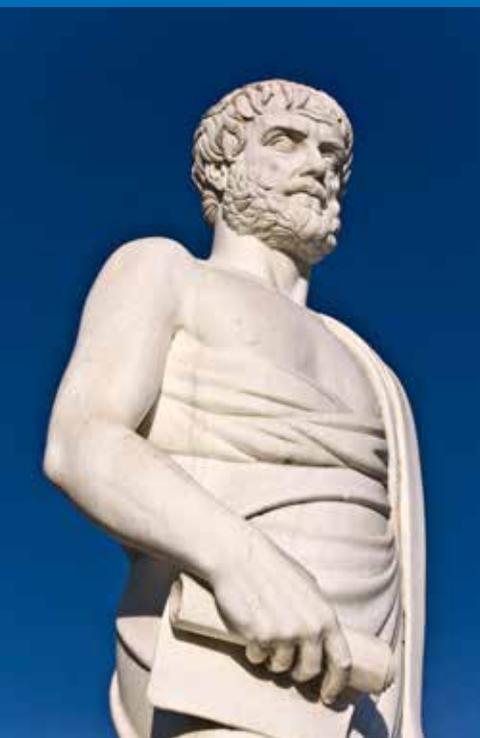


School of Social Sciences
and Philosophy
Department of Philosophy

MPhil in Philosophy



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Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin

www.tcd.ie/philosophy

Department of Philosophy

Trinity College Dublin is recognised internationally as Ireland's leading university and as one of the leading universities in the world. Trinity was founded in 1592, and today the university is a cosmopolitan community of students from around the world. Its bustling 47 acre campus, in the heart of Dublin, is the ideal environment for studying, learning, relaxing and living.

There has been a rich tradition of philosophical excellence at Trinity College since its foundation. George Berkeley (1685–1753), one of the world's greatest philosophers, was educated at Trinity and wrote some of his most important philosophical works while an academic of the University. Political philosopher Edmund Burke (1729–1797), who established the University's debating society, also studied at Trinity. Today, Trinity's Department of Philosophy is a close knit, lively intellectual community of researchers, teachers and students which combines high-quality teaching with expansive research activity and is ranked in the top 100 philosophy departments in the world (QS World University Rankings by Subject 2015).

MPhil in Philosophy

This one-year full time course provides the foundation for advanced research in philosophy. The curriculum is designed to enable students to understand what is distinctive about philosophical methodology, to critically engage with contemporary debates in the core systematic areas of philosophy and to combine modern historical scholarship with a rigorous contemporary philosophical approach.

The MPhil is a broad and intellectually challenging postgraduate course for students with a background in philosophy, or related disciplines with a strong philosophy component. It focuses on developing the key skills required to undertake research in philosophy with students being exposed to a broad range of philosophical research expertise and guided through the process of developing a research idea and presenting their findings.

The programme also features interactive seminar-style teaching and there is an emphasis on regular and intensive contact between students and their lecturers. This is made possible by keeping class sizes small.

Course Structure and Assessment

The MPhil in Philosophy incorporates both taught and research components with students taking six taught modules which work together to form an integrated foundation for cutting-edge contemporary philosophical research.

Coursework explores competing models of philosophy and encourages students to reflect on their own practice as philosophers. Core areas of contemporary philosophy, the Anglo-American and Modern European traditions are examined. In addition, students undertake training in advanced philosophical scholarship on a key historical figure in a module focused on George Berkeley. Students are assessed on the taught coursework through a series of continuous assessments, including essays, reflective pieces of writing and presentations.

Modules at a Glance

- Introduction to Philosophical Research
- Contemporary Analytical Philosophy
- Modern European Philosophy
- Metaphysics
- Berkeley and Idealism
- Ethics

*Taught modules may vary from year to year.

Students also write a dissertation, not exceeding 15,000 words, with one-to-one supervisory support from an academic in the student's chosen field. The research dissertation is the crux of the MPhil programme and students are encouraged to consider potential topics in the first term. Once a topic and supervisor have been identified the student will be expected to work closely with their supervisor for the remainder of the academic year and to submit their dissertation by the end of August.

Students who are unable to proceed to the dissertation or who fail to achieve a satisfactory mark for the dissertation element may be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma in Philosophy.

Career Opportunities

From a career perspective Trinity graduates are extremely well regarded worldwide. Philosophy graduates find that their ability to be analytical, to question assumptions and to be innovative thinkers opens up a range of opportunities in fields as varied as teaching, journalism, media, advertising, law, finance and technology. However, the MPhil is particularly relevant for students who are interested in pursuing further philosophical research.

Students also learn invaluable writing, communication, analytical and critical thinking skills - transferrable skills which can be applied to further postgraduate study as well as a wide range of careers.

Admission Requirements

An undergraduate degree at 2.1 or above (or equivalent) in philosophy is the normal requirement, but applicants who can demonstrate a strong philosophy component in their degree in a different discipline (for example politics, psychology, sociology or religious studies) will be considered on a case by case basis. GPAs of at least 3.2 out of 4, or equivalent, will be expected from international applicants.

All applicants whose first language is not English and who have not been educated through the medium of English will need to present evidence of English language competency.

How to Apply

If you are interested in applying for this programme please apply online at: www.tcd.ie/courses

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