



Introduction to Philosophy (PY1020) overview

Syllabus

In this course, students will be introduced to the methods and content of philosophy by considering, at an elementary level and in a carefully guided way, some of the central problems that arise within the subject. Included here will be: free will, determinism and responsibility; personal identity; the relation of the mind to the body; the nature of knowledge; the ideal of equality; issues raised by portrayals of tragedy; the reality of qualities; and our understanding of moral dilemmas.

Study materials

Unlike other Philosophy courses, there is a single textbook for 'Introduction to Philosophy': *Guttenplan, S., J. Hornsby and C. Janaway Reading philosophy. (Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2003) [ISBN 9780631234388]*. You will be sent a copy of this book when you register for any qualification. *Reading philosophy* is constructed around various philosophical problems. It contains texts related to these problems, as well as commentaries and invitations to the reader to think about the specific issues raised by the texts. The book aims to introduce you – in an active way – both to classic philosophical problems and to the reading of philosophical texts. You are not required to read anything other than the *Reading Philosophy* textbook in order to pass the written examination.

Entrance Requirements and Registration

Full entrance requirements are given on our [website](#).

'Introduction to Philosophy' can be studied as an individual course on a stand-alone basis or as a compulsory course at Level 4 of the BA degree, Diploma of Higher Education and Certificate of Higher Education in Philosophy. Please apply [online](#).

You do not have to hold formal qualifications to register for 'Introduction to Philosophy' as an individual course. However, you are required to satisfy the University's English language and normal minimum age requirements.

Progression

The examination for 'Introduction to Philosophy' must be taken in the year in which you first enter for an examination following registration to one of the Philosophy programmes *or* within two years of registering as an individual course student.

Progression through the Diploma of Higher Education or BA degree in Philosophy will be dependent on successful completion of 'Introduction to Philosophy'. If you take 'Introduction to Philosophy' as an individual course and pass with at least 50% you will normally be accepted onto the Certificate of Higher Education in Philosophy and will be credited with the course.

Assessment

'Introduction to Philosophy' is assessed by one two-hour written examination. Examination takes place once a year, normally in May.

The written examination will contain questions relating to each of the chapters in the *Reading Philosophy* textbook.

Fees

<http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/fees>

Regulations (*Please refer to both the General Regulations and Programme Regulations for the current year*)

<http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/regs>