

Postgraduate Admissions Statement for Philosophy (MA)



This Admissions Statement applies to applications submitted for entry to the programme between 1 October 2023 and 30 September 2024.

It should be read in association with the [University Admissions Principles and Procedures](#) for Postgraduate programmes, the relevant [prospectus entry](#) and general [application guidance](#).

Admissions criteria

Academic and English language requirements

The academic and English language requirements for this programme are displayed on the [Postgraduate Prospectus](#)

For information on international equivalent qualifications, please refer to our [International Office website](#).

Non-standard applications

We welcome applications from those with non-standard qualifications who can demonstrate knowledge, experience and skills developed in the workplace, or elsewhere, relevant to the programme of study. Please use your personal statement to provide further details.

Non-standard applications will be considered by the Admissions Tutor(s) for the programme on a case by case basis.

Application process

Online application form

Applicants should complete the online application form, uploading all required documents directly. Further information is available on our [guidance for online applications page](#).

Applications will not be considered until **all** required documents have been uploaded.

Required and optional documents

Required

References

We require one academic reference. References should comply with our standard requirements outlined on [our guidance pages](#).

Required

Degree certificate(s) and academic transcripts

From first and subsequent degrees. Degree certificates and transcripts should comply with our standard requirements outlined on [our guidance pages](#).

Required

Personal statement

Personal statements should highlight the motivation for applying for the course, and any relevant experience and/or skills.

Required

English language certificates/other evidence

Evidence of meeting the English language profile as stated on the [Postgraduate Prospectus](#) and specified by the [University English Language Requirements Policy](#)

Optional

Curriculum Vitae (CV)

CVs might include details of other relevant work experience and qualifications to support an application.

Required

Supplementary requirements

Applicants **who have not previously studied a Philosophy degree** are required to submit a writing sample on a topic of their choice. The writing sample does not need to be a philosophical essay but it should demonstrate clarity of thought and analysis. Evidence of interest in philosophical concepts or questions is an advantage. You may wish to include an additional introductory paragraph highlighting any philosophical relevance. The word limit of your writing sample should be anywhere between 1,000 and 6,000 words.

Please upload this document in the 'Additional Information' section on the application form.

Selection process

Assessment of applications

All applicants are considered in line with the University's [Admissions Principles and Procedures Policy](#). Once a complete application has been submitted with all required supporting documents, it is considered by at least two members of staff using the following criteria:

- Performance in undergraduate degree
- English language ability (where applicable)
- References
- Personal statement
- Writing sample (for applicants who have not previously studied a Philosophy degree only)

Interviews

Interviews do not form part of the selection process.

Decisions

Applicants will be notified by email when a decision has been made and decision letters will be available to view and print by logging into the application. If there is a deadline by which applicants must accept an offer of admission or pay a deposit, this will be stated in the offer letter.

Offers

Offers will typically be made in line with the academic requirements set out above.

Offers made may be conditional or unconditional. An unconditional offer will be made to applicants who have already met the conditions and provided evidence that conditions have been met. Where academic or language requirements have not yet been fulfilled, applicants will receive a conditional offer outlining the requirements that must be met.

Deferrals

Requests to defer the year of entry must be submitted via the applicant portal. Requests to defer should be submitted at the earliest opportunity so that it can be reviewed by the admissions team. We cannot guarantee that requests will be granted. Refer to <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/after-you-apply/offer/> for more information on deferrals.

Results deadline

Applicants who receive a conditional offer will be required to submit all final results to meet their offer conditions by the date noted in their offer letter. Offer holders who will be unable to provide their final results by this date should email choosebristol-pg@bristol.ac.uk to notify the admissions team as soon as possible.

Additional information

Extenuating circumstances

If your education has been significantly disrupted through health or personal problems, disability or specific difficulties within your studies, you can submit an [extenuating circumstances](#) form as part of your application.

The information provided will be treated confidentially and will help us to assess your academic performance fairly considering your circumstances.

Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS)

An ATAS certificate is not required for this programme.

Visa

International students coming to the UK to study full-time may need to apply for a student visa. Guidance is available on the [University website](#).

Fees and Deposits

Fees

Annual tuition fee is available on the relevant [prospectus entry](#) for this programme.

Deposits

International self-funded students accepting a place on a taught postgraduate programme are required to pay a deposit of £2000. Further information is available on [how to pay programme deposits](#). Further information will also be provided in the offer letter to successful applicants. The deposit is non-transferable and non-refundable except under the circumstances outlined in the [International Deposits Refund Policy](#).

Sponsored Students

Fully sponsored students are not required to pay the deposit but will need to upload a copy of their sponsorship letter to the online application.

