

HEYTHROP COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Programme Specification

1. Title: BA Philosophy, Politics and Religion	
2. Awarding institution	University of London
3. Teaching institution	Heythrop College, University of London
4. Final Award	BA (Hons) in Philosophy, Politics and Religion
5. Interim Awards (if applicable)	Diploma of Higher Education in Philosophy, Politics and Religion Certificate of Higher Education in Philosophy, Politics and Religion
6. Mode(s) of study	Full time and part-time
7. Normal duration of Programme	Three years full-time, six years part-time
8. UCAS or JACS code	V540
9. External reference points used to develop this programme	The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland 2008 Benchmark Statement for Philosophy 2007 Benchmark Statement for Theology and Religious Studies 2007
10. Date of production or revision of this specification	April 2015
11. Programme Convenor	Dr M Kirwan
12. Brief description of this programme	
<p>The programme will enable students to understand political, theological and philosophical impacts in society, with particular attention to contemporary debates about the role of religious commitment in the public sphere, and to what extent we are in a 'secular' or a 'post-secular' age. BA PPR recognises the value of an interdisciplinary approach: in Philosophy, to consider the nature of knowledge, truth and meaning, and the structure of arguments; in Theology, the existence and nature of the divine, and of the common good as perceived in various religious traditions. The Politics component will emphasise the view that, in Britain, political and economic concerns can no longer be discussed independently of religious values.</p>	
13. Relationship to staff research	
<p>Most of the staff are research-active in the discipline in which they teach. Many of the optional modules reflect the research interests of the module teacher.</p>	
14. Programme Aims	
<p>The programme aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide an historical and thematic grounding in the disciplines of Philosophy, Political Theory and Religion/Theology, both as interdependent disciplines and in their interactions 2. Consider the ideas and arguments of key thinkers in the three disciplines, encountered in their own writings 3. Offer an opportunity to choose optional modules which reflect students' interests, aims and experiences 4. Foster the development of critical and independent thought 5. Enable the development of a range of transferable skills 6. Contribute in the fields of Philosophy, Religion and Politics to the intellectual and educational life of society in general.. 	

15. Learning outcomes

The **BA Philosophy, Politics and Religion** provides opportunities for students to achieve and demonstrate the following learning outcomes:

Knowledge and Understanding

By the end of the programme, competent and diligent students can expect to attain the following:

LO1	Demonstrate a detailed and systematic knowledge and understanding of key texts, events, doctrines, theories, interpretations and arguments relating to the study of Politics, Philosophy and Religion, at least some of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of the disciplines.
LO2	Show awareness of a range of approaches/interpretations where applicable

Intellectual and Cognitive Skills

A student will be able to:

LO3	Select and organise material from a wide range of complex primary and secondary sources
LO4	Demonstrate intellectual flexibility through the appropriate use of a range of methodological approaches- e.g. exegetical, hermeneutical, systematic, historical, philosophical
LO5	Identify and focus on key issues within each topic studied
LO6	Construct a detailed analysis of texts, events, doctrines, theories and arguments
LO7	Construct a strongly sustained argument, which may also show the implications of the findings for further study of the subject

Practical and transferable skills

The practical and *transferable skills* which are fostered are:

LO8	Undertake in-depth, independent research
LO9	Represent the views of others with fairness and integrity
LO10	Show a highly-developed ability to assimilate and evaluate competing arguments
LO11	Show open-mindedness and independence of thought
LO12	Work collaboratively as a member of a team, enabling the utilisation of the skills of individuals for the benefit of the group
LO13	Produce clear, well-structured written work of varying types and length
LO14	Write fluently, with minimal grammatical and typographical errors and accurate referencing
LO15	Show highly-developed verbal skills, enabling the clear communication of information, ideas and arguments at a level appropriate for the intended audience
LO16	Use effective time-management skills to meet deadlines

16. PROGRAMME STRUCTURE			
Module Title	Code	Level	Credit tariff
Compulsory Core Modules			
YEAR 1			
Introduction to Political Theory	PO101	4	30
Knowledge and Reality	PH102	4	30
Introduction to Value	PH103	4	30
Theory, Methods and Themes in Study of Religion	SR101	4	30
YEAR 2			
Political Theology	ST308	5	15
Anthropology of Religion OR Sociology of Religion	SR203 or PS311	5	15
Advanced Political Thought	PO201	5	30
Option(s)	----	5	60
YEAR 3			
Belief and Unbelief	ST311	6	30
Dissertation	LE300	6	30
Option(s)	----	6	60
Optional Modules			
Nineteenth-Century German Philosophy	PH313	5&6	30
Augustine	CH300	5&6	30
Aquinas and Bonaventure	PH318	5&6	30
Love, Sex, Death and God	PH325	5&6	30
Heidegger after Nietzsche	PH328	5&6	15
Modern French Thought	PH330	5&6	15
Hermeneutics and Religion	SR305	5&6	15
Interpreting Sacred Texts	AR302	5&6	30
Beliefs and Practices in Judaism	AR202	5	30
Beliefs and Practices in Islam	AR204	5	30
Christian-Muslim Relations	AR305	6	15
Spirituality & Mysticism in Abrahamic Faiths	AR306	5&6	30
The Theology of Jewish-Christian Relations	ST310	5&6	30
Normative Ethics	PH331	5&6	15
Life and After Life	PH336	5&6	15
Philosophy of Language	PH344	5&6	15
Naming, Necessity & Natural Kinds	PH346	5&6	15
Philosophy of Psychology	PH347	5&6	15
Introduction to Moral Psychology & Metaethics	PH348	5&6	15
Aesthetics	PH349	5&6	15
Philosophy of Literature	PH350	5&6	15
Philosophy of Mind	PH352	5&6	15
Interpersonal and Sexual Ethics	PS303	5&6	15
Bioethics	PS304	5&6	15
Philosophical and Religious Ethics	AR303	5	30
Phenomenology	PH304	5&6	30
Metaphysics	PH301	5&6	15
Contemporary Philosophy of Religion	PH201	5&6	15
Poetry and Human Thought	CS301	5&6	15
Philosophy of Social Science	PH333	5&6	15
Marx and Marxism	PH332	5&6	15
Theologies of Liberation	ST309	5&6	15

17. Admissions requirements

For students under the age of 21, the minimum academic qualification requirement is normally 280-320 UCAS points or equivalent.

For mature students, academic ability to undertake the programme may be considered on the basis of other evidence, including learning from experience, evidence of prior study or work at an appropriate level, references and interview.

Applicants whose first language is not English should have an IELTS score of 6.5 or equivalent.

18. Indicative Learning and Teaching activities

Lectures, interactive lectures, seminars enabling group work and group discussions, individual or small group academic tutorials, individual learning, research and study, use of film or other audio visual aids, group activities, external visits, guest speakers.

19. Assessment strategy and indicative activities

Students are assessed by means of a range of tasks which may include book reviews, essays of various lengths, essays written under examination conditions, unseen examinations and presentations. Essays are structured to allow students to demonstrate that they have acquired appropriate knowledge and understanding as well as the requisite transferable skills.

Students submit coursework through the Virtual Learning Environment (Helios) and receive detailed written feedback, often supplemented by oral feedback in a tutorial.

All coursework is moderated in accordance with College published procedures. All end-of-year assessment is double marked and all assessed work is subject to review by the external examiner.

20. Support for students and their learning

Students can also access a range of support mechanisms through the college. The Student Development Manager can offer personal and academic support, including study skills and access to a range of student welfare provision, either in College or through the University of London. Support and guidance on academic matters is available from programme convenors, module convenors, personal tutors and the Heythrop Students' Union.

21. Student evaluation opportunities

Students have a range of opportunities, both formal and informal, to evaluate their learning experiences. Informal means includes consulting individual members of staff, including the module leader, programme convener or staff in the Student Services Centre. Issues can be raised with the Heythrop Students' Union who can raise issues with the College on behalf of individuals or groups or students. Formal module evaluations are carried out. Each undergraduate programme has a student representative. Occasional consultations or evaluation exercises gain views on aspects of the student experience, and the College participates in external surveys such as the NSS.

22. Indicative time commitments

Each 15-credit module usually involves a weekly 2-hour class for one term, with the exception of a reading week.

Student effort hours which are not spent in classes or tutorials are used for directed and self-directed personal study.

23. Opportunities for graduates of this programme

Some graduates progress to teacher training programmes or postgraduate study. Others use their knowledge of religion in the public or voluntary sectors. The transferable skills gained are invaluable

in many professions. Achieving a degree in Philosophy, Politics and Religion demonstrates to an employer in any field your capacity to apply formal approaches to analysing complex and widely relevant issues: it is thus a highly transferable qualification.