

Note:

The following curriculum is a consolidated version. It is legally non-binding and for informational purposes only.

The legally binding versions are found in the University of Innsbruck Bulletins (in German).

Original version published in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 26 June 2023, Issue 52, No. 616

Curriculum for the
**Master's Programme in
Philosophy**
at the Faculty for Philosophy and History at the University of
Innsbruck (New release 2023)

Table of contents

- § 1 Allocation
- § 2 Qualification profile
- § 3 Scope and duration
- § 4 Admission
- § 5 Types of courses and maximum number of students per course
- § 6 Procedure for the allocation of places in courses with a limited number of participants
- § 7 Compulsory and elective modules
- § 8 Master's Thesis
- § 9 Examination regulations
- § 10 Academic degree
- § 11 Coming into force
- § 12 Transitional provisions

§ 1 Allocation

Pursuant to §54 par.1 Universities Act 2002, the Master's Programme in Philosophy is allocated to the humanities and cultural study programmes.

§ 2 Qualification profile

- (1) The Master's Programme in Philosophy supplements the Bachelor's Programme in Philosophy with further philosophical sub-areas and advances the philosophical knowledge of the graduates, among other things through the possibility of a specialisation in Practical Philosophy. It leads to independent critical engagement with developments in the history of ideas and culture as well as contemporary developments in philosophy. The interests developed during the bachelor's degree can be pursued further and related to other issues. In addition, the competences required for scientific work in the field of philosophy are completed and perfected.
- (2) The Master's Programme in Philosophy serves the purpose of academic professional training and also provides the prerequisites for completing a doctoral programme. In particular, it imparts knowledge and competences that open up professional perspectives in many fields of activity. Graduates of the Master's Programme in Philosophy are distinguished by their ability to deal with new challenges and to use their analytical and communicative skills in various fields. Typical fields of activity for philosophers can be found at or around universities, in scientific, cultural and social fields, in the media as well as in politics and business.

§ 3 Scope and duration

The Master's Programme in Philosophy covers 120 ECTS-Credits. This corresponds to a study duration of four semesters. One ECTS-Credit corresponds to a workload of 25 hours.

§ 4 Admission

- (1) The admission to the Master's Programme in Philosophy requires the completion of a subject-related bachelor's programme or another related study programme of at least the same university level at a recognised post-secondary educational institution home or abroad.
- (2) In any case, the completion of the Bachelor's Programme in Philosophy at the Faculty of Philosophy and History as well as the Bachelor's Programme in Philosophy at the Faculty of Catholic Theology are relevant study programmes.
- (3) If equivalence is given in principle with only a few supplements missing for full equivalence, additional courses and examinations to the extent of 30 ECTS-Credits can be prescribed for achieving full equivalence, which must be taken by the end of the second semester of the master's programme.

§ 5 Types of courses and maximum number of students per course

- (1) Courses without continuous performance assessment:
Lectures (VO) are courses held in lecture format. They introduce the research areas, methods and schools of thought for a given subject.
- (2) Courses with continuous performance assessment:
Working groups (AG) serve to treat a topic in collective fashion, examining the theories, methods and techniques of an area using group work. Maximum number of students per course: 20.
Seminars (SE) provide in-depth treatment of scientific topics through students' presentations and discussion thereof. Maximum number of students per course: 20.

§ 6 Procedure for the allocation of places in courses with a limited number of participants

In courses with a limited number of participants, the places are allocated as follows:

- (1) Students for whom the study duration would be extended due to the postponement are to be given priority.
- (2) If the criterium in no. 1 does not suffice, then first students who take this course as part of a compulsory module and secondly students for whom this course is part of an elective module are given a place.
- (3) If the criteria in no. 1 and no. 2 do not suffice to regulate the admission, then the available places are randomly allocated.

§ 7 Compulsory and elective modules

- (1) The following compulsory modules covering altogether 35 ECTS-Credits are to be passed:

1.	Compulsory Module: Special Questions of Theoretical Philosophy	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO Theoretical Philosophy	2	5
b.	SE Theoretical Philosophy	2	5
	Total	4	10
	Learning Outcomes: Students possess extended and in-depth knowledge of selected issues and theories of theoretical philosophy as well as the ability to relate these issues and theories to each other on the basis of presentations and readings of selected texts, to analyse them in the context of the current research discussion, to question them independently, to develop them further and to link them to issues and theories of practical philosophy.		
	Prerequisites: none		

2.	Compulsory Module: Special Questions of Practical Philosophy	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO Practical Philosophy	2	5
b.	SE Practical Philosophy	2	5
	Total	4	10
	Learning Outcomes: Students possess extended and in-depth knowledge of selected issues and theories of practical philosophy as well as the ability to relate these issues and theories to each other on the basis of presentations and readings of selected texts, to analyse them in the context of the current research discussion, to question them independently, to develop them further and to link them to issues and theories of theoretical philosophy.		
	Prerequisites: none		

3.	Compulsory Module: Preparation of the Master's Thesis	h	ECTS-Credits
	Agreement on the topic, the scope and the form of the Master's Thesis on the basis of a detailed synopsis, which includes, among other things, the research question(s) and hypothesis(es), the planned structure, an overview of the current state of research based on literature research as well as a precise reflection on methods; agreement on the work processes and the study progress; planning of an appropriate time frame for the completion of the Master's Thesis.		2.5
	Total		2.5
	Learning Outcomes: Students are able to present the research question(s) and hypothesis(es) of the Master's Thesis, its planned structure, the current state of research and the methods to be applied in a detailed synopsis as well as to plan work processes, study progress and time frame for the completion of the Master's Thesis.		
	Prerequisites: none		

4.	Compulsory Module: Research	h	ECTS-Credits
	AG Research The Research working group serves the written and oral presentation, discussion and critique of one's own and other people's research projects, concepts and (partial) results, which are developed within the framework of the ongoing Master's Theses at the Institute of Philosophy, as well as the introduction to current philosophical debates within the framework of guest lectures and research lectures by members of the Institute. The students create a learning portfolio for the entire course.	2	10
	Total		10
	Learning Outcomes: Students are able to present their own work and concepts at the level of current research discourses and to situate them within the framework of current debates. They can engage in critical debate, deal with objections and proposals for change, constructively criticise other research projects and results and thus contribute to their improvement and further development. In this way, the module also expands philosophical methodological awareness. Furthermore, feedback competences and skills for critical analysis and evaluation of arguments are improved.		
	Prerequisites: positive evaluation of compulsory module 3		

5.	Compulsory Module: Master's Thesis Defense	h	ECTS-Credits
	Final oral defense of the Master's Thesis before an examination board to complete the studies		2.5
	Total		2.5
	Learning Outcomes: Students are able to reflect on their Master's Thesis in the overall context of the Master's Programme in Philosophy, with a focus on theoretical understanding, methodological issues, communication of the results of the Master's Thesis and presentation skills.		
	Prerequisites: positive evaluation of all compulsory modules, the selected elective modules as well as the Master's Thesis		

- (2) Elective modules covering altogether 60 ECTS-Credits are to be passed as follows:
1. A specialisation in Practical Philosophy (30 ECTS-Credits) as well as further modules covering 30 ECTS-Credits can be selected. To pass the specialisation in Practical Philosophy three elective modules from elective modules 1-4 must be passed and the Master's Thesis must be written in the field of Practical Philosophy. One of the three elective modules can be replaced by elective module 7, if the respective practice is related to the field of Practical Philosophy.
 2. If the specialisation acc. to no. 1 is not selected, elective modules (par. 2 no. 1 to 9) covering altogether 60 ECTS-Credits are to be selected and passed.
 3. Instead of the Elective Module Interdisciplinary Skills (par. 2 no. 8) and the Individual Choice of Specialisation (par. 2 no. 9), a Minor for Master's Programmes (30 ECTS-Credits) may be passed, providing the availability of places. Minors are fixed modules from other disciplines covering 30 ECTS-Credits. They are announced in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin.

1.	Elective Module: Applied Ethics	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO Applied Ethics	2	5
b.	SE Applied Ethics	2	5
	Total	4	10
	<p>Learning Outcomes: Students possess extended and in-depth knowledge of selected issues and theories of applied ethics as well as the ability to relate these issues and theories to each other on the basis of presentations and readings of selected texts, to analyse them in the context of the current research discussion, to question them independently, to develop them further and to relate them to current social problems.</p>		
	Prerequisites: none		

2.	Elective Module: Philosophy of Politics and Law	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO Philosophy of Politics and Law	2	5
b.	SE Philosophy of Politics and Law	2	5
	Total	4	10
	<p>Learning Outcomes: Students possess extended and in-depth knowledge of selected issues and theories of the philosophy of politics and law as well as the ability to relate these issues and theories to each other on the basis of presentations and readings of selected texts, to analyse them in the context of the current research discussion, to question them independently, to develop them further and to relate them to current social problems.</p>		
	Prerequisites: none		

3.	Elective Module: Philosophy of Society and Art	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO Philosophy of Society and Art	2	5
b.	SE Philosophy of Society and Art	2	5
	Total	4	10
<p>Learning Outcomes: Students possess extended and in-depth knowledge of selected issues and theories of social philosophy, aesthetics and the philosophy of arts as well as the ability to relate these issues and theories to each other on the basis of presentations and readings of selected texts, to analyse them in the context of the current research discussion, to question them independently, to develop them further and to relate them to current social problems.</p>			
Prerequisites: none			

4.	Elective Module: Transcultural and Postcolonial Philosophy	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO Transcultural and Postcolonial Philosophy	2	5
b.	SE Transcultural and Postcolonial Philosophy	2	5
	Total	4	10
<p>Learning Outcomes: Students possess extended and in-depth knowledge of selected issues and theories of transcultural and postcolonial philosophy as well as the ability to relate these issues and theories to each other on the basis of presentations and readings of selected texts, to analyse them in the context of the current research discussion, to question them independently, to develop them further and to relate them to current social problems.</p>			
Prerequisites: none			

5.	Elective Module: Special Questions in the History of Philosophy	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO Special Questions in the History of Philosophy	2	5
b.	SE Special Questions in the History of Philosophy	2	5
	Total	4	10
<p>Learning Outcomes: Students possess extended and in-depth knowledge of selected issues and theories of the history of philosophy based on individual philosophers or individual works in the history of philosophy as well as the ability to relate these issues and theories to each other on the basis of presentations and readings of selected texts, to analyse them in the context of the current research discussion, to question them independently, to develop them further as sources for current issues and problem solutions.</p>			
Prerequisites: none			

6.	Elective Module: Special Questions in the Philosophy of the Present	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO Special Questions in the Philosophy of the Present	2	5
b.	SE Special Questions in the Philosophy of the Present	2	5
	Total	4	10
<p>Learning Outcomes: Students possess extended and in-depth knowledge of selected issues and theories of the history of philosophy based on individual philosophers or individual works in the history of philosophy as well as the ability to relate these issues and theories to each other on the basis of presentations and readings of selected texts, to analyse them in the context of the current research discussion, to question them independently, to develop them further with regards to the historical context.</p>			
<p>Prerequisites: none</p>			

7.	Elective Module: Practice	h	ECTS-Credits
	The practice of 240 hours is to be acquired in domestic or foreign institutions (museum, book or magazine publishing house, radio, archive, literature house, school, philosophical practice, etc.) and/or within the framework of events (specialist conference, workshop, lecture series, lecture series, etc.) in which subject-specific skills and key competences can be tested and applied. The practice may also be passed during the lecture-free period. Certificates from the institution(s) or the organiser(s) must be submitted on the duration, scope and content of the activities performed, and a practical report must be written. Before starting the practice, the approval of the Director of Studies must be obtained.		10
	Total		10
<p>Learning Outcomes: The students can apply acquired knowledge and skills according to the qualification profile in a professional environment or a scientific context. After completing the module, students are familiar with the conditions of professional and/or scientific practice.</p>			
<p>Prerequisites: A minimum of 30 ECTS-Credit must have been passed within the scope of the master's programme.</p>			

8.	Elective Module: Interdisciplinary Skills	h	ECTS-Credits
	Courses covering 10 ECTS-Credits are to be freely selected from the curricula of the master's and/or diploma programmes offered at the University of Innsbruck. It is recommended to choose courses from the field of gender research.		10
	Total		10
<p>Learning Outcomes: Students have additional and advanced competences and skills from other scientific disciplines</p>			
<p>Prerequisites: The prerequisites specified in the respective curricula must be met.</p>			

9. Individual Choice of Specialisation

For individual specialisation, modules from curricula from master's programmes offered at the University of Innsbruck covering 20 ECTS-Credits are to be freely selected. The prerequisites specified in the specific curricula must be met.

§ 8 Master's Thesis

- (1) In the master's programme, a Master's Thesis covering 25 ECTS-Credits is to be written. The Master's Thesis is a scientific paper that serves to demonstrate the ability to work independently on a scientific topic and to do so properly in terms of content and methodology.
- (2) The topic for the Master's Thesis is to be taken from a field in philosophy. If the specialisation Practical Philosophy acc. to §7 par. 2 no. 1 is selected, the Master's Thesis must be written in the field of Practical Philosophy.
- (3) The students are entitled to suggest a topic for the Master's Thesis or to select from a number of suggestions.
- (4) The students are entitled to write the Master's Thesis in a foreign language if the supervisor agrees to it.
- (5) The Master's Thesis is to be submitted in electronic form.

§ 9 Examination regulations

- (1) The performance of a module, with the exception of compulsory modules 3 and 5 as well as elective module 7, is based on course examinations.
- (2) Course examinations serve to proof the knowledge and skills acquired in an individual course, whereby for courses without continuous performance evaluation the evaluation is based on a single examination at the end of the course and for courses with continuous performance evaluation on at least two written, oral and/or practical contributions of the participants. The examination method is specified by the course instructors before the start of the semester.
- (3) The performance of compulsory module 3 (Preparation of the Master's Thesis) is evaluated by the supervisor. Positive evaluation reads "participated with success", negative evaluation "participated without success".
- (4) The performance of the final module of the study programme, compulsory module 5 (Master's Thesis Defense) is evaluated by an examination before a board consisting of three persons.
- (5) The performance of elective module 7 (Practice) is evaluated by the Director of Studies. Positive evaluation reads "participated with success", negative evaluation "participated without success".
- (6) Modules and courses taken from other study programmes are subject to the examination regulations of the curriculum they have been taken from. Extra-curricular Minors are subject to the curricula they are taken from.

§ 10 Academic degree

Graduates of the Master's Programme in Philosophy are awarded the academic degree "Master of Arts", abbreviated "MA".

§ 11 Coming into force

This curriculum comes into force on 1 October 2023.

§ 12 Transitional provisions

- (1) This curriculum applies to all students commencing the study programme as of 1 October 2023.
- (2) Regular degree students, who have started the Master's Programme in Philosophy as published in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 23 June 2010, Issue 40, No. 325 at the University of Innsbruck before 1 October 2023, are entitled from this point in time to finish this programme within a maximum of six semesters. If the master's programme is not finished in time, the students are subject to the new curriculum for the Master's Programme in Philosophy. In any case, the students are entitled to subject to the new curriculum for the Master's Programme in Philosophy on a voluntary basis any time.

For the Curriculum Committee:
ao. Univ.-Prof. Mag. Dr. Gunda Barth-Scalmani

For the Senate:
Univ.-Prof. Mag. Dr. Walter Obwexer
