with the simple act of writing, research methods and deadlines. My supervisor has a talent for creating trust and this allowed me to liberate myself from perfectionism. I trusted his judgment and this saved me countless sleepless nights and second thoughts. It is this that allowed me to submit my thesis after just two and a half years.


Frank Chouraqui
PhD Philosophy and Literature 2010

Professor of Philosophy,
American University of Beirut

"I was an MA student at Warwick from 1995-7 and continued as a PhD student from 1997 to 2001, working first with Nick Land and then with Miguel de Beistegui. These years were absolutely decisive for my intellectual development. Miguel was a fantastic supervisor: patient, open and always available for discussion. I was also lucky enough to be part of an exceptional graduate community where everyone was philosophically committed and engaged in constant debate both in and out of the department. My years at Warwick taught me that philosophy is a collective enterprise—regardless of one’s isolation, one is always engaged in dialogue with other philosophers. And I learned as much, if not more, from my fellow students as I did from professors and lecturers.

After finishing my PhD, I earned some income doing translation work. Then, in 2002, I was lucky enough to get a research fellowship at Middlesex University’s Centre for Research in Modern European Philosophy. After six years at Middlesex, I moved to the American University of Beirut in 2008, where I have been ever since. What is most important to me about my experience at Warwick? I first learned there what it means to be part of a philosophical community. Being surrounded by fellow philosophers, all of whom cared passionately about philosophy, reinforced my conviction that it was worth persevering with the subject.”

Ray Brassier
PhD Philosophy 2001
We strongly urge home and EU candidates to apply for funding through the DTC’s Centre for Arts Doctoral Research Excellence at Warwick, which makes an annual award of a large number of scholarships to outstanding applicants. Overseas (non-EU) candidates are encouraged, meanwhile, to apply for the University-wide Chancellor’s International Scholarships. Other opportunities include the Chevening and Marshall Scholarships, and the Warwick-China Scholarship Council.

You can find links to all available opportunities (and their deadlines) on the Philosophy website and on the Graduate School’s funding webpages. Check back often, as new opportunities arise throughout the year.

**Warwick Philosophy:**

[warwick.ac.uk/philosophy/applyingtostudy/postgraduate/feesfunding/scholarships](http://warwick.ac.uk/philosophy/applyingtostudy/postgraduate/feesfunding/scholarships)

**Warwick Graduate School:**

[warwick.ac.uk/services/academicoffice/gsp/scholarship/typesoffunding](http://warwick.ac.uk/services/academicoffice/gsp/scholarship/typesoffunding)
Next steps

Although there is no strict deadline for applications, you are strongly advised to submit your application at least two weeks before any funding deadlines at Warwick, and no later than 31 July if you are not applying for university funding. Applications after this date will be considered, but will not be eligible for funding.

Entry requirements

The PhD programme has strict entry requirements in addition to a strong, viable research proposal that academics in the department are willing to supervise:

▶ **Your academic transcript.** Candidates are normally expected to have a first class honours BA degree in Philosophy, or a first class honours joint degree with a substantial Philosophy component.

▶ **Two writing samples.** Applicants are required to submit two samples of recent written work in Philosophy, maximum 2,500 words each. It would also be helpful for applicants to list their preferred three areas of study in the personal statement section of their application.

▶ **Two academic references.** Please note that professional references will not be accepted unless you have been out of education for over two years.

▶ **English language proficiency.** Please note that we require a minimum IELTS score of 7.0 or equivalent.

Further information

You can find more details about what the PhD programme entails, the extras that our department has on offer and what students have to say about us online. And if you have any questions about studying at Warwick, what we do in Philosophy or want to ask a current student about their experience at Warwick, please get in touch.

[warwick.ac.uk/philosophy/applyingtostudy/postgraduate](http://warwick.ac.uk/philosophy/applyingtostudy/postgraduate)

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