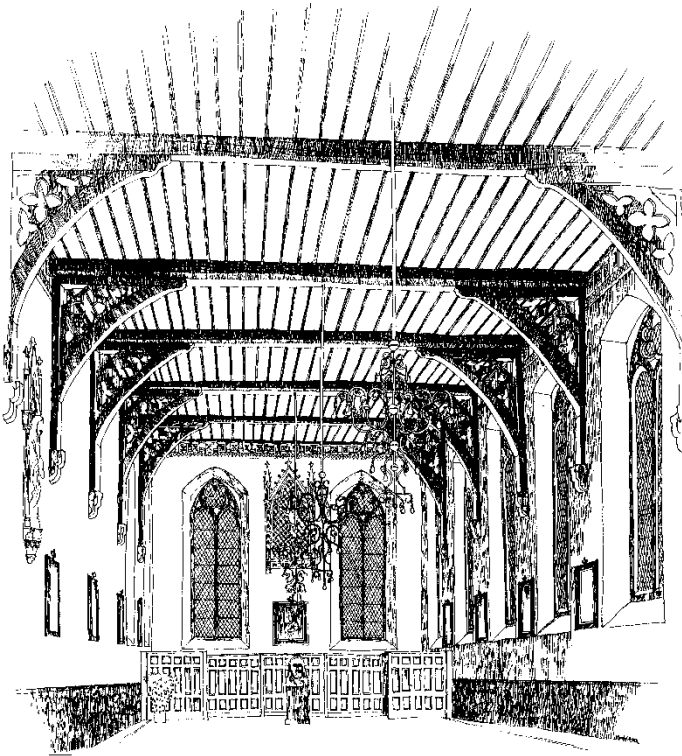


Chapter VII

Faculty of Philosophy



Pugin Hall is the principal Dining Room at Saint Patrick's College, Maynooth

Degrees and Diplomas offered by the Faculty of Philosophy

Diploma in Philosophy and Arts, DPA

Higher Diploma in Philosophy

Baccalaureate in Philosophy, BPhil

Licentiate in Philosophy, LPhil

Master's in Philosophy (MPhil)

Doctorate in Philosophy, DPhil

Dean of the Faculty

Reverend Dr Simon Nolan O.Carm, BA, BD, LPhil, MDiv, DPhil (Gregoriana),
ARIAM

Lecturers

Reverend Dr Simon Nolan O.Carm, BA, BD, LPhil, MDiv, DPhil (Gregoriana),
ARIAM

Dr. Philip Gonzales, BA, MA, M.Phil., PhD (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven)

Reverend Dr Patrick Gorevan, DPh (UCD)

Dr Gaven Kerr, BA, MPhil, PhD (Queens)

Dr Colm Shanahan, B.A, M.Litt, PhD (TCD)

Dr Jordan McFadden, B.A, M.A, MPhil, PhD (CUA)

Understanding Modules and Credits

Modules of courses required for the courses taught in the Faculty of Philosophy are described in the following pages.

Each course is divided into units known as *modules*. Module-descriptions follow the conventions of the Bologna Process, a Europe-wide system of measuring educational attainment in order to permit the recognition of qualifications and facilitate movement of students.

Module Name: Each module has a formal name or description.

Module Code: For administrative purposes, each module has a code made up of letters and numbers. The letters are abbreviations of subject-areas, e.g. PY. Courses with PY in the module code are taught by Department of Philosophy in Saint Patrick's Pontifical University.

The first digit of the three-digit number indicates the year of the programme in which the module is typically offered, e.g. 321 is a Third Year course. As some courses are taught on a cyclical basis, a course with first number 2 may be required in third year and vice-versa. The remaining numbers are for purposes of identification only.

Module Lecturer or Co-ordinator: The person teaching the module. Where there is more than one lecturer, the co-ordinator is responsible for the direction of the course.

Faculty: The Faculty of Philosophy responsible for this module.

Module Level: In the Bologna system, student progress is measured on a scale of 1-10, e.g. Honours Leaving Certificate (Level 5), Honours Bachelor's Degree (Level 8), Masters (Level 9), Doctorate (Level 10).

Credit rating: Each module carries a number of CREDITS or ECTS (European Credit Transfer System). Credit rating is calculated by the amount of time devoted to the module. A course of two formal lectures weekly for one semester, with tutorials, assignments and independent study, is rated at 5 ECTS. Shorter courses (e.g. one lecture per week for one semester) are rated at 2.5 ECTS. A year's work at Bachelor's level is the equivalent of about 60 ECTS Credits.

Diploma and Higher Diploma in Philosophy

Programme Co-ordinator: Rev Dr Simon Nolan O.Carm

In the tradition of St Patrick's Pontifical University, philosophy has always been highly regarded in its own right, as well as being an important preparation for studying other disciplines. *The Diploma in Philosophy and Arts* and *the Higher Diploma in Philosophy and Arts* have been designed by the Pontifical University to provide a rich introduction to the field and history of philosophy, while also introducing students into the kind of critical thinking that is beneficial for other disciplines.

The Diploma in Philosophy and Arts is a full time Level 7 award.

The Higher Diploma in Philosophy and Arts is a fulltime Level 8 award aimed at those who currently possess a third level qualification.

Programme Level Learning Outcomes

By the end of this programme, graduates will be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding

Breadth

Exhibit detailed knowledge and understanding of the history of Western philosophy and of its principal disciplines – for example, metaphysics, epistemology, logic, philosophy of the human person, ethics, political philosophy, and the philosophy of science.

Kind

Demonstrate the cognitive skills of logical reasoning and critical thinking, and the ability to make connections between different areas of philosophy.

Know-How and Skill

Range

Analyse philosophical arguments, show flexibility of thought, and synthesise information.

Selectivity

Summarize and explain difficult ideas and concepts, furnishing convincing supporting arguments.

Competence

Role

Write philosophical papers that are coherently argued and thoroughly documented.

Critically reflect upon the importance and the limits of philosophy.

Learning to learn

Complete learning tasks in a manner that demonstrates careful attention to logic, language, and the nuances of arguments.

Insight

Acquire a reflective attitude toward life, implementing the Socratic conviction that the unreflected life is not worth living.

Entry Requirements

Diploma in Philosophy

For admission to the course a pass grade is required in five subjects of the Leaving Certificate or its equivalent: three of these must be academic subjects in the Maynooth University matriculation syllabus.

Higher Diploma in Philosophy

The course is open to any student who satisfies the entry requirements, viz. a third-level qualification in any subject or combination. Applicants must have completed an *Honours* or *Ordinary Bachelor Degree*.

Programme Structure

Diploma in Philosophy

Students follow almost the same courses as students of the Higher Diploma, but the courses are assessed at module level 7. Students will be required to achieve a pass on the first year's courses before being admitted to the second year.

Programme Structure for the Higher Diploma and the Diploma

The programme is a two-year cyclical programme.

The following modules will be offered for the HDPA and DPA Programmes in the academic year 2022-2023 (subject to review):

MODULE CODE	MODULE TITLE	LECTURER	SEMESTER	CREDITS
PY 145	Introduction to Philosophy*	Shanahan	1	5
PY 125	Fides et Ratio*	Nolan	1	5
PY 139	Academic Writing & Research*	McFadden	1	5
PY 130	General Ethics	Gorevan	1	5
PY 215	Foundations of Analytic Philosophy+	Kerr	1	5
PY 214	Philosophy, Politics and Religion	Gonzales	1	5
PY 152	The Philosophy of Gabriel Marcel	Shanahan	1	5
PY 153	The History of Modern Philosophy	Kerr	1	5
PY 124	Logical Reasoning and Critical Thinking*	Kerr	2	5
PY 149	The History of Contemporary Philosophy	Gonzales	2	5
PY 148	Philosophical Theology+	Gonzales	2	5
PY 151	The Philosophy of Aquinas	Kerr	2	5
PY 150	Issues in Ethics	Kerr	2	5
PY 134	Atheism and Philosophy	Gorevan	2	5
PY 212	Academic and Personal Reflection+	Nolan	2	5

The 4 modules above with an *asterisk* (*) are exclusive to 1st years. The 3 modules above with a *cross* (+) are exclusive to 2nd years. All other modules are in common to both years.

The following modules will be offered for the HDPa and DPA Programmes in the academic year 2023 to 2024 (subject to review):

MODULE CODE	MODULE TITLE	LECTURER	SEMESTER	CREDITS
PY 125	Fides et Ratio*	Shanahan	1	5
PY 139	Academic Writing & Research*	McFadden	1	5
PY 139	The History of Ancient Philosophy	Gonzales	1	5
PY 145	Introduction to Philosophy*	Shanahan	1	5
PY 121	Classical Metaphysics	Gorevan	1	5
PY 144	The Philosophy of Søren Kierkegaard	Casey	1	5
PY 146	Epistemology +	Kerr	1	5
PY216	Philosophy of Woman +	McFadden	1	5
PY 142	The Philosophy of Saint Augustine	Gonzales	2	5
PY 141	The Philosophy of Science & Nature	Kerr	2	5
PY 147	The Philosophy of the Human Person	Gonzales	2	5
PY 140	The History of Medieval Philosophy	Kerr	2	5
PY 212	Academic and Personal Reflection +	Casey	2	5
PY 124	Logical Reasoning and Critical Thinking*	Kerr	2	5
PY 135	Phenomenology	Gorevan	2	5
PY126	Aesthetics	Casey	2	5

The 4 modules above with an *asterisk* (*) are exclusive to 1st years. The modules above with a *cross* (+) are exclusive to 2nd years. All other modules are common to both years.

Progression

On successful completion of these awards, students may be considered for entry into the Baccalaureate in Philosophy (B Phil) programme.

Baccalaureate in Philosophy

(1 Year Full Time)

Programme Co-ordinator: Rev Dr Simon Nolan O. Carm

The Baccalaureate in Philosophy (B Phil) is a full-time Level 8 Award. The programme provides an opportunity to study Philosophy in the Christian and Western Intellectual Traditions.

Rationale: The programme aims to:

- Foster knowledge and understanding of key areas of Philosophy and the Christian Intellectual Tradition;
- Develop the capacity to make informed, evaluative judgements about the arguments, approaches and methods within the different areas of the philosophical and Christian Intellectual Traditions;
- Foster the skills of clear logical thought and presentation, careful analysis of ideas and imaginative deployment of argument;
- To develop students' ability to fashion thoughts and concepts with precision, rigour and clarity to enable students to assess the source and nature of values;
- Develop appreciation of some fruitful interconnections between Philosophy and other areas of Intellectual Thought;
- Develop intellectual curiosity and the capacity for independent thought and critical reflection.

Entry

The programme is a one year full-time award, designed to build upon study already undertaken in appropriate subject-areas and at an appropriate level. In particular, the following pathways apply:

- Completion of the *Higher Diploma in Philosophy and Arts/Diploma in Philosophy and Arts*
- Completion of a primary award in Philosophy alone or as a cognate subject (minimum of 50%).

Candidates are required to present for interview, either in person or by video link, before undertaking the programme.

Prospective candidates should contact the Pontifical University Office for further details.

Programme Level Learning Outcomes

By the end of this programme, graduates will be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding

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

Intellectual and Cognitive Skills

- Select and organise material from a wide range of complex primary and secondary sources
- Demonstrate intellectual flexibility through the appropriate use of a range of methodological approaches
- Conduct a detailed critical analysis of texts, theories or arguments
- Construct a strongly sustained argument, which may also show the implications of the findings for further study of the subject.

Practical and Transferrable Skills

- communicate clearly and concisely in written formats of varying types and lengths
- present well-structured thought orally
- debate complex issues in an open-minded but rigorous way
- abstract and synthesise relevant information from a range of sources including books, journal articles, library and internet resources
- manage time and undertake tasks without assistance

Programme Structure

The programme is comprised of core modules combined to a total 60 credits. These core modules are designed to enable study in areas central to philosophy in the Christian tradition. They include modules drawn from the undergraduate offerings of the respective cycle year in the Faculty of Philosophy as well as relevant modules offered by the Faculty of Theology.

Baccalaureate in Philosophy

(3 Years Full Time)

Programme Co-ordinator: Rev Dr Simon Nolan O. Carm

The Baccalaureate in Philosophy (B Phil) is a full-time Level 8 Award. The programme provides an opportunity to study Philosophy in the Christian and Western Intellectual Traditions.

Rationale: The programme aims to:

- Foster knowledge and understanding of key areas of Philosophy and the Christian Intellectual Tradition;
- Develop the capacity to make informed, evaluative judgements about the arguments, approaches and methods within the different areas of the philosophical and Christian Intellectual Traditions;
- Foster the skills of clear logical thought and presentation, careful analysis of ideas and imaginative deployment of argument;
- To develop students' ability to fashion thoughts and concepts with precision, rigour and clarity to enable students to assess the source and nature of values;
- Develop appreciation of some fruitful interconnections between Philosophy and other areas of Intellectual Thought;
- Develop intellectual curiosity and the capacity for independent thought and critical reflection.

Entry

The programme is an entry level three year full-time award in Philosophy

Prospective candidates should contact the Pontifical University Office for further details.

Programme Level Learning Outcomes

By the end of this programme, graduates will be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding

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

Intellectual and Cognitive Skills

- Select and organise material from a wide range of complex primary and secondary sources
- Demonstrate intellectual flexibility through the appropriate use of a range of methodological approaches
- Conduct a detailed critical analysis of texts, theories or arguments
- Construct a strongly sustained argument, which may also show the implications of the findings for further study of the subject.

Practical and Transferrable Skills

- communicate clearly and concisely in written formats of varying types and lengths
- present well-structured thought orally
- debate complex issues in an open-minded but rigorous way
- abstract and synthesise relevant information from a range of sources including books, journal articles, library and internet resources
- manage time and undertake tasks without assistance

Programme Structure

The programme is comprised of modules combined to a total 180 credits. They include modules from the undergraduate offerings of the respective year in the Faculty of Philosophy as well as relevant modules offered by the Faculty of Theology.

Indicative Programme Structure			
<i>Please note: The Programme of Study must be arranged in consultation with the Dean of Philosophy</i>			
Module Title	Code	Semester	Total ECTs
<i>Compulsory Core Modules</i>			
Readings in Philosophy in the Christian tradition	TBC	1	5
Research Paper	TBC	2	5
Academic and Personal Philosophy	TBC	2	5
<i>Optional Modules</i>			
Elective Stream 1 (From suite of Modules in the Pontifical University or Maynooth University)	TBC	1 / 2	10
Elective Stream 2 (From suite of Modules in the Pontifical University or Maynooth University)	TBC	1 / 2	10
Elective Stream 3 (From suite of Modules in the Pontifical University or Maynooth University)	TBC	1 / 2	10
Introduction to a Contemporary Academic Language	TBC	1 / 2	10
Praxis and Theory (Volunteering with Reflection)	TBC	1 / 2	10

Licentiate in Philosophy

Programme Co-ordinator: Rev Dr Simon Nolan O. Carm

The *Licentiate in Philosophy* (PhL) is a full-time Level 9 Award. It is a specialised licentiate in the systematic study of Philosophy.

Rationale: The aim of the programme is to enable students to deepen their knowledge and introduce them to research in Philosophy in the Christian Tradition.

Programme Level Learning Outcomes

By the end of this programme, graduates will be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding

- Demonstrate an advanced knowledge and understanding of key texts, events, theories, interpretations and arguments relating to the study of Philosophy within the Christian Tradition, at least some of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of the disciplines
- Utilise different methods for approaching philosophical texts
- Identify fruitful questions in different areas of philosophy
- Address philosophical questions on the basis of the Christian Philosophical tradition

Intellectual and Cognitive Skills

- Analyse precisely and assess critically primary and secondary sources
- Assess philosophical theories and methods on the basis of different positions within philosophy
- Carry out an independent and well-defined research project under supervision and in accordance with ethical norms for academic integrity

Practical and Transferrable Skills

- Assess questions from a critical perspective
- Apply knowledge to complex problems
- Communicate research orally and in writing
- Communicate philosophical insight both to peers and to a wider audience

Entry Requirements

- Applicants whose mother-tongue is not English should provide evidence of possessing the necessary level of English, both written and spoken. The requirements correspond to the standards demanded by Maynooth University.
- Applicants should provide certificates to establish that they have received a Baccalaureate or Bachelor's degree in Philosophy from a recognized

institution. Students who have done their philosophical studies in a civil Faculty of Philosophy can only be admitted if their preparation meets the requirements for an Ecclesiastical Faculty of Philosophy. Where a deficiency exists, certain modules must be taken to satisfy the ecclesiastical undergraduate requirement.

- Applicants must normally have been awarded at least an upper second or equivalent in their Bachelor's degree in Philosophy.
- Applicants should provide a letter of recommendation showing evidence of their character and integrity. In the case of seminarians or priests, this letter should be provided by their Ordinary or College Rector; in the case of religious or consecrated persons, this should be provided by their Superior or Study Director; in the case of lay students, this should be provided by an ecclesiastical person who knows the candidate well.
- Applicants should provide a personal statement accompanying their application, in which they provide reasons for applying to study for a Licentiate, the prior preparation (undergraduate study) and skills (e.g. knowledge of philosophy, organizational and critical thinking abilities, etc.) they possess, and the goals they have, including both short-term aims for the programme, and long-term goals for their work after the proposed degree.
- Applicants should undergo an interview with two members of staff, which will normally be based on the personal statement they have submitted as well as upon their academic history.
- Applicants should provide evidence that they have a funding plan for their studies.

Programme of Study

Candidates are required to follow, and take examinations in, the required postgraduate courses over two years and submit a dissertation that demonstrates an ability for systematic study in philosophy.

Candidates must complete at least nine graduate Modules, and a minor dissertation, the topic of which must be first approved by the programme co-ordinator and reader of the dissertation.

Modules are chosen from the suite of modules available at the appropriate level (Level 9/10) through the Faculties of Philosophy and Theology at the Pontifical University, and the Department of Philosophy, Maynooth University.

The Programme of Study must be arranged in consultation with the Dean of Philosophy.

Requirements for being awarded the Licentiate in Philosophy (LPh) degree:

- If candidates do not already have some proficiency in a second academic language, they must acquire at least a reading knowledge of the same, preferably an academic language that is relevant to their area of research. In order to show their reading knowledge, students must pass a translation examination arranged by the Faculty of Philosophy.
- Candidates must complete all degree requirements within three years after their admission to the programme.
- This minor dissertation should be between 25,000 and 30,000 words in length (excluding bibliography and appendices). Two copies of the dissertation should be submitted in spiral binding to the Pontifical University Office. After an oral examination on the thesis with two members of the Faculty, and once the thesis is finally approved (before which certain amendments may be required), one hard copy should be deposited in the Pontifical University Office. An electronic copy must be submitted for public access in the John Paul II library.
- Candidates must pass the following examinations:
 1. The regular examinations required in each course.
 2. A written examination demonstrating that they can read a second language, ancient or modern, as appropriate.
 3. An oral examination of 30 minutes duration, based on their thesis, before two members of the Faculty.

Masters in Philosophy (MPhil) Research - Two years full time

Programme Co-ordinator: Rev Dr Simon Nolan O. Carm

The programme for degree of Master's in Philosophy (MPhil) offers candidates the opportunity to deepen their knowledge of Philosophy through specialised study, personal work and research. The programme is worth 120 ECTS.

Rationale

This programme is designed to facilitate students who are committed to long term research, within the Christian tradition. As such, it is a direct route into the Doctoral programme.

There are two methods of obtaining this degree by research.

- Mode A / Structured Research: candidates complete five seminar courses and write a Minor dissertation (25,000-30,000 words).
- Mode B / Pure Research: candidates submit a Major Dissertation (40,000 words) and complete a requirement in research methodology.

Mode A / Structured Research

Programme

Along with the writing of the thesis, students as a rule will be expected to (i) undertake a research and methodology module, (ii) complete five seminar modules offered by the faculty and (iii) contribute to public speaking events in the life of the University.

Candidates must complete Postgraduate Induction week.

The topic of research is determined in discussion with the Faculty of Philosophy and an appropriate supervisor is appointed.

The dissertation shall be examined by the dissertation supervisor and an external examiner chosen by the Faculty. Candidates may be examined on the subject matter of the dissertation if the above examiners so decide.

Admission Requirements

The minimum entry requirement is an honours primary degree in which Philosophy comprises at least an equal joint honours component.

Candidates should have obtained at least Second Class Honours, Grade I or equivalent overall. The Faculty of Philosophy will also consider applications from candidates whose primary degree is in a subject cognate with philosophy and which comprises a significant philosophical component as determined by the admissions board for the faculty.

An interview will be part of the selection procedure.

The candidate will be expected to submit a proposed topic for research and a short abstract; this will be discussed during the interview.

Candidates are expected to show evidence of knowledge of a second language relative to their research.

Candidates whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirement of the Faculty of Philosophy.

Candidates will normally be expected to register year by year on a continuous basis until they have completed their degree.

Candidates wishing to suspend registration may do so only on the express permission of the Faculty.

Mode B / Pure Research

The Mphil (Mode B / Pure Research) is a two-year (full time) programme and consists of specialised research on a chosen topic culminating in the production of a 40,000 word thesis (excluding footnotes and bibliography)

Along with the writing of the thesis, students as a rule will be expected to (i) undertake a research and methodology module, (ii) participate in modules offered by the faculty, if relevant to the topic of research, and (iii) contribute to public speaking events in the life of the University.

The topic of research is determined in discussion with the Faculty of Philosophy and an appropriate supervisor is appointed.

Candidates must complete Postgraduate Induction week.

Candidates shall be required to submit their dissertations within two years. Extensions may be granted for one year in exceptional circumstances.

The dissertation shall be examined by the dissertation supervisor and an external examiner chosen by the Faculty. Candidates may be examined on the subject matter of the dissertation if the above examiners so decide.

Admission Requirements

The minimum entry requirement is an honours primary degree in which Philosophy comprises at least an equal joint honours component.

Candidates should have obtained at least Second Class Honours, Grade I or equivalent overall.

An interview will be part of the selection procedure.

The candidate will be expected to submit a proposed topic for research and a short abstract; this will be discussed during the interview.

The Faculty of Philosophy will also consider applications from candidates whose primary degree is in a subject cognate with philosophy and which comprises a significant philosophical component as determined by the admissions board for the faculty.

Candidates are expected to show evidence of knowledge of a second language relative to their research.

Candidates whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirement of the Faculty of Philosophy.

Candidates will normally be expected to register year by year on a continuous basis until they have completed their degree. Candidates wishing to suspend registration may do so only on the express permission of the Faculty.

Masters in Philosophy (MPhil)

Taught - Two years Part time

Programme Co-ordinator: Rev Dr Simon Nolan O. Carm

The MPhil (Taught) is a two year part-time programme and consists of six taught modules (chosen from the list below) and a minor thesis 15,000 – 20,000 words. Students must take a research and methodology module or provide evidence of having completed training in research and methodology. The programme overall is worth 90 ECTS.

Rationale

This programme is designed for students who wish to deepen their foundational knowledge and capacity in philosophical thought, within the Christian tradition. It is devised to facilitate students who may have other professional commitments, whether in professional or ministerial life.

Students who undertake this programme may need to take a bridging year to develop research skills, if they wish to continue to the doctoral programme.

Programme of Study

Candidates undertake two modules per semester, completing their six modules by the end of their third semester. Candidates devote their fourth semester to writing their thesis.

Admission Requirements

The minimum entry requirement is an honours primary degree in which Philosophy comprises at least an equal joint honours component. Candidates should have obtained at least Second Class Honours, Grade I or equivalent overall. An interview will be part of the selection procedure. The Faculty of Philosophy will also consider applications from candidates whose primary degree is in a subject cognate with philosophy and which comprises a significant philosophical component as determined by the admission board of the Faculty.

Candidates whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirement of the Faculty of Philosophy. Candidates will normally be expected to register year by year on a continuous basis until they have completed their degree. Candidates wishing to suspend registration may do so only on the express permission of the Faculty.

Overview of Postgraduate modules

<i>Cycle A</i>				
Code	Lecturer(s)	Title	Semester	Comment
PY401	Dr Gaven Kerr	Philosophical Themes in Ancient and Medieval Thought: Metaphysics, Epistemology, Ethics	1	
PY 402	Dr Philip Gonzales	Perspectives on Selfhood	1	
PY 403	Dr Gaven Kerr	Mind and World	2	
PY 404	Dr Gaven Kerr	Philosophy, Science, Nature	2	
PY 405	Dr Philip Gonzales	Creation And Desire	2	
<i>Cycle B</i>				
PY 406	Dr Gaven Kerr	Texts in Modern Philosophy	1	
PY 408	Dr Philip Gonzales	Political Theology	1	
PY 407	DR Gaven Kerr	Themes from the Philosophy of Thomas Aquinas	2	
PY 409	Dr Philip Gonzales	Philosophy of God	2	
<i>Academic Life</i>				
PG 903	Corley	Research Seminar	Yearlong	Qualifier
PG 901	Various	Research Support	Yearlong	Qualifier

GENERAL NORMS for Postgraduate Modules

- Modules above are correct at the time of publishing. The Faculty reserves to right to make changes.
- Each postgraduate module above, unless otherwise stated, is rated as 10 ECTS.
- A minimum of FOUR participants is required for any module to be offered. Exceptions are to be referred to the Postgraduate Board.
- Descriptors for each of the above modules can be found on the Pontifical University website.

Doctorate in Philosophy

Programme Co-ordinator: Rev Dr Simon Nolan O. Carm

The Doctorate in Philosophy (DPH) is a full-time Level 10 Award. The award of the Doctorate requires the submission of a substantial body of original research which makes a real contribution to the progress of philosophy. This research takes the form of a thesis that is assessed by a small committee of examiners appointed by the Pontifical University, and by an oral examination. The thesis may be published or submitted for access in the John Paul II library.

Requirements for entry into the Doctorate in Philosophy (DPH) programme:

- Applicants whose mother-tongue is not English should provide evidence of possessing the necessary level of English, both written and spoken. The requirements correspond to the standards demanded by Maynooth University.
- Applicants should provide certificates to establish that they have received a Licentiate in philosophy from a recognized institution. Students who have done their philosophical studies in a civil Faculty of Philosophy can only be admitted if their preparation meets the requirements for an Ecclesiastical Faculty of Philosophy. Where a deficiency exists, certain modules must be taken to satisfy the ecclesiastical undergraduate requirement.
- Applicants must normally have been awarded at least an upper second or equivalent in their Licentiate degree.
- Applicants should provide a letter of recommendation showing evidence of their character and integrity. In the case of seminarians or priests, this letter should be provided by their Ordinary or College Rector; in the case of religious or consecrated persons, this should be provided by their Superior or Study Director; in the case of lay students, this should be provided by an ecclesiastical person who knows the candidate well.
- Applicants should provide a personal statement accompanying their application, in which they provide reasons for applying to study for a Doctorate, the prior preparation and skills (e.g. knowledge of philosophy, organizational and critical thinking abilities, etc.) they possess, and the goals they have, including both short-term aims for the programme, and long-term goals for their work after the proposed degree.
- Applicants should undergo an interview with two members of staff, which will normally be based on the personal statement they have submitted as well as upon their academic history.
- Applicants should provide evidence that they have a funding plan for their studies.

Requirements for being awarded the Doctorate in Philosophy (DPh) degree:

- Candidates must normally complete at least three years of study, which may include several postgraduate seminar courses and some teaching.
- As the DPh is a full-time academic programme, candidates are expected to be able to dedicate 35–40 hours per week to research and study. Candidates should be available on campus as course requirements and library work require, especially at the beginning of their studies. Candidates are also required to meet with their supervisor (in person or online) at least once per month to discuss their progress.
- As circumstances permit, it is strongly recommended that doctoral candidates participate in important public events in the life of the faculty.
- Candidates are expected to make at least two public presentations of their research prior to submission of their thesis.
- If candidates do not already have some proficiency in a second academic language, they must acquire at least a reading knowledge of the same, preferably an academic language that is relevant to their area of research. In order to show their reading knowledge, students must pass a translation examination that is recognized by the Faculty of Philosophy.
- At the end of the first year, doctoral students should provide sufficient evidence of progress in the preparation of the dissertation to warrant continuance.
- Candidates must provide an annual written account of the progress of their study and research that is to be submitted to the director, reader, and dean.
- Candidates must have their dissertation proposal approved by a director, and subsequently submitted to the dean and faculty for their approval. Once the proposal is accepted, candidates are free to pursue their chosen topic of research.
- The dissertation that is presented must show evidence of in-depth research, the ability to work independently, and must be of a sufficient standard to justify its publication in whole or in part.
- The DPh dissertation should be defended within five years of admission to the doctoral programme.
- Dissertations submitted by 30th November are accepted for examination by early spring. Those submitted by 15th May are accepted for examination in early summer. Examination at any other time may be considered only in exceptional circumstances and by express leave of the Faculty.
- The dissertation shall be presented to the Dean of the Faculty at least two months before the candidate may be admitted to defend it. In exceptional cases the required period may be shortened.
- Three copies of the dissertation are to be submitted in the first instance, and these may be ring-bound. A hard-bound copy, incorporating any corrections

which the examiners may require, must be submitted to the Library following successful defence of the work.

- All dissertations shall remain the property of the Pontifical University.

Examination

- The examination is conducted before a commission composed of three lecturers: the president, the director, and the second reader. It comprises the following elements:
- A lecture by the candidate for half-an-hour on the topic, arguments and conclusions of the dissertation
- A defence of the dissertation for an hour against objections.

At the end of the Defence, the Faculty shall vote firstly on whether the degree of doctor is to be awarded and secondly on what mark shall be given. 80% of the final mark is for the written dissertation; 20% of the final mark is for the oral defence. The aggregate mark is not communicated to the student.

Publication of the Doctoral Dissertation

- Before the Doctorate in Philosophy can be conferred, the dissertation, or at least a substantial part thereof, must be published. Publication may take any of the following forms:
- Appearance as a book, or as an article in a recognised philosophical journal
- Circulation of copies of the dissertation, or of a major excerpt, in printed form, on disk, microfilm or microfiche, to the main ecclesiastical Faculties of Philosophy.
- Deposition of a copy of the dissertation and of the disk in the John Paul II Library at St. Patrick's Pontifical University, Maynooth, together with notification of the fact through appropriate means of inter-library exchange.

