

BA (Hons)

Philosophy, Politics and Economics

UCAS code LOV0

Entry requirements

A level: AAB

Study mode

Full-time

Duration

3 years

Apply by: **30 June 2026**Starts on: **28 September 2026**

About this course

Philosophy, Politics and Economics unites three disciplines that are foundational to public life and policy. Nowadays, anyone hoping to understand or advance in politics has to be proficient in economics, and an understanding of the philosophical underpinnings of the various political views that jostle on the public stage has long been recognised as hugely important.

Introduction

This degree provides the opportunity to master the overlap of these three disciplines, to come to grips with some of their specialisms, to attain a very thorough grounding in mathematical economics, and to develop skills in identifying and evaluating the principles and values that underlie debates. The combination is highly sought after by employers, who appreciate the breadth of knowledge and variety of skills that it provides.

Year one will comprise entirely of compulsory modules: four from Economics, and two each from Philosophy and Politics. In year two, you will take compulsory modules in Economics, one compulsory Philosophy module, and choose from a range of Philosophy and Politics options, which will give you some flexibility in the direction of your studies. For your final year, you will

choose between a PPE-focused work placement or dissertation, and then optional modules from each of the three subjects.

Year in Industry

This programme can also be studied over four years, with the third year spent on a relevant, salaried work placement (UCAS code: L0V1). Visit the [BA Philosophy, Politics and Economics with a Year in Industry](#) course page for further information.

What you'll learn

- Advanced numeracy and literacy skills
- Creative, critical, and independent thinking
- Flexibility and adaptability
- Efficient time and information management
- The ability to organise and present a persuasive case
- The ability to devise and sustain arguments, and solve problems
- Systematic knowledge and critical understanding of key aspects of Philosophy, Politics and Economics

^ [Back to top](#)

Course content

Discover what you'll learn, what you'll study, and how you'll be taught and assessed.

Year one

You will take compulsory modules in each of the three subjects, which will give you the mathematical, philosophical, and political foundations for the rest of your degree.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
FOUNDATIONS IN POLITICS (POLI109)	15
MATHEMATICAL ECONOMICS (ECON113)	15
PHILOSOPHY TOOLKIT (PHIL105)	15
PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS (ECON121)	15
FOUNDATIONS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (POLI104)	15
PRINCIPLES OF MACROECONOMICS (ECON123)	15
STATISTICS & DATA ANALYSIS FOR ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS (ECON112)	15
POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY (PHIL102)	15

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Year two

SOTA260 is compulsory for students pursuing the Year in Industry.

You must take either **PHIL271** or **PHIL272**.

In semester one, you will be required to:

- take one of the following: **POLI257, POLI215, POLI225, POLI231, POLI235, POLI239**
- take a maximum of one of the following: **PHIL212, PHIL237, PHIL241, SOTA260**.

In semester two, you will be required to:

- take one of the following: **POLI200, POLI209, POLI237, POLI260, POLI263, POLI270**
- take a maximum of one of the following: **PHIL219, PHIL239, PHIL276**.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
BUSINESS ETHICS (PHIL271)	15
MACROECONOMICS 1 (ECON223)	15
MICROECONOMICS 1 (ECON221)	15
MICROECONOMICS 2 (ECON222)	15
BUSINESS ETHICS (PHIL272)	15
MACROECONOMICS 2 (ECON224)	15
Optional modules	Credits
THE POLITICS OF KNOWLEDGE (PHIL212)	15

Optional modules	Credits
ANCIENT GREEK PHILOSOPHY: THE EXAMINED LIFE (PHIL237)	15
PHILOSOPHICAL PROBLEM-SOLVING (PHIL241)	15
PROFESSIONAL AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT (SOTA260)	15
COMPARATIVE POLITICS OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA (POLI215)	15
INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS (POLI225)	15
SECURITY IN A GLOBALISED WORLD (POLI231)	15
DEMOCRATISATION AND POLITICAL CHANGE (POLI235)	15
BRITISH PARTY POLITICS (POLI239)	15
GENDER AND FEMINIST POLITICS: CORE CONCEPTS AND THEORIES (POLI257)	15
LIBERTY, JUSTICE AND THE GOOD SOCIETY (PHIL219)	15
MORAL PHILOSOPHY: THEORY AND PRACTICE (PHIL239)	15
USES, MISUSES AND ABUSES OF LANGUAGE (PHIL276)	15
POLITICS IN ACTION (POLI200)	15
INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY (POLI209)	15
BRITISH POLITICAL IDEOLOGIES (POLI237)	15
PUBLIC ETHICS (POLI260)	15

Optional modules	Credits
BRITISH FOREIGN POLICY (POLI263)	15
CONTEMPORARY SEXUAL POLITICS (POLI270)	15

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Year three

In your final year, you must complete either a work placement (**HASS300**) or a research project (**HASS301**). Students who have taken the Year in Industry must take **HASS301**.

In semester one, you will be required to:

- take up to two of the following (but not both **ECON233** and **ECON217**): **ECON233**, **ECON217**, **ECON322**, **ECON335**, **ECON342**, **ECON362**
- take up to two of the following: **PHIL302**, **PHIL316**, **PHIL367**
- take up to two of the following: **POLI304**, **POLI308**, **POLI328**, **POLI322**, **POLI326**, **POLI346**, **POLI354**.

In semester two, you will be required to:

- take up to two of the following: **ECON306**, **ECON315**, **ECON326**, **ECON343**, **ECON333**
- take up to two of the following: **PHIL312**, **PHIL365**, **PHIL311**, **PHIL366**, **PHIL375**
- take up to two of the following: **POLI349**, **POLI310**, **POLI314**, **POLI323**, **POLI352**.

Modules

Optional modules	Credits
FRONTIERS OF ETHICS (PHIL302)	15
AESTHETICS (PHIL316)	15
CLASSICAL CHINESE PHILOSOPHY (PHIL367)	15

Optional modules	Credits
CONTEMPORARY PARLIAMENTARY STUDIES (POLI304)	15
SOLIDARITY, ACTIVISM AND BORDERS IN THE EU (POLI308)	15
EU AS AN INTERNATIONAL ACTOR (POLI328)	15
COMPARATIVE ELECTORAL BEHAVIOUR (POLI322)	15
LABOUR THINKERS (POLI326)	15
POLITICS AND THE BRAIN (POLI346)	15
POLITICS OF PARTICIPATION AND CIVIC SPACE (POLI354)	15
ECONOMICS OF DIVERSITY & INCLUSION (ECON217)	15
MICROECONOMICS 2 (ECON222)	15
INTRODUCTORY ECONOMETRICS FOR BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS (ECON233)	15
INTERNATIONAL TRADE (ECON335)	15
ADVANCED MICROECONOMICS (ECON342)	15
CREATIVE SECTOR ECONOMICS (ECON362)	15
DIGITAL INQUIRY PROJECT (PHIL311)	15
PHILOSOPHY OF THE FUTURE (PHIL312)	15
PHILOSOPHICAL APPROACHES TO CONFLICT (PHIL365)	15

Optional modules	Credits
HEALTH CARE, ECONOMICS AND JUSTICE (PHIL366)	15
PHILOSOPHY AND PUBLIC POLICY (PHIL375)	15
PUBLIC POLICY: AN ADVANCED INTRODUCTION (POLI310)	15
POLITICS OF DEVELOPMENT (POLI314)	15
THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF RHETORIC IN BRITISH POLITICS (POLI323)	15
GENDER AND GLOBAL POLITICS (POLI349)	15
PROBLEMS IN POLITICAL THEORY (POLI352)	15
THE ECONOMICS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (ECON306)	15
ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICIES (ECON315)	15
HEALTH ECONOMICS (ECON326)	15
INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATION (ECON333)	15
ADVANCED MACROECONOMICS (ECON343)	15
PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS AND ECONOMICS DISSERTATION (HASS301)	30
PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS AND ECONOMICS IN THE WORKPLACE (HASS300)	30

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Teaching and assessment

How you'll learn

In studying Philosophy, you will learn how to defend your views with reasoned arguments, and to assess the arguments of others. Argumentative skills are learned through attending lectures and reading philosophical texts, developed by group seminar discussions, and formally assessed through essays and exams. You will complete modules to the value of 120 credits per year, from a wide range of options available. Most modules employ a blend of lectures, seminars, and online support materials. You will learn by reading and studying outside class time, by attending and participating in classes, by doing coursework and, for dissertations, via one-to-one meetings with a supervisor. There is also scope, both formally in the placement module and informally, for you to develop practical skills by volunteering.

How you're assessed

Philosophy employs a mixture of modes of assessment: exams and coursework in many different varieties including essays, oral presentations, dissertations, exercises, and supported independent work (eg in the placement module).

Liverpool Hallmarks

We have a distinctive approach to education, the Liverpool Curriculum Framework, which focuses on research-connected teaching, active learning, and authentic assessment to ensure our students graduate as digitally fluent and confident global citizens.

The Liverpool Curriculum framework sets out our distinctive approach to education. Our teaching staff support our students to develop academic knowledge, skills, and understanding alongside our **graduate attributes**:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three **Liverpool Hallmarks**:

- Research-connected teaching
- Active learning
- Authentic assessment

All this is underpinned by our core value of **inclusivity** and commitment to providing a curriculum that is accessible to all students.

Careers and employability

Graduating with a degree in philosophy will empower you to delve into the profound questions that shape human existence but also position you as a valuable asset in today's competitive job market.

The School has its own placements and employability officer, and you will have the opportunity to undertake a work placement or a year in industry as part of your programme.

Graduates in Philosophy obtain work in fields such as:

- advertising and marketing;
- the arts, broadcasting, and journalism;
- commerce and management;
- the civil service, law, and politics;
- teaching.

^ [Back to top](#)

Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, funding your studies, and other costs to consider.

Tuition fees

UK fees (applies to Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Republic of Ireland)

Full-time place, per year - £9,790

Year in industry fee - £1,955

Year abroad fee - £1,465 (applies to year in China)

International fees

Full-time place, per year - £27,000

Year in industry fee - £1,955

Year abroad fee - £13,500 (applies to year in China)

The fees shown are for the academic year 2026/27. Please be advised that tuition fees may increase each year for both UK and international students. For UK students, this will be subject to the government's regulated fee limits.

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching and assessment, operating facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support. [Learn more about paying for your studies.](#)

Additional costs

We understand that budgeting for your time at university is important, and we want to make sure you understand any course-related costs that are not covered by your tuition fee. This could include buying a laptop, books, or stationery.

Find out more about the [additional study costs](#) that may apply to this course.

^ [Back to top](#)

Entry requirements

The qualifications and exam results you'll need to apply for this course.

A levels

AAB

Including A in Mathematics. Only one of General Studies, Critical Thinking and Citizenship will be accepted.

You may automatically qualify for reduced entry requirements through our contextual offers scheme. Based on your personal circumstances, you may automatically qualify for up to a two-grade reduction in the entry requirements needed for this course. When you apply, we consider a range of factors – such as where you live – to assess if you're eligible for a grade reduction. You don't have to make an application for a grade reduction – we'll do all the work.

Find out more about [how we make reduced grade offers](#).

T levels

T levels are not currently accepted.

GCSE

GCSE Mathematics at grade 5/C and GCSE English at grade 4/C required.

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma

DDD plus A level Maths at grade A. BTEC qualifications must be in a Business related subject.

International Baccalaureate

34 points overall with no score less than 4 including 6 in higher level Maths or pass the IB Diploma plus 6,6,5 in 3 HL subjects including 6 in higher level Maths.

Irish Leaving Certificate

H1,H1,H2,H2,H3 including H1 in Maths

Scottish Higher/Advanced Higher

AAB including A in Maths

Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced

B in the Welsh Baccalaureate, plus grades AA at A level to include Maths grade A.

Access

Pass relevant Access to HE Diploma with 45 Level 3 credits with 36 at Distinction including 15 level 3 credits in Maths and 9 at Merit.

International qualifications

[Select your country or region to view specific entry requirements.](#)

Many countries have a different education system to that of the UK, meaning your qualifications may not meet our direct entry requirements. Although there is no direct Foundation Certificate route to this course, completing a Foundation Certificate, such as that offered by the [University of Liverpool International College](#), can guarantee you a place on a number of similar courses which may interest you.

Alternative entry requirements

- If your qualification isn't listed here, or you're taking a combination of qualifications, [contact us](#) for advice
 - If you are returning to learning, have had a disrupted education or are switching career pathways, the one-year [Go Higher diploma](#) qualifies you to apply for University of Liverpool arts, humanities and social sciences programmes
 - [Applications from mature students](#) are welcome.
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English language requirements

You'll need to demonstrate competence in the use of English language, unless you're from a [majority English speaking country](#).

We accept a variety of [international language tests](#) and [country-specific qualifications](#).

International applicants who do not meet the minimum required standard of English language can complete one of our [Pre-Sessional English courses](#) to achieve the required level.

IELTS

6.5 overall, with no component below 5.5

TOEFL iBT

If you took a TOEFL test on or before 20 January 2026, you'll need 88 overall, with minimum scores of listening 17, writing 17, reading 17 and speaking 19. If you took a TOEFL test from 21 January 2026 onwards, when a new scoring system was introduced, you'll need 4.5 overall, with 4 or above in all components. TOEFL Home Edition not accepted.

Duolingo English Test

125 overall, with speaking, reading and writing not less than 105, and listening not below 100

Pearson PTE Academic

61 overall, with no component below 59

LanguageCert Academic

70 overall, with no skill below 60

Cambridge IGCSE First Language English 0500

Grade C overall, with a minimum of grade 2 in speaking and listening. Speaking and listening must be separately endorsed on the certificate.

Cambridge IGCSE First Language English 0990

Grade 4 overall, with Merit in speaking and listening

Cambridge IGCSE Second Language English 0510/0511

0510: Grade B overall, with a minimum of grade 2 in speaking. Speaking must be separately endorsed on the certificate. 0511: Grade B overall.

Cambridge IGCSE Second Language English 0993/0991

0993: Grade 6 overall, with a minimum of grade 2 in speaking. Speaking must be separately endorsed on the certificate. 0991: Grade 6 overall.

Cambridge ESOL Level 2/3 Advanced

176 overall, with no paper below 162

International Baccalaureate English A: Literature or Language & Literature

Grade 5 at Standard Level or grade 5 at Higher Level

International Baccalaureate English B

Grade 7 at Standard Level or grade 6 at Higher Level

Pre-sessional English

Do you need to complete a Pre-sessional English course to meet the English language requirements for this course?

The length of Pre-sessional English course you'll need to take depends on your current level of English language ability.

Pre-sessional English in detail

If you don't meet our English language requirements, we can use your most recent IELTS score, or [the equivalent score in selected other English language tests](#), to determine the length of Pre-sessional English course you require.

Use the table below to check the course length you're likely to require for your current English language ability and see whether the course is available on campus or online.

Your most recent IELTS score	Pre-sessional English course length	On campus or online
6.0 overall, with no component below 5.5	6 weeks	On campus or online
5.5 overall, with no more than one component at 5.0	10 weeks	On campus or online
5.5 overall, with no component below 5.0	12 weeks	Online
5.0 overall, with no component below 5.0	20 weeks	On campus
5.0 overall, with no component below 4.5	30 weeks	On campus
4.5 overall, with no more than one component at 4.0	40 weeks	On campus

If you've completed an alternative English language test to IELTS, we may be able to use this to assess your English language ability and determine the Pre-sessional English course length you require.

Please see our guide to [Pre-sessional English entry requirements](#) for IELTS 6.5 overall, with no component below 5.5, for further details.

^ [Back to top](#)