

Welcome message

Hi, welcome to the study with us pages on the Warwick Philosophy Department website, and thanks for stopping by. My name's Dr Barney Walker, and I'm the admissions tutor for Philosophy at Warwick. As admissions tutor for Philosophy, prospective students often ask me, 'Why should I come to study a philosophy degree *at Warwick*? What's special about it?' That's a big question, and there are lots of things to consider when you are choosing where to go for a philosophy degree, but here are some strengths I would highlight about Warwick to you.

(1) Warwick has a large, diverse and active community of philosophy students. Each year around 300 students join us on our philosophy programmes, with many coming from outside the UK. This mix of students enriches seminar discussions and generates lots of exciting extracurricular activities. For example, we have a very active philosophy society, PhilSoc, which organises social events, talks, reading groups, a student magazine *Pharos*, and even a podcast, *Common Room Philosophy!* We also have an active Minorities and Philosophy chapter involving staff and students at all levels, which runs events aimed at facilitating participation in philosophy by underrepresented groups.

(2) Our large and active student community is supported by a large academic staff with a wide range of research interests. We have around 30 full-time philosophy academics, including specialists in both analytic and continental philosophy. In the most recent Research Excellence Framework, we came 1st in the UK for our published research. The exceptional quality of our research benefits our students, because it enables us to offer cutting edge research based teaching.

(3) The quality of our staff and students means that we consistently do very well in university league tables and the National Student Survey. For example, our single honours philosophy degree achieved a 100% overall satisfaction rating in the NSS 2020, and our philosophy courses collectively came 2nd in the Russell Group for overall satisfaction.

(4) Our philosophy degrees are flexible, enabling students to tailor them to suit their interests. For example, the single honours philosophy degree has just one core module in the second year, History of Modern Philosophy, and no core modules in the third year. Students are also able to take optional modules from outside the Philosophy Department. We encourage our students to think of themselves as independent researchers, with their own contributions to make.

(5) We offer a rich array of optional modules to our undergraduate students, with around 20 optional modules available each year at honours level. As well as covering more traditional areas of philosophy, such as history of philosophy, applied ethics, and epistemology, our optional modules also show students how philosophy can illuminate issues of current concern. For example, we've recently run optional modules on The Philosophy of Terrorism and Counterterrorism, Feminism, and the Philosophy of Photography. We also offer optional modules in non-Western philosophy, for students who want to extend their learning beyond the western tradition.

(6) Finally, philosophy students at Warwick have access to a range of further opportunities to enhance their university experience and their lives beyond university. We run a successful year abroad programme, and have recently introduced the option for philosophy students to do a year-long work placement. Work placements so far have included roles at Microsoft and Vodafone—you can find further information in the ‘Career Information’ link. We have a dedicated Director of Student Experience and Progression within the Philosophy Department to support our undergraduate students.

I think that covers everything I wanted to say! Lots more information is available through our web pages. You can look through the different philosophy degrees we offer, see the modules on offer to our current undergraduate students, and even take a virtual campus tour. You can hear from current and past students in the department on the ‘Our students’ and ‘Career information’ pages. You can also download our prospectus which contains lots of information about our degrees and the philosophy department. Look out too for information about live chats and open days.

If you’d like to get in touch with us, please email ugphiladmissions@warwick.ac.uk—I’d be very happy to answer any questions you have.

Thanks very much for watching.