

Nottingham Trent University

Module Specification

	Basic module information	
1	Module Title:	Dissertation (Philosophy)
2	Module Code:	PHIL30108
3	Credit Points:	40
4	Duration:	Year Long
5	School:	Arts and Humanities
6	Campus:	Clifton
7	Date this version first approved to run:	September 2014

8 Pre, post and co-requisites:

These are modules that you must have studied previously in order to take this module, or modules that you must study simultaneously or in a subsequent academic session

<u>Pre, Co, Post</u>	<u>Module Code</u>	<u>Module Title</u>
Pre	PHIL20107	Introduction to Contemporary Philosophy

9 Courses containing the module

<u>Level</u>	<u>Core/Option</u>	<u>Mode</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Course Title</u>
		FT	HUMA008	BA (H) Communication & Society and Philosophy
		FT	HUMA016	BA (H) English and Philosophy
		FT	HUMA023	BA (H) European Studies and Philosophy
		FT	HUMA028	BA (H) Film & TV and Philosophy
		FT	HUMA033	BA (H) Global Studies and Philosophy
		FT	HUMA038	BA (H) History and Philosophy
		FT	HUMA042	BA (H) Linguistics and Philosophy
		FT	HUMA045	BA (H) Philosophy and International Relations
		SW	MODL014	BA (H) French and Philosophy
		SW	MODL027	BA (H) German and Philosophy
		SW	MODL039	BA (H) Italian and Philosophy
		SW	MODL058	BA (H) Spanish and Philosophy

10 Overview and aims

This module gives you the opportunity to undertake an in-depth, independent, study of a relevant topic of your choice under the supervision of a tutor. It enables you to engage intellectually with key themes and issues of classical and/or contemporary philosophy, and to engage with techniques of philosophical analysis within your investigation.

The topic chosen is often catalysed by an area of study that proved of particular interest to you in the second year, and the dissertation represents an opportunity to focus on such a topic at a level of depth that is impracticable on a taught module. Finding a suitable supervisor who is able, and willing, to guide you in your chosen topic is a crucial aspect of undertaking a dissertation, and you are encouraged to begin the process of identifying potential supervisors as early as possible, either by directly approaching tutors, or with guidance from the Philosophy subject leader.

Aims

- To enable you to further develop your analytical skills.
- To foster the writing skills needed to produce a long piece of work.
- To encourage you to understand and develop philosophical ideas and arguments and to apply them to a well-defined area of contemporary life.
- To enable you, if needed, to engage in logical analysis when addressing the research topic.
- To further develop independent and critical thinking.
- To allow you to develop your powers of philosophical reflection and to interpret everyday and/or historical phenomena in a philosophically informed manner.

11 Module content

Tutorial contact, directed study and independent learning

12 Indicative reading

- Martinich, A.P. (2005) *Philosophical Writing* Oxford: Blackwell
- Greetham, B. (2009) *How to Write Your Undergraduate Dissertation* London: Palgrave
- Turabin, K. and Honigsblum, B. B. (1987) *A manual for writers of term papers, theses and dissertations* (5th ed.). Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press.
- Watson, G. (1987) *Writing a thesis: a guide to long essays and dissertations*. London: Longman.
- Walliman, N.S.R. (2004) *Your Undergraduate Dissertation: The Essential Guide for Success* London: Sage

13 Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes describe what you should know and be able to do by the end of the module
Knowledge and understanding. After studying this module you should be able to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the nature and value of philosophical analysis. • Apply your understanding of philosophical ideas and debates to a real world or intellectual problem. • Be able to synthesise knowledge across disciplinary boundaries • Develop confidence in applying philosophical techniques and arguments either to empirical phenomena or to conceptual issues.
Skills, qualities and attributes. After studying this module you should be able to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formulate a research question in philosophy • Plan and write up a research project at an appropriate level of scholarly sophistication. • Engage with appropriate philosophical techniques. • Make informed independent judgement. • Use your powers of interpretation, analysis and evaluation in order address your topic area. • Search for and retrieve information and knowledge relevant to your project. • Work in a self-motivated and self-disciplined manner. • Work in a flexible and adaptable manner • Manage your time and work effectively and efficiently • Think clearly, coherently and creatively.

14	Teaching and learning <i>Range of modes of direct contact</i> <p>This indicates the range of direct contact teaching and learning methods used on this module, e.g. lectures, seminars</p> <p>You will be offered the opportunity for regular tutorials, to a total of 10 hours, to discuss your progress, during which your supervisor will clarify any problems and issues and will offer directions and suggestions to guide your own independent study. The supervisor will advise you on approaches, theoretical frameworks and research methodologies, and will guide you through the process of investigation, interpretation and analysis. You will also be offered 4 hour-long workshops scheduled appropriately in the first two terms.</p> <p>Total contact hours: 14</p>
	<i>Range of other learning methods</i> <p>This indicates the range of other teaching and learning methods used on this module, e.g. directed reading, research</p>
	<p>Directed (guided by supervisor) and Independent (led by yourself) Research are the backbone of producing a dissertation.</p>

15 Assessment methods

This indicates the type and weighting of assessment elements in the module

<u>Element number</u>	<u>Weighting</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Description</u>
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1	100%	Dissertation	Dissertation of 12-15,000 Words.
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Diagnostic/formative assessment

This indicates if there are any assessments that do not contribute directly to the final module mark

Your supervisor may be prepared to comment informally on an early draft of your work in order to provide guidance.

Participation and engagement in workshops.

Further information on assessment

This section provides further information on the module's assessment where appropriate

12-15,000 Word Dissertation. NB: Two bound copies must be submitted

See module handbook and NOW learning room for further information

Document management

16	Module Title:	Dissertation (Philosophy)
17	Module Code:	PHIL30108
18	Subject (JACS) Code	V500
19	Cost Centre	141
20	School:	AAH
21	Academic Team	ECM
22	Campus	2 (Clifton)
23	Other institutions providing teaching	<i>Please complete in box 23 a-d - if applicable</i>
		Institution %
23a	Other UK Higher Education or Further Education Institution- Please name Percentage not taught by NTU	
23b	Other public organisation in the UK- Percentage not taught by	

	NTU	
23c	Other private organisation in the UK - Percentage not taught by NTU	
23d	Any other Non-UK organisation - Percentage not taught by NTU	
24	Date this version was formally approved by SASQC/DAG:	