BA PHILOSOPHY AND GERMAN UCAS code: RV25
For students entering Part 1 in 2002

Awarding Institution: The University of Reading
Teaching Institution: The University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject benchmarking group(s): Philosophy and Modern Languages
Faculty of Arts and Humanities Programme length: 4 years
Date of specification: April 2005
Programme Director: Dr. H. Glock
Programme Adviser: Dr. I. Roe
Board of Studies: Philosophy and German
Accreditation: not appropriate

Summary of programme aims
Both Departments share the aims and objectives laid down for the Reading graduate in the University's Strategy for Teaching and Learning. The Philosophy part of the programme specifically aims to provide a grounding in the subject, enabling students to examine critically fundamental beliefs about truth and reality, right and wrong, to comprehend concepts essential for philosophical investigation, to develop an understanding of central philosophical problems, texts and figures, to develop an aptitude and enthusiasm for the subject, to engender a sense of belonging to a community of enquiry, and to prepare where appropriate for postgraduate study.

The programme in German Studies seeks to develop students' intellectual potential, enabling them to progress to postgraduate study or a wide range of careers, while also promoting a lifelong interest in learning. Its multi-disciplinary approach aims to produce graduates who are competent communicators in German, who are well-informed about German culture, history and current affairs, and who have acquired skills that will be of use to them outside the confines of the discipline.

Transferable skills
The University's Strategy for Teaching and Learning has identified a number of generic transferable skills which all students are expected to have developed by the end of their degree programme. In following this programme, students will have had the opportunity to enhance their skills relating to career management, communication (both written and oral), information handling, numeracy, problem-solving, team working and use of information technology.

Programme content
The programme which follows states which modules must be taken (the compulsory part), together with one or more lists of modules from which the student must make a selection (the "selected" modules). Students must choose such additional modules as they wish, in consultation with their programme adviser, to make 120 credits in each Part. The number of credits in each module is shown in column after its title, and the credit requirements in Philosophy and German are indicated for each Part.

Part 1 (three terms) Certificate Level

In Philosophy students must acquire a minimum of 40 credits and a maximum of 60 credits from the following modules.

Mod Code	Module Title	Credits	Level
PP1MW	Mind & World	20	C
PP1VV	Values & Virtues	20	C
PP1MR	Metaphysics & Religion	20	C

In German students are required to take
Either (for students entering with A-level German or equivalent)
Compulsory modules

GM1AGL	*Advanced German Language*	20	C
GM1IMG	*Icons of Modern Germany*	20	C

Optional module

GM1VAG	*The Visual Arts in Germany*	20	C

Or (for students entering with GCSE German or equivalent)
Compulsory modules

LA1PG4	*Intermediate German Language*	20	C
GM1IGC	*Intermediate German History and Culture*	20	C

Optional module

GM1VAG	*The Visual Arts in Germany*	20	C

Part 2 (three terms) Intermediate Level
Students must take 60 credits in Philosophy and 60 credits in French.
Of the 120 credits in Part 2, 5 are taken up by Careers Management Skills (level I) and will be delivered in the Department of German Studies.

In Philosophy students must acquire a minimum of 60 credits from below (i.e. take at least 3 modules).

Two modules, PP2TK 'Theory of Knowledge' and PP2MP 'Moral Philosophy' are compulsory. In addition students should take at least one other module from the combined list of Core and Option modules. (Not every Option module will be available in every year.)

Compulsory Modules

Mod Code	Module Title	Credits	Level
PP2TK	Theory of Knowledge	20	I
PP2MP	Moral Philosophy	20	I

Core Modules

PP2EMP	Early Modern Philosophy	20	I
PP2LCT	Logic and Critical Thinking	20	I
PP2PA	Plato & Aristotle	20	I
PP2MIN	Philosophy of Mind	20	I

Option Modules

PP2LR	Language and Reality	20	I
PP2ANW	The Philosophy of Whitehead	20	I
PP2MPT	Modern Philosophical Texts	20	I
PP2AES	Aesthetics	20	I
PP2CPP	Contemporary Political Philosophy	20	I

In German
Compulsory modules

GM2L2	*German Language II*	20	I
GM2DU	*Divisions and Unities*	20	I

One of

GM2RRR	*Reality, Reason and Revolution*	20	I
GM2OP1	*German Option Module 1*	20	I

(German Option Module 1 will be made up of two short options chosen from a list to be provided.)

Part 3 (three terms in a German-speaking country)   *Credits*   *Level*

Compulsory modules

GM3O40	*Oral and Aural German (full year)*	40	H
PP3DIS	*Dissertation* in Philosophy	40	H

Either

GM2S40	*German* Scheine *(full year)*	40	I

Or

GM2ASR or	*Placement/assistant's report*	40	I
GM2WPL	(this module includes 20 credits for *Work experience* that do not contribute to the final assessment)		

Dissertation:
Students will prepare for their Dissertation, in consultation with their Dissertation Supervisor, during the summer Term of Part 2. The Dissertation itself will be written, in English, on a philosophical subject which has been given the approval of both Heads of Department, while the student is abroad (facilitated via regular email communication with the Dissertation Supervisor).

Part 3 (three terms) Honours Level

Students must take 60 credits in Philosophy and 60 credits in German.

 In the Philosophy Department : *(60 credits from the following optional modules)*
Optional modules: (Not all optional modules will necessarily be available in any year. Admission to optional modules will be at the discretion of the Programme Director.)

Mod Code	*Module Title*	*Credits*	*Level*
PP3LAN	Philosophy of Language	20	H
PP3MBC	Metaphysics: Basic Concepts	20	H
PP3LWE	The Earlier Philosophy of Wittgenstein	20	H
PP3LWL	The Later Philosophy of Wittgenstein	20	H
PP3SNS	Schopenhauer, Nietzche, Sartre	20	H
PP3RL1	Philosophy of Religion 1	20	H
PP3RL2	Philosophy of Religion 2	20	H
PP3FL	Further Logic	20	H
PP3LAW	Philosophy of Law	20	H
PP3CAP	Philosophy of Crime and Punishment	20	H
PP3NS	Philosophy of Natural Science	20	H
PP3SS	Philosophy of Social Science	20	H
PP3INE	International Ethics	20	H
PP3EIN	Ethical Intuitionism	20	H
PP3CMT	Contemporary Ethical Theory	20	H
PP3PIS	Personal Identity and the Self	20	H
PP3EAN	Ethics and Animals	20	H
PP3EE	Environmental Ethics	20	H

In German (60 credits)
One of

GM3GPT	Translation into German and English	20	H
GM3GSC	German Structure and Composition	20	H

Two to be chosen from a list of available options, currently including

GM3GAR	Germany in the Age of Revolution	20	H
GM3V19	Nineteenth-Century Vienna	20	H
GM3WR	Culture and Society of the Weimar Republic	20	H
GM3BU	Beyond Unification: German Novels of the 90s	20	H
GM3AU	*Schreiben nach Auschwitz*	20	H

(Not all optional modules will be available in any one year; all optional modules, including possible additions to the above list, are offered subject to availability of staff and will require a minimum number of participants)

Progression requirements
(a) To proceed from Part 1 to Part 2 a student should obtain 40% in one 20-credit Philosophy module and must have obtained a mark of 40% in their two compulsory German modules and a pass overall (40%), and an an overall average of 40% in 120 credits taken in the examination.
(b) To proceed from Part 2 to the Year Abroad and Part 3 a student should achieve an average of 40% in their Philosophy modules, an average of 40% in their German modules, and must obtain a mark of 40% in *German Language II*.
(c) In both cases a student should achieve not less than 30% in any modules except that marks of less than 30% in a total of 20 credits may be condoned, provided that the candidate has pursued the course for the module(s) with reasonable diligence and has not been absent from the examination without reasonable cause.

In addition, to proceed from Year Abroad to Part 3, students must satisfy the examiners that they have completed an approved programme of study or employment in a German-speaking country and handed in the work and assignments required by the programme.

Summary of teaching and assessment
Teaching within the Philosophy programme combines lectures, small group seminars and essay supervisions, with appropriate visual aides and course materials being provided throughout. The final assessment for all Philosophy modules in all Parts (bar the Dissertation in Part 3) is by a combination of assessed coursework and unseen examination.

In German, language modules are taught in small groups; other modules typically involve a mixture of lectures and small-group seminars. Most modules are assessed by a mixture of coursework and formal examination; the Year Abroad *Scheine* will be assessed on the basis of certificates gained at the German or Austrian university, and the *Oral/Aural* module will be examined at the beginning of Part 3.

The conventions for classification are included in the Programme Handbooks, but you should note that Part 2 and Year Abroad I-level modules are weighted at 33% of the final degree classification, while Year Abroad H-level and Part 3 modules are weighted at 67%.

Admission requirements
Entrants to this programme are normally required to have obtained:

UCAS Tariff: Either: 320 points over 4 subjects, including at least 2 full A-levels, or: 300 points over 3 subjects, including at least 2 full A-levels.

International Baccalaureate: 30 points (to include 5 points in Mathematics)
Advanced GNVQ: either B in one A-Level plus GNVQ (Advanced) in twelve modules passed with distinction, or GNVQ (Advanced) Distinction plus pass in four additional modules
Scottish Highers: BBBB or above
Irish Leaving Certificate: at least BBBCC in five higher-level subjects

All applicants are considered on their individual merits and the Department may vary these requirements if it sees fit.

Mature applicants. Applications from mature candidates are welcomed. A mature applicant is more likely to receive an offer of a place if he or she has undertaken recent study, for example two or more A levels or an Access course, but each case is assessed on its individual merits. We recommend that you contact an admissions tutor as soon as possible to discuss your individual circumstances.

International applicants. Applications from international candidates are welcomed. If you are not offering A levels we advise you to contact either the EU or the international admissions tutor before applying in order to discuss the acceptability of your qualifications. IELTS Band 7 (or equivalent) will be required for those whose education has not been undertaken in English.

Admissions Tutor: Dr. P. Stratton-Lake

Support for students and their learning
University support for students and their learning falls into two categories. Learning support includes IT Services, which has several hundred computers and the University Library, which across its three sites holds over a million volumes, subscribes to around 4,000 current periodicals, has a range of electronic sources of information and houses the Student Access to Independent Learning (S@IL) computer-based teaching and learning facilities. There are language laboratory facilities both for those students studying on a language degree and for those taking modules offered by the Institution-wide Language Programme. Student guidance and welfare support is provided by Personal Tutors, the Careers Advisory Service, the University's Special Needs Advisor, Study Advisors, Hall Wardens and the Students' Union.

Within the Philosophy Department, information and guidance is offered through the Part 1 Handbook, and the B.A Course Handbook (covering Parts 2 and 3). There is also a Part 1 co-ordinator and an Honours Course co-ordinator who can be consulted on module choices within each part of the programme. Finally, the Part-time Programme co-ordinator is available to assist with all issues relating to the Part-time course

The Department of German Studies has a programme adviser for each part of the programme, and the departmental Course Handbooks issued to Part 1 and to degree course students provide extensive information on the programme, and on resources and study skills. The German Seminar Library contains a range of reference works which can be used by students and offers a congenial study space. During Part 2 a series of discussions, talks and academic courses is provided to prepare students for the Year Abroad.

Career prospects
Over the years students who have followed the Philosophy programme have gone into jobs in both the public and private sectors. In the public sector, jobs include academic and academic related jobs (e.g. lectureships, administrative posts on research boards), and the civil service. In the private sector, recent jobs include working for computer firms and large finance and insurance companies. In general, there is some evidence that IT firms appreciate the logical and analytic skills of the Philosophy graduate. Furthermore, a survey by the Royal Institute of Philosophy

found that graduates with British Philosophy degrees consider their degree course to have been very relevant to their jobs, and report a very high level of job satisfaction

Students graduating in German work in many different fields. A degree involving a language, like degrees in other arts subjects, can lead to careers in such areas as administration, management or marketing, computing, or be a prelude to study in law or accountancy; and increasing numbers of students find positions in the business world, including the travel industry, where their knowledge of German can be an important asset. Some graduates also use their linguistic skills in teaching, including teaching English as a Foreign Language abroad; others proceed to post-graduate courses in various areas, including translating.

Opportunities for study abroad or for placements
Subject to arrangements made in exceptional cases only, all students on this programme spend their third year abroad, as an assistant teacher, or on a work-placement, or at a university with which the University of Reading has a Socrates exchange agreements: (in Germany) Augsburg, Düsseldorf, Freiburg, Göttingen, Heidelberg, Potsdam, Regensburg, Trier, Tübingen, and (in Austria) Graz, Linz, Vienna.

Educational aims of the programme
The central aim of the Philosophy component is to cultivate the ability to do, and not just to read, Philosophy. It introduces students to terms and concepts essential for philosophical investigation, exposes them to the distinctive nature of philosophical inquiry, develops a basic understanding of some central philosophical problems, and introduces some major figures from the history of philosophy. A programme of study is provided which introduces progressive intellectual challenges at each new level and requires students to study in more depth some aspects of Philosophy in which they have a greater interest.

The German component aims to equip students with:
- a competence which comes as near as possible to that of an educated German person in the reception and production of standard (non-technical) spoken and written German
- a sound body of knowledge within the field of German Studies that is suited to their interests

Programme Outcomes
The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills, qualities and other attributes in the following areas:

Knowledge and Understanding

A. Knowledge and understanding of:	Teaching/learning methods and strategies
In Philosophy: • Key historical aspects of Philosophy • An appreciation of philosophical ideas and approaches • Awareness of philosophical terms and concepts • Awareness of current research in the field and its direction. In German: 1. A wide range of German vocabulary and idiom. 2. The fundamental aspects and concepts of German grammar and syntax (and important contrasts with English) 3. Core aspects of German history, society, literature and culture post-1900 4. A selection of specialist topics in German history, society, literature and culture 5. Methods of analysing social and cultural issues 6. Methods of critical textual analysis	In Philosophy: Lectures; supervisor-led small group discussions; seminar groups with facilitator. *Assessment* Coursework; written unseen exams; seminar presentation. In German: Combination of unseen and open-paper examinations and regular assessed work, oral examination, dissertation. *Also* regular non-assessed work for language classes. **German** *Teaching/learning methods and strategies* Small-group teaching on language and options (1-2, 4-6) Formal lectures on core aspects of non-language curriculum (3) Groupwork in classes, independent work for essays and projects (4-6) Feedback on language work and essay assignments (1-6) Study or other residence abroad (1-2; also 4) *Assessment* Combination of unseen and open-paper examinations and regular assessed work (1-6) Oral examination (1-2) *Also* regular non-assessed work for language classes (1-2)

Skills and other attributes

B. Intellectual skills	**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**
In Philosophy,	**Philosophy**
• critically read, comprehend and evaluate a large range of philosophical texts	As above, plus: self-directed learning facilitated through the use of research-based teaching materials and methods, and logical exercises.
• synthesise information from a range of sources, providing a coherent overview of positions in logical space	*Assessment*
• analyse the logical construction of arguments	In Philosophy: coursework; written unseen exams; seminar presentations. Plus discussion in supervisor-led small groups and seminars. Logical exercises will also be evaluated in the Logic & Critical Thinking module.
• produce and defend positions in response to critical pressure	
	German
German	Intellectual skills are acquired and developed through (guided) independent reading (1), lectures and seminars (3-5), essay assignments and feedback (1-5), language classes (6), and the completion of the dissertation (7).
1. Read a variety of texts closely and critically	
2. Identify and analyse problems and issues	
3. Understand and evaluate different cultural traditions and environments	*Assessment*
4. Evaluate alternative critical views	Skills 1-4 are assessed in most non-language components of the programme, 5 specifically in certain specialised options and indirectly in most parts of the programme, 6 in language teaching, 7 by means of the dissertation.
5. Transfer appropriate knowledge and methods from one discipline within the subject to another	
6. Analyse linguistic performance and phenomena	
7. Plan and conduct an extended analysis of a chosen topic	

C. **Practical skills**	**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**
In Philosophy: • present a coherent talk delivered from notes • produce concise and accurate written reports • critically discuss particular issues and arguments, and to engage in discussion of each other's responses as well as articulate their own. • utilise problem-solving skills	Lectures; supervisor-led small group discussions; seminar groups with facilitator *Assessment* In Philosophy: Coursework; written unseen exams; seminar presentations.
German 1. Communicate in German at high levels of proficiency in speech and writing 2. Understand a variety of types of textual material in German 3. Present arguments orally and in writing in a coherent and structured way 4. Locate, sift and select material from a variety of sources 5. Report in writing on the results of an extended piece of independent work 6. Organise and negotiate a period of residence abroad	**German** Skills 1-2 are taught and encouraged through language classes and the requirement for independent reading; skills 3 and also 4 through regular seminars and essay assignments and feedback; skills 4 and 5 in (the preparation for) the dissertation; skill 6 through the year abroad and the extensive preparation provided in Part 2 of the programme. *Assessment* 1-4 are assessed in examinations and in regular coursework; 4 and 5 are assessed through the dissertation; 6 is a progression requirement, although only the academic components are assessed.

D. **Transferable skills** – able to:	**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**
In Philosophy:	**Philosophy:** Lectures; supervisor-led small group discussions; seminar groups with facilitator. *Assessment* In Philosophy: Coursework; written unseen exams; seminar presentations. and is also assessable in the *Dissertation*
• manage time effectively and prioritise workloads • communicate effectively with a wide range of individuals using a wide range of means • evaluate his/her own performance, and recognise the steps required for improvement. • Utilise problem-solving skills in a variety of theoretical and more practical situations. • some IT skills, e.g. word processing and e-mail	
German 1. formulate and present arguments clearly and coherently 2. give oral presentations 3. use IT (especially word-processing and web-based resources) 4. demonstrate team-working and interpersonal skills 5. manage time and work to deadlines 6. work independently and be self-reliant 7. take account of different linguistic and cultural environments 8. plan and evaluate career possibilities	**German** Skills 1-4 are emphasised throughout the programme: oral presentations and teamwork are standard features of language classes and all assessed work must be word-processed. Time-management skills (5) are enhanced through regular submission of language exercises and strict deadlines for assessed work. Independent work and self-reliance (6) are particularly important in the year abroad, including the dissertation, and the year abroad makes a vital contribution to 7. Career management (8) is taught in an element incorporated in the preparation for and supervison of the year abroad. *Assessment* Skills 1 and 2 are asssessed throughout the programme, 6 in the dissertation, and 8 in the careers management module. Skills 3 and 4 are not usually directly assessed (skill 4 in certain modules) but inform a student's work throughout the programme; similarly skill 7 in a student's final year. A student's lack of skill 5 results in missed deadlines and loss of marks.

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably expect to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content tend teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in module and programme handbooks.