

Programme Specification

BA Philosophy, Business and Ethics

For students entering Part 1 in September 2023

UCAS Code: VN51

UFPPBE

UFPPBEPE

UFPPBESY

This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	University of Reading
Length of Programme	3 years
Length of Programme with placement/year abroad	BA Philosophy, Business and Ethics with Placement Experience - 4 years (internal transfer only) BA Philosophy, Business and Ethics with Year Abroad - 4 years (internal transfer only)
Accreditation	N/A

Programme information and content

You will be required to think deeply and critically about the big ideas that lie behind the behaviours and values of people and organisations. The programme combines rigorous analysis of core philosophical and ethical theory, with practical and real world applications in business contexts. The Philosophy side of the programme will encourage you to confront your deepest beliefs and assumptions in a characteristically philosophical way, to inform you about current debates in philosophy, and to develop a sense of the significance of philosophical thinking in dealing with contemporary issues. The Business side will provide you with a firm understanding of the practice, concepts and theories of business management as well as the skills and competencies which will help you apply them. Ethics forms an integral component of both sides of the programme, and graduates will be exceptionally well prepared to think through the ethical and commercial dilemmas facing decision-makers in the coming decades.

Key features of the programme are as follows:

- The programme can be taken over either three or four years. Students opting to take the four year programme can undertake a work placement and/or study abroad in their third year.
- While the programme ensures that you will acquire knowledge in core areas of Philosophy and Business, it also offers a high degree of flexibility. Students will be able to choose from a wide range optional modules throughout the programme, and will also have the possibility to tilt the balance of the programme slightly further towards Philosophy, or towards Business, if they wish.
- The programme has a strong focus on employability. The world is constantly evolving, and we believe that equipping students with a strong philosophical grounding, as well as developing their business oriented and personal skills, will ensure that they are well equipped to succeed in a rapidly changing

<p>environment. The skills required to secure graduate roles, and then succeed in them, is embedded in the curriculum.</p>	
<p>Part 1:</p>	<p>Introduces you to core ideas in the fields of Philosophy and to the basic concepts and methods of critical thinking, basic logic, and the psychology of reasoning. Business modules provide a strong foundation in strategy, marketing and organisational behaviour as well as either accounting or data analytics. In the Summer Term, you have the opportunity to focus on developing your own business and personal skill set – this will prepare you not only for your remaining time at University, but also for the external market as you apply for internships, placements or full time employment.</p>
<p>Part 2:</p>	<p>Provides you with a deeper awareness of current philosophers, of the skills of argument and presentation, and of the epistemology and methodology of Philosophy. Business Ethics is specifically introduced, and you have the opportunity to select from a range of other Business School modules. In the Summer Term students will work with organisations on live projects linked to the theme of social responsibility.</p>
<p>Placement/Study abroad year:</p>	<p>Students can choose to transfer straight into Part 3 or undertake an additional year. This will typically involve either a professional work placement or study at an overseas University.</p> <p>A one year work placement aims at developing professional practice skills that form the basis for students' future careers. It provides hands-on experience in a business or professional practice and develops transferrable skills.</p> <p>A year studying abroad allows students to gain life experiences and skills that are actively sought out by employers. These can be a talking point at interviews or part of a CV that makes you stand out from the crowd.</p> <p>It is possible for students to combine a shorter work placement with a single semester of study at an overseas University, subject to the appropriate timing of work and study elements.</p>
<p>Part 3:</p>	<p>Gives you the opportunity to develop full mastery of the disciplines across a broad range of different conceptions of what counts as 'Philosophy', 'Business' or 'Ethics'. The emphasis is on developing independent learning, personal effectiveness and self-awareness as well as the ability to reflect effectively on your progress and strengths and on the goals you wish to achieve.</p>

Module information

Each part comprises 120 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules as shown below. Compulsory modules are listed.

Part 1 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
MM1F20	Business in Practice: Markets, Marketing and Management	20	4
PP1ML	The Meaning of Life	20	4
PP1RA	Reason and Argument	20	4

Students must also select from the following compulsory modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
MM1F27	Business in Practice: Accounting for managers	20	4
OR			
MM1F28	Business in Practice: Data analytics	20	4

The remaining credits will be selected from a list of modules approved by the Programme Director. Up to 20-credits may be selected from modules available elsewhere in the University.

Part 2 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
MM295	Business Ethics 1	20	5
MM298	Social Responsibility in Action	20	5
PP2EA1	Ethical Argument 1: Philosophy and How to Live	20	5

Students must also choose 60 credits of optional modules. Of these, at least 20 credits must be selected from the Department of Philosophy.

The remaining 40 credits will be selected from a list of modules approved by the Programme Director. Up to 20-credits may be selected from modules available elsewhere in the University subject to approval by the Programme Director.

Modules during a placement year or study year (if applicable):

Module	Name	Credits	Level
MM284	Work Placement	120	5

If you take a year-long placement or study abroad, Part 3 as described below may be subject to variation.

Part 3 Modules:

Students must also select from the following compulsory modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
PP3DIS	Dissertation in Philosophy	40	6
OR			
MM338	Dissertation in Management	40	6
OR			
PP3ILM	Independent Learning / Extended Essay	20	6

Students must select at least 40 credits from optional modules from the list available the Department of Philosophy

Students must select at least 40 credits from optional modules from the list available in the Henley Business School.

Up to 20 credits may be selected from modules available elsewhere in the University subject to approval by the Programme Director.

Optional modules:

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your Programme is set out in the Further Programme Information. Details of optional modules for each part, including any Additional Costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the Part in which they are to be taken and you will be given an opportunity to express interest in the optional modules that you would like to take. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability and may be subject to pre-requisites, such as completion of another module. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

Additional costs of the programme

Costs are indicative, but will vary according to module choice and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations.

During your programme of study you will incur some additional costs.

For textbooks and similar learning resources, we recommend that you budget approximately £50-80 a year. Some books may be available second-hand, which will reduce costs. A range of resources to support your curriculum, including textbooks and electronic resources, are available through the library. Reading lists and module specific costs are listed on the individual module descriptions.

Subject to your module selection, you may be required to purchase sundry materials (i.e. printing). Many students find it advantageous to have their own personal computing facilities though there are central facilities available.

Placement opportunities

Placements:

You may be provided with the opportunity to undertake a credit-bearing placement as part of your Programme. This will form all or part of an optional module. You will be required to find and secure a placement opportunity, with the support of the University.

Study Abroad:

You may be provided with the opportunity to undertake a Study Abroad placement during your Programme. This is subject to you meeting academic conditions detailed in the Programme Handbook and the availability of a suitable Study Abroad placement. If you undertake a Study Abroad placement, further arrangements will be discussed and agreed with you.

Teaching and learning delivery:

You will be taught through a combination of lectures, seminars and practical workshops.

Total study hours for each Part of your programme will be 1200 hours. The contact hours for your programme will depend upon your module combination; an average for a typical set of modules on this programme is Part 1 – 180 hours, Part 2 - 180hours, Part 3 - 160hours.

In addition to your scheduled contact hours, you will be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module contact hours and the amount of independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in the relevant module description.

Accreditation details

N/A

Assessment

The programme will be assessed through a combination of written examinations, coursework, oral examinations, practical examinations and class tests.

Progression Requirements:

Part 1

The University-wide rules relating to 'threshold performance' are as follows:

(i) Obtain an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 1; and

(ii) Obtain a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 100 credits taken in Part 1.'

In order to progress from Part 1 to Part 2, a student must achieve a threshold performance

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 1 qualifies a student for a Certificate of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

Part 2

To gain a threshold performance at Part 2, a student shall normally be required to:

(i) achieve an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 2;

(ii) achieve a mark of at least 40% in 80 credits taken in Part 2 and a mark of at least 30% in 120 credits taken in Part 2.

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3, a student must achieve a threshold performance.

Placement

Students who choose to undertake a placement are required to pass the placement year in order to progress on the programme which incorporates the placement year. Students who fail the placement year transfer to the non-placement year version of the programme.

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3, students must achieve a threshold performance and pass their placement year assessment.

Classification

Bachelors' degrees

The University's honours classification scheme is based on the following:

Mark Interpretation

70% - 100% First class

60% - 69% Upper Second class

50% - 59% Lower Second class

40% - 49% Third class

35% - 39% Below Honours Standard

0% - 34% Fail

The weighting of the Parts in the calculation of the degree classification is:

Three-year programmes

Part 2 one-third

Part 3 two-thirds

Four-year programmes, including placement year:

Normally:

Part 2 one-third

Placement Year not included in classification

Part 3 two-thirds

(where students fail a placement year which does not contribute to classification they transfer to the three-year version of the programme)

For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

BA Philosophy, Business and Ethics for students entering Part 1 in session 2023/24
26 September 2022

© The University of Reading 2022