



# Philosophy

**Cambridge was the birthplace of analytic philosophy last century, and the home of intellectual giants such as Bertrand Russell, Ludwig Wittgenstein, and Elizabeth Anscombe. We have been at the forefront of the field ever since, training generations of philosophers from all over the world.**

Today, our MPhil offers a rigorous introduction to philosophical research. For those considering a PhD it provides the skills needed for doctoral studies, and an opportunity to pursue selected philosophical topics in considerable depth. Some of our students stay for a PhD in Cambridge, others go on to PhD programmes elsewhere. Many take it with other careers in mind, simply for the opportunity to broaden their philosophical knowledge in one of the world's leading centres.

Whichever path you have in mind, you'll join a friendly, informal and vibrant intellectual community. We are committed to diversity and inclusion. We have a dynamic Women in Philosophy Group, and an active Gender Equality Working Group with wide representation from staff and students. We have excellent links with philosophers in other parts of the University, such as Classics, History and Philosophy of Science, Law, Psychology, and Politics and International Studies. So although the Faculty itself is small, we are embedded in a very broad and fertile environment for philosophical research.

As an MPhil student you complete three pieces of work – two essays and a 12,000 word dissertation. You have a supervisor for each piece of work, as well as an advisor for the course as a whole. You will develop your abilities in exploring and critiquing the philosophical literature, in presenting your own philosophical arguments clearly and effectively, and in structuring lengthy pieces of work. The MPhil class also meets as a group for a weekly seminar. This uses an informal collaborative format to help students to develop their presentation and discussion skills.

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**Outside the MPhil course itself, you will find the resources of one of the world's richest philosophical communities. The Moral Sciences Club meets weekly during term, as it has since the 1870s, for a talk by a visiting philosopher. There are many specialist seminars, lectures, reading groups, and workshops. Almost all of them welcome MPhil students, and you will be encouraged to take advantage of as much as your timetable allows.**

*"I wanted to do something for myself and explore what it would be like to do more research-based study. The lecturers at Cambridge are among the best in the world and there's a real community for philosophy graduate students in the Faculty, based in the graduate centre."*

**Joe Sturge**  
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**[www.phil.cam.ac.uk](http://www.phil.cam.ac.uk)**