



Programme curriculum
Master's programme in Philosophy

2022

Adjusted in 2024

**Faculty of Humanities
University of Copenhagen**

Entry into force: 1 September 2024

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This programme curriculum is supplemented by the Faculty's *Shared curriculum for study programmes at the Faculty of Humanities*. Students enrolled under this curriculum are therefore subject to the guidelines and rules described in both the shared curriculum and this programme curriculum.

Part 1. Legal basis

Section 1. Legal basis

This curriculum has been drawn up under the authority endowed by:

- Ministerial Order no. 35 of 13 January 2022 on Admission to Full-time University Education (the Admission Order) (*Adgangsbekendtgørelsen*)
- Ministerial Order no. 2285 of 1 December 2021 on Full-time University Education (the University Programme Order) (*Uddannelsesbekendtgørelsen*)
- Ministerial Order no. 2271 of 1 December 2021 on University Examinations and Grading (the Examination Order) (*Eksamensbekendtgørelsen*).
- Ministerial Order no. 114 of 3 February 2015 on the Grading Scale and Other Forms of Assessment of Study Programmes under the Ministry of Higher Education and Science (*Karakterbekendtgørelsen*).

(2) Please notice that only the Danish version of the curriculum has legal validity.

(3) If there are discrepancies between the Danish and English versions of the curriculum, the Danish version will extend.

Part 2. Admission requirements, prescribed period of study, affiliations and title

Section 2. Admission requirements

Students are admitted to the Master's programme in accordance with the rules and regulations set out in the Admission Order.

(2) Students who have completed the Bachelor's programme in Philosophy at the University of Copenhagen are entitled to admission to the Master's programme in Philosophy at the same place for up to three years after their completion of the Bachelor's programme (legal entitlement). The calculation of the three years starts at the first succeeding ordinary intake after completion of the Bachelor's programme and ends immediately after the ordinary intake has been concluded three years later. Read more about automatic entitlement at <http://studies.ku.dk/masters/>.

(3) The following Bachelor's programmes grant direct admission to the Master's programme in Philosophy:

- Philosophy from the University of Copenhagen
- Philosophy from Aarhus University
- Philosophy from University of Southern Denmark
- History of Ideas from Aarhus University

(4) The Faculty may admit other applicants than those mentioned in paragraphs (2) and (3) if it is assessed that they have completed at least 45 ECTS in Philosophy. The 45 ECTS must cover at least two of the following subject areas within Philosophy. These two subject areas must each be covered with at least 15 ECTS:

- Theoretical Philosophy
- Practical Philosophy
- History of Philosophy

(5) To be admitted to a Master's programme with an upper secondary school profile, students must 1) have completed the Bachelor part of a minor subject of 45 ECTS and 2) enrol in the Master part

of the connected minor subject concurrently with their enrolment on the Master's programme with an upper secondary school profile.

(6) All applicants without legal entitlement who wish to complete the programme in Danish must document A-level Danish and B-level English corresponding the Danish upper-secondary school system before commencing their studies.

(7) The Faculty decides the admission capacity for the Master's programme in Philosophy each year. The admission capacity is published each year at <https://studies.ku.dk/masters/>.

(8) (8) If the number of qualified applicants exceeds the admission capacity, applicants will be prioritised in line with the criteria on <http://studies.ku.dk/masters/>.

Section 3. Prescribed period of study

The Master's programme in Philosophy is prescribed to 120 ECTS.

(2) If the study programme is combined with a minor subject outside the main subject area (the Humanities), the Master part of the minor subject will be extended by 30 ECTS.

Section 4. Affiliation

The Master's programme in Philosophy falls under the auspices of the Study Board for Communication and the body of external examiners for Philosophy.

Section 5. Title

On successful completion of the Master's programme in Philosophy, graduates are entitled to use the title Master of Arts (MA) in Philosophy. The title in Danish is cand.mag. i filosofi.

Part 3. Technical requirements pertaining to study

Section 6. Reading texts in foreign languages

In addition to the language studied, there may be texts in Swedish, Norwegian and English. These are always listed in the original language. Texts in other languages may be used in class and listed for exam purposes in a translation into one of the four languages mentioned above (see, however, (2) below).

(2) Texts in other languages can be used in conjunction with a Danish or English parallel translation.

Section 7. Writing and spelling skills

Students' writing and spelling skills are included in the overall assessment as described in section 6 of the shared curriculum for study programmes at the Faculty of Humanities.

If special emphasis is placed on writing and spelling skills, this will be stipulated under the individual course element.

Section 8. Definition of a standard page

A standard page is defined in section 7 of the shared curriculum for study programmes at the Faculty of Humanities.

(2) For the Master's programme in Philosophy, the following also applies: Illustrations, photographs and tables count as 400 keystrokes.

(3) For texts which the lecturer assesses as being written in a technically challenging language in formal logic, one keystroke is equal to three keystrokes in the student's individual syllabus.

Section 9. Syllabus

The syllabus provisions are laid down in the individual course elements.

Part 4. Academic profile

Section 10. Competency description

The Master's programme trains the students' ability to immerse themselves independently in a topic in the discipline of philosophy from four perspectives: History of Philosophy (covering the period up to 1900), Practical Philosophy, Theoretical Philosophy and Phenomenology. The study programme weighs the four perspectives equally and gives the students the opportunity to choose their own focus. The students are trained in further developing and combining the perspectives independently. They consequently build a broad competence profile within core areas of the discipline of philosophy, and the students become able to engage in a constructive dialogue on a philosophical problem. The study programme also trains the students' ability to apply philosophical theories to non-philosophical topics (applied philosophy).

Specifically, the study programme trains the students' ability to perform independent philosophical work based on the above academic perspectives, including to conduct independent literature searches using the databases of the subject. The study programme also trains the students' ability to independently delineate a theme in the philosophical literature and to discuss the theme based on the standards of the subject, both orally and in writing. Finally, the students develop the skills to apply philosophical theory formation and competence to a target field outside the discipline of philosophy and/or in teaching contexts.

Section 11. Academic targets

A Master's Degree in Philosophy provides the students with the following knowledge, skills and competencies:

Knowledge of:

- the philosophical tradition and research in the areas of politics, society and values.
- the philosophical tradition and research within the areas of consciousness, rationality, identity and the human condition.
- the philosophical tradition and research in the areas of knowledge, science and technology
- applied philosophy.

Skills in:

- conducting an analysis and study of a philosophical text or a delineated philosophical problem or subject area on the background of relevant academic literature, in a way that clearly elucidates the basic hypotheses of the analysis
- combining several perspectives on the same philosophical theme, namely perspectives from the history of philosophy (up to 1900), practical philosophy, theoretical philosophy and phenomenology
- systematically identifying and evaluating relevant academic literature using the generally accepted methods of the subject

- presenting an analysis of a problem or subject area in a linguistically accurate manner, and demonstrating mastery of relevant terminology in a way that is well structured, understandable, focused and pedagogic in relation to the relevant target group
- engaging in constructive dialogue with their academic peers on aspects of the different stages of an analysis.

Competencies in:

- participating in and managing complex work and development situations, based on an academic grounding in philosophy
- initiating, implementing and taking professional responsibility for interdisciplinary collaboration and connections, based on independent work with philosophical theories
- presenting complex problems and their possible solutions to an interdisciplinary audience
- communicating a clear argument both orally and in writing.

Part 5. Structure and course elements

Section 12. Structure

The study programme consists of constituent course elements corresponding to 90 ECTS, including a master's thesis corresponding to 30 ECTS. The study programme also contains Master's elective subjects corresponding to 30 ECTS.

(2) The Master's programme with an upper secondary school profile consists of constituent course elements corresponding to 75 ECTS, including a Master's thesis corresponding to 30 ECTS. Added to this is the Master's part of a minor subject corresponding to 45 ECTS.

(3) The Master's thesis must be written in semester 4 and completes the study programme. The student must have passed 60 ECTS in order to register for the Master's thesis.

Section 13. Programme structure

The Master's programme in Philosophy has the following structures:

- Master's programme in Philosophy (general profile) (Section 13a)
- Master's programme in Philosophy with upper secondary school profile (Section 13b).

Section 13a. Master's programme in Philosophy (general profile)

The study programme contains a 30 ECTS mobility window which students can use for Master's elective subjects, including studying abroad, etc.

(2) The table below shows the structured course of study for the Master's programme in Philosophy (general profile).

Semester	Course elements:	
1.	Politics, Society and Values 15 ECTS	Awareness, Rationality, Identity and the Human Condition 15 ECTS
2.	Knowledge, Science and Technology 15 ECTS	Applied Philosophy 15 ECTS
3.	Master's elective subject 15 ECTS	Master's elective subject 15 ECTS
4.	Master's Thesis 30 ECTS	

Section 13b. Master's programme in Philosophy with upper secondary school profile

As far as possible, the Master's thesis must link the student's major subject and minor subject, with the main emphasis being on the major subject.

(2) This study programme does not include a mobility window.

(3) The table below shows the structured course of study for the Master's programme in Philosophy with an upper secondary school profile.

Semester	Course elements:	
1.	Politics, Society and Values 15 ECTS	Awareness, Rationality, Identity and the Human Condition 15 ECTS
2.	Master's minor 15 ECTS	Applied Philosophy 15 ECTS
3.	Master's minor 15 ECTS	Master's minor 15 ECTS
4.	Master's Thesis 30 ECTS	

Section 14. Study-start test

Activity code: HFIKSS000E

Purpose	The purpose of the study-start test is to promote an active study culture and establish whether the individual student has actually commenced the study programme and participates actively in the courses.
Exam provisions	<p>Exam form: Active class attendance.</p> <p>Scope: 100% attendance in classes in <i>Politics, Society and Values</i>.</p> <p>Language(s): Danish.</p> <p>Assessment: Internal examination with a single examiner, Approved/Not approved.</p> <p>Examination schedule: The first week of classes in <i>Politics, Society and Values</i>.</p> <p>Resit: Reflection memo of 1 standard pages.</p>
Special regulations	The student has two attempts to pass the study-start test. The resit is held no later than two weeks after the study start. The resit consists of a memo containing the student's reflections on the motivation for applying for admission to the study programme.

Section 15. Course elements of the study programme

Politics, Society and Values (compulsory and constituent)

Politik, samfund og værdier (obligatorisk og konstituerende)

15 ECTS

Activity code: HFIK04161E

<p>Academic targets</p>	<p>At the examination, the student can demonstrate:</p> <p>Knowledge and understanding of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> politics, society and values acquired through reading of texts in the history of philosophy (-1900), practical philosophy and theoretical philosophy. <p>Skills in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> delineating and processing a philosophical problem using the academic standards applicable in the history of philosophy (up to 1900), practical philosophy and theoretical philosophy conducting a bibliographical search of databases that provide access to up-to-date, international research literature which is relevant in relation to the chosen problem structuring a discussion of the chosen problem in a clear language and with mastery of the reference techniques of the subject. <p>Competencies in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> conducting an academic analysis and discussion of a philosophical problem dealt with in the syllabus as well as developing proposed solutions and evaluating their strengths and weaknesses.
<p>Syllabus</p>	<p>The students submit an overall syllabus of 1000 standard pages and compose it so that at least 250 standard pages thereof are taken from the compulsory course syllabus. The examiner must approve the syllabus. The compulsory course syllabus totals 750 standard pages, evenly distributed between history of philosophy (up to 1900), practical philosophy and theoretical philosophy with approx. 1/3 to each.</p>
<p>Teaching and working methods</p>	<p>The teaching consists of lectures and class instruction, or a combination of both, oral exercises and group discussions.</p>
<p>Exam provisions</p>	<p>Form of exam: Oral exam on optional subject with material, following approval of active class attendance Active class attendance is defined as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 approved exercises, each of a scope of 4-5 standard pages. <p>Scope: 30 minutes, including grading. The material consists of a synopsis of 3-5 standard pages and forms the basis for the oral exam.</p> <p>Assessment: External exam with assessment based on the 7-point grading scale. The material is weighted 33% in the assessment.</p> <p>Regulations for group exams: The exam can only be taken individually.</p> <p>Exam language(s): Danish or English.</p> <p>Exam aids permitted: Only the material can be brought to the exam.</p> <p>Make-up exam/resit: As above.</p>

	<p>Exam when active class participation is not approved: Form of exam: Take-home assignment on set subject. Scope: 21–25 standard pages. Students have 14 days to submit their paper. Assessment: External test assessed according to the 7-point grading scale Regulations for group exams: The exam can only be taken individually. Exam language(s): Danish or English. Exam aids permitted: All. Make-up exam/resit: Same as exam when active class participation is not approved.</p>
Special provisions	<p>The exercises are each of 4-5 pages, excluding bibliography. The exercises include a brief account (5-10 lines) of the literature searches made in terms of parameters such as selected databases, keywords and periods in which searches have been conducted. One of the exercises concludes with a brief account of how it could be developed into an exam assignment. The material may consist of a further development of one of the two selected exercises.</p>

Consciousness, Rationality, Identity and the Human Condition (compulsory and constituent)

Bevidsthed, rationalitet, identitet og det menneskelige vilkår (obligatorisk og konstituerende)

15 ECTS

Activity code: HFIK04171E

Academic targets	<p>At the examination, the student can demonstrate:</p> <p>Knowledge and understanding of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the topics of consciousness, rationality, identity and the human condition acquired through reading of texts in theoretical philosophy, practical philosophy and phenomenology. <p>Skills in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> delimiting and processing a philosophical problem using the academic standards applicable in practical philosophy, theoretical philosophy and phenomenology conducting a bibliographical search of databases that provide access to up-to-date, international research literature which is relevant in relation to the chosen problem structuring a discussion of the chosen problem in a clear language and with mastery of the reference techniques of the subject. <p>Competencies in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> conducting an academic analysis and discussion of a philosophical problem dealt with in the syllabus as well as developing proposed solutions and evaluating their strengths and weaknesses.
Syllabus	<p>The students submit an overall syllabus of 1000 standard pages and compose it so that at least 250 standard pages thereof are taken from the compulsory course syllabus. The examiner must approve the syllabus. The compulsory course syllabus totals 750 standard pages, evenly distributed between practical philosophy, theoretical philosophy and phenomenology with approx. 1/3 to each.</p>
Teaching and working methods	<p>The teaching consists of lectures and class instruction, or a combination of both, oral exercises and group discussions.</p>

<p>Exam provisions</p>	<p>Form of exam: Take-home assignment on optional subject following approval of active class participation. Active class attendance is defined as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 approved exercises, each of a scope of 4-5 standard pages. <p>Scope: 11-15 standard pages. Assessment: Internal exam with a single examiner with assessment based on the 7-point grading scale. Regulations for group exams: The exam can only be taken individually. Exam language(s): Danish or English. Exam aids permitted: All. Make-up exam/resit: As above.</p> <hr/> <p>Exam when active class participation is not approved: Form of exam: Take-home assignment on set subject. Scope: 21-25 standard pages. Students have 14 days to submit their paper. Assessment: Internal exam with a single examiner with assessment based on the 7-point grading scale. Regulations for group exams: The exam can only be taken individually. Exam language(s): Danish or English. Exam aids permitted: All. Make-up exam/resit: Same as exam when active class participation is not approved.</p>
<p>Special provisions</p>	<p>The exercises are of 4-5 pages, excluding bibliography. The exercises include a brief account (5-10 lines) of the literature searches made in terms of parameters such as selected databases, keywords and periods in which searches have been conducted. One of the exercises concludes with a brief account of how it could be developed into an exam assignment.</p>

Knowledge, Science and Technology (compulsory and constituent for the general profile)

Viden, videnskab og teknologi (obligatorisk og konstituerende for den almene profil)

15 ECTS

Activity code: HFIK04181E

Academic targets	<p>At the examination, the student can demonstrate:</p> <p>Knowledge and understanding of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the topics of knowledge, science and technology acquired through the reading of texts in history of philosophy (up to 1900), theoretical philosophy and phenomenology. <p>Skills in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> delineating and processing a philosophical problem using the academic standards applicable in history of philosophy (up to 1900), theoretical philosophy and phenomenology conducting a bibliographical search of databases that provide access to up-to-date, international research literature which is relevant in relation to the chosen problem structuring a discussion of the chosen problem in a clear language and with mastery of the reference techniques of the subject. <p>Competencies in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> conducting an academic analysis and discussion of a philosophical problem dealt with in the syllabus as well as developing proposed solutions and evaluating their strengths and weaknesses.
Syllabus	<p>The students submit an overall syllabus of 1000 standard pages and compose it so that at least 250 standard pages thereof are taken from the compulsory course syllabus. The examiner must approve the syllabus. The compulsory course syllabus totals 750 standard pages, evenly distributed between history of philosophy (up to 1900), theoretical philosophy and phenomenology with approx. 1/3 to each.</p>
Teaching and working methods	<p>The teaching consists of lectures and class instruction, or a combination of both, oral exercises and group discussions.</p>
Exam provisions	<p>Form of exam: Portfolio. Scope: 11-15 standard pages. Assessment: Internal exam with a single examiner with assessment based on the 7-point grading scale. Regulations for group exams: The exam can only be taken individually. Exam language(s): Danish or English. Exam aids permitted: All. Make-up exam/resit: As above.</p>
Special provisions	<p>The portfolio consists of a number of compulsory elements in either an ordinary, teaching or communication course, all of which contain a free philosophical assignment. The specific description of the three courses and their constituent elements is provided in the course description.</p>

Applied Philosophy (compulsory and constituent)

Anvendt filosofi (obligatorisk og konstituerende)

15 ECTS

Activity code: HFIK04191E

Academic targets	<p>At the examination, the student can demonstrate:</p> <p>Knowledge and understanding of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> paradigmatic forms of applied philosophy and their methodologies philosophical theories and their significance to a delimited empirical field. Insight into the formation of philosophical theory has been achieved by reading texts within practical philosophy, history of philosophy (-1900) and phenomenology. <p>Skills in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> delineating an empirical area in applied philosophy applying the formation of philosophical theory to a delimited empirical field, including the application of the formation of philosophical theory to the development of proposed solutions, recommendations, reports, etc. conducting a bibliographical search of databases that provide access to up-to-date, international research literature which is relevant in relation to the chosen area. <p>Competencies in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> conducting an academic analysis and discussion of a philosophical problem dealt with in the syllabus as well as developing proposed solutions and evaluating their strengths and weaknesses.
Syllabus	<p>The students submit an overall syllabus of 1000 standard pages and compose it so that at least 250 standard pages thereof are taken from the compulsory course syllabus. The examiner must approve the syllabus. The compulsory course syllabus totals 750 standard pages, evenly distributed between practical philosophy, history of philosophy (-1900) and phenomenology with approx. 1/3 to each.</p>
Teaching and working methods	<p>The teaching consists of lectures and class instruction, or a combination of both, oral exercises and group discussions.</p>
Exam provisions	<p>Form of exam: Portfolio. Scope: 11-15 standard pages. Assessment: Internal exam with a single examiner with assessment based on the 7-point grading scale. Regulations for group exams: The exam can only be taken individually. Exam language(s): Danish or English. Exam aids permitted: All. Make-up exam/resit: As above.</p>
Special provisions	<p>The portfolio consists of a number of compulsory elements in either an ordinary, teaching or communication course, all of which contain a free philosophical assignment. The specific description of the three courses and their constituent elements is provided in the course description.</p>

Master's Thesis (compulsory and constituent)

Speciale (obligatorisk og konstituerende)

30 ECTS

Activity code: HFIK04201E

<p>Academic targets</p>	<p>At the examination, the student can demonstrate:</p> <p>Knowledge and understanding of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a defined philosophical topic • key theories and methodology related to the subject <p>Skills in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • delineating one or more problems in such a way that they are relevant to the research and to topical academic discussions within a philosophical topic, so that they can be processed adequately within the Master's thesis framework, displaying the academic competencies expected of a philosophy student writing a Master's thesis • independently analysing a delimited philosophical issue and reflect critically on the theoretical and methodological choices. <p>Competencies in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • independently initiating, planning and managing the analysis of a comprehensive and complex academic issue, resulting in an extended written presentation. <p>For ordinary Master's theses in particular, students will also have acquired skills in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • searching for literature in a relevant and comprehensive manner, using the methods accepted for the course, e.g. databases, reference works, handbooks etc., and relating critically and independently to relevant literature within the subject area of the Master's thesis • complying with the standards for the subject in respect of notes, quoting practice, reference practice, punctuation, orthographic conventions, table of contents, bibliography, etc. • giving a presentation that is well structured, well planned, focused and pedagogical in relation to the relevant target group, which consists of philosophy students at Master's thesis level. <p>For article theses in particular, graduates will also have acquired skills in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • delineating individual philosophical problems as per the standard practice for academic philosophical articles • making a systematic and precise in-depth study of selected philosophical theories and problems. <p>For company theses in particular, graduates will also have acquired skills in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • being able to enter into collaboration with a company regarding a problem of relevance to its activities, the analysis of which forms the basis for a communications product useful to the company • translating philosophical theories and analyses into practice in order to clarify problems and, where appropriate, solve them • analysing and identifying challenges and, where appropriate, producing solution models in an organisational context.
<p>Syllabus</p>	<p>No specific syllabus requirements.</p>
<p>Teaching and working methods</p>	<p>Individual or group supervision.</p>

Exam provisions	<p>Form of exam: Take-home assignment, optional subject.</p> <p>Scope: 50-60 standard pages and a ½-1 standard page summary.</p> <p>Assessment: External exam with assessment based on the 7-point grading scale. The summary is included in the assessment.</p> <p>Regulations for group exams: The exam can be taken individually or as a group (max. 3 students) with individual assessment. If several students work together on an assignment, their individual contributions must constitute distinct units that can be identified and assessed separately. The joint part must not exceed 50% of the total.</p> <p>Take-home assignments for group exams are: 75-90 standard pages (2 students) or 100-120 standard pages (3 students).</p> <p>Exam language(s): Danish or English. Summary: If the thesis is written in Danish, the summary must be written in English. If the Master's thesis is written in a language other than Danish, the summary must be in Danish.</p> <p>Exam aids permitted: All.</p>
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Part 6. Credit and transitional provisions

Section 16. Credit

Credit is transferred for course elements that have previously been passed on the Master's programme in Philosophy in accordance with the table below.

(2) Students wishing to apply for credit transfer for course elements that they have previously passed on the Master's programme in Philosophy and which are not listed in the table below must contact the study board for an individual decision.

(3) Credit for other course elements is granted in accordance with the rules and regulations in section 19 of the shared curriculum for study programmes at the Faculty of Humanities.

2019 curriculum	ECTS	2022 curriculum	ECTS
Science and Society (HFIK04041E)	15	Knowledge, Science and Technology (HFIK04181E)	15

Section 17. Transitional provisions

Once this curriculum enters into force, it will only be possible to take exams under the old curriculum in line with the study board's closure plan. The closure plan is available on KUnet under Study information under Plan your studies → Rules and exemptions → Curriculum and rules.

Part 7. Exemptions, date of commencement and approval

Section 18. Exemptions

Following an application, the study board may grant exemptions from the rules and regulations in the curriculum that have been laid down by the University if there are documented extraordinary circumstances.

Section 19. Entry into force

This curriculum enters into force on 1 September 2022, and applies to students who enrol in the Master's programme in Philosophy on or after 1 September 2022.

Section 20. Approval

This curriculum was approved by the Study Board for Communication on 15 September 2021.

This curriculum was approved by the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities on 9 November 2021.

The curriculum is adjusted by the Faculty of Humanities on 18 January 2024.