



MA IN CONTEMPORARY
PHILOSOPHY / PHILOSOPHY
OF SCIENCE



NATIONAL AND KAPODISTRIAN
UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS

STUDENT STUDY GUIDE

2023-24

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OVERVIEW

Welcome to the MA Program in Contemporary Philosophy/Philosophy of Science!

The program offers students a solid background in the study of Contemporary Philosophy, delivers an advanced introduction to Philosophy of Science, and teaches the intellectual skills required for engaging with issues which occupy current research into the perennial problems of philosophy.

The MA aims to familiarize the students with the major schools of thought in contemporary philosophy and to offer high-level training in the different fields of philosophical research. By the end of their studies, graduates are expected to be able to conduct independent and collaborative research, meeting all requirements for pursuing doctoral studies.

It is the only program in Greece to focus on Contemporary Philosophy, in both its ‘analytic’ and ‘continental’ instantiations, and one of the few programs worldwide to provide a specialization in the Philosophy of Physical and Social Sciences.

Courses are taught by Professors from the University of Athens, as well as by Visiting Professors from international institutions, such as the Australian National University, the Universities of Bielefeld, Columbia, Jerusalem, Princeton, Sheffield, and others.

In the following pages, you will find essential information about the structure and content of the courses, as well as about practical issues, so that you successfully complete the MA program.

Enjoy your new intellectual journey!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Antonios Hatzimoysis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Prof. Anthony Hatzimoysis
Director of the MA Program

The Basics

The Ma in Contemporary Philosophy/Philosophy of Science is run by the Philosophy Division of the [Department of History and Philosophy of Science](#), that is the top academic unit in Greece for philosophical research, as recorded in international research engines (Scopus, Google Scholar, Web of Science, etc.)

Courses will be taught in Athens by professors from Greek universities, as well as by visiting scholars from international institutions.

Upon completion of the Program, students will be able to conduct both independent and collaborative research and will be well prepared to undertake doctoral studies. The Program is offered **in-person only** and admits up to 30 students per academic year.

The **Program's duration** is a full academic year (12 months – 75 ECTS): two Semesters of courses are followed by a Summer Term, during which students will prepare and submit a Master's thesis.

The **fees** of the Program amount to 2000 €.

The language of instruction is **English**.

The **accreditation** of *The* by the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education (a member of the European Quality Assurance Register) is planned for 2024.

Timeline: Candidates may submit their applications every year **between May 21 – June 30**. Classes start on the first Monday of October, in accordance with the academic calendar published on the webpage of the MA.

Administration & Contact

The Steering Committee:

Prof. Anthony Hatzimoysis, Director

Prof. Aristides Hatzis

Prof. Chrysostomos Mantzavinos

Prof. Stathis Psillos

Associate Prof. Yannis Stefanou

The Secretariat:

The MA in Contemporary Philosophy/Philosophy of Science, Department of History and Philosophy of Science, GR – 15771, UoAthens Campus

Office Hours: Monday - Wednesday - Friday, 11.00 – 14.00 <https://goo.gl/maps/WFQr4KT5kD1zPUNi8>

Contact:

Secretariat of the Program (**administrative** issues): contemporaryphilosophy@phs.uoa.gr

Advice and help on practical issues for **foreign** students: issu@uoa.gr & echondraki@uoa.gr

Inquiries regarding the **courses**: please consult the course outlines and contact directly the relevant instructor

Director of the Program (Prof. Anthony Hatzimoysis): ahatzimoysis@phs.uoa.gr

(please contact directly Prof. Hatzimoysis for **academic inquiries**, or if an issue you encounter has not been resolved)

Structure of the Program

The Program lasts for a full academic year, running from October 1 to September 30, and consists of two Semesters and a Summer Term. Throughout each Semester, students are expected to take three courses (30 ECTS), and during the Summer Term they will be preparing and submitting their MA thesis (15 ECTS).

On a full-time basis, the degree structure will be the following:

- **First Term** (October to January): **3 core modules (30 ECTS)**
- **Second Term** (February to May): **2 modules from one Strand and either 1 module of another Strand or 1 elective module (30 ECTS)**
- **Third Term** (June to September): writing of the MA Dissertation (**15 ECTS**)

Total Credits: **75 ECTS**

The full list of courses available in 2023-2024:

First (Winter) Semester			
Module code	Core modules	Taught hours	ECTS
Y001	Metaphysics and Epistemology	3	10
Y002	Philosophy of Science	3	10
Y003	Modern Philosophy	3	10
Total Credits			30
Second (Spring) Semester			
'Contemporary Philosophy' Specialization			
Module code	Elective core modules	Taught hours	ECTS
Strand A: Analytic Philosophy			
1K001	Fundamentals of Analytic Philosophy	3	10
1K002	Philosophy of Mind & Language	3	10
Strand E: Continental Philosophy			
1K005	Phenomenology	3	10
1K006	Hermeneutics	3	10
'Philosophy of Science' Specialization			
Module code	Elective core modules	Taught hours	ECTS
Strand B: Philosophy of Science			
2K002	Philosophy of Technology	3	10
2K003	Philosophy of Biology and the Life Sciences	3	10
Module code	Elective Modules	Taught hours	ECTS
	Any of the elective courses from the Spring Semester of 'Science, Technology, Society—Science and Technology, Studies' – please check: https://sts.phs.uoa.gr/courses/schedule_of_courses/	3	10
MΔE1	MA dissertation		15
Total Credits			60
Required Total			75

Examples

Example 1:

A student following the specialization **MA in Philosophy of Science:**

Winter Semester: Metaphysics and Epistemology, Philosophy of Science, Modern Philosophy

Spring Semester: Philosophy of Biology and the Life Sciences (Strand B), Philosophy of Technology (Strand B), Philosophy of Mind & Language (Strand A)

or

Philosophy of Biology and the Life Sciences (Strand B), Philosophy of Technology (Strand B), Hermeneutics (Strand E)

Example 2:

A student following the specialization **MA in Contemporary Philosophy:**

Winter Semester: Metaphysics and Epistemology, Philosophy of Science, Modern Philosophy

Spring Semester: Phenomenology (Strand E), Hermeneutics (Strand E), Fundamentals of Analytic Philosophy (Strand A)

or

Phenomenology (Strand E), Hermeneutics (Strand E), Philosophy of Technology (Strand B)

Academic Staff

Staff from the Department of the History and Philosophy of Science:

Name	Scientific area	Email
<u>Arabatzis Theodore</u>	History and Philosophy of Science	<u>tarabatz@phs.uoa.gr</u>
<u>Hatzimoysis Anthony</u>	Contemporary Philosophy	<u>ahatzimoysis@phs.uoa.gr</u>
<u>Hatzis Aristides</u>	Philosophy of Law and Theory of Institutions	<u>ahatzis@phs.uoa.gr</u>
<u>Ioannidis Stavros</u>	Philosophy of Natural Sciences	<u>sioannidis@phs.uoa.gr</u>
<u>Karakostas Vassilios</u>	Philosophy of Physics	<u>karakost@phs.uoa.gr</u>
<u>Kindi Vasso</u>	Philosophy of Science	<u>vkindi@phs.uoa.gr</u>
<u>Mantzavinos Chrysostomos</u>	Philosophy and History of the Social Sciences	<u>cmantzavinos@phs.uoa.gr</u>
<u>Manolakaki Eleni</u>	Philosophy of Language	<u>manolaka@phs.uoa.gr</u>
<u>Psillos Stathis</u>	Philosophy of Science - Metaphysics	<u>psillos@phs.uoa.gr</u>
<u>Simos Manolis</u>	Philosophy of Technology	<u>esimos@phs.uoa.gr</u>
<u>Stephanou Yannis</u>	Philosophical Logic	<u>ystephan@phs.uoa.gr</u>
<u>Virvidakis Stelios</u>	Ethics and Epistemology	<u>svirvid@phs.uoa.gr</u>

All staff members are in principle available to supervise a Master's thesis during the Summer Term, depending on their expertise on the topics proposed.

Affiliated Teaching Staff

Name	Affiliation
<u>Martin Carrier</u>	Bielefeld University
<u>Robert DiSalle</u>	Western University
<u>Keith Frankish</u>	University of Sheffield
<u>Daniel Garber</u>	Princeton University
<u>Patricia Kitcher</u>	Columbia University
<u>Philip Kitcher</u>	Columbia University
<u>Philip Pettit</u>	Australian National University Princeton University
<u>Orly Shenker</u>	University of Jerusalem
<u>Michael Smith</u>	Princeton University

Accreditation

The accreditation of *The Ma in Contemporary Philosophy/Philosophy of Science* by the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education (a member of the European Quality Assurance Register) is expected to be accomplished by the end of 2024.

Prospective Students I: Requirements

The Ma in Contemporary Philosophy/Philosophy of Science accepts applicants who hold a BA in Philosophy, or any other field of Humanities or Physical or Social Sciences. Prospective students are expected to demonstrate familiarity with the field of Philosophy, either through their previous studies or other means.

Applicants are also required to provide a Certificate of English language proficiency at level C1 (or equivalent). This language certificate is not necessary for native English speakers or those who have already completed studies in an English-language school or university program. In the absence of a certificate, excellent knowledge of English can also be confirmed during the interview.

To be eligible for enrollment in an MA program in Greece, the applicant's BA degree must have been awarded by a university/college listed on the following website: <https://www.doatap.gr/national-registry-of-foreign-recognized-higher-education-institutes/>

If the applicant's university, despite being a recognized institute, is not currently on the list, *Ma in Contemporary Philosophy/Philosophy of Science* will request to be added. However, as this procedure might take some weeks, it is recommended to submit the application as soon as possible to avoid any delays in the enrollment process.

Ma in Contemporary Philosophy/Philosophy of Science is committed to creating and maintaining an educational, working, and living environment free from discrimination and harassment. *Ma in Contemporary Philosophy/Philosophy of Science* is open to all students, regardless of their national origin, sexual orientation and social status, and the Director responds to all allegations of discrimination and harassment and takes steps to ensure that each is handled according to applicable policies and legal requirements.

Prospective Students II: Application

The MA in Contemporary Philosophy/Philosophy of Science admits up to 30 students per academic year. Applications may be submitted at any time between May 21 and June 30. The application period can be extended by decision of the Director.

Required application documents (to be submitted by email as a single PDF-file):

1. Application form
2. Curriculum Vitae
3. Undergraduate degree (or confirmation of completion of studies)
4. Transcript of records
5. Further university degrees and the relevant transcripts of records
6. For non-native speakers: Certificate of English language proficiency at level C1 (or equivalent)
7. ID or passport
8. One reference letter
9. Writing sample: A sample of academic work prepared during previous studies (3000-6000 words), or an already published paper
10. Letter of interest (200-400 words) stating the reasons for applying to *The MA in Contemporary Philosophy/Philosophy of Science*. The letter should demonstrate familiarity with the field of Philosophy, through the applicant's previous studies or otherwise

- Documents 1, 2 and 10 must be submitted in English. All other documents may also be submitted in Modern Greek, German, French, or Spanish, or translated into English.

Prospective Students III: Selection

Selection is based on the following criteria:

- a. Undergraduate degree grade (35%): "excellent" grades receive 35 points, "very good" grades receive 25 points, and "good" grades receive 15 points.
- b. Evaluation of the candidates' research prospects (35%), based on the writing sample and the letter of interest: 0-35 points.
- c. Academic, research, and professional achievements related to Ancient Philosophy, demonstrated on the CV (30%): 0-30 points.

For admission to *The MA in Contemporary Philosophy/Philosophy of Science*, it is necessary to obtain at least 55% of the total number of credits (i.e., at least 55 credits). If, based on the evaluation of criteria a-c, a candidate cannot reach this minimum number of points, he/she will not be invited to an interview.

Towards enrollment

After receiving the Letter of Acceptance, prospective students are advised to **promptly** undertake the following steps:

1. Visa: Students who are not citizens of the European Union, Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, or Lichtenstein must apply **immediately after acceptance** for a Visa D 1.1 at the Greek consulate in their country of residence.

Obtaining a visa at a Greek consulate can be a lengthy and potentially challenging process; some of you might prefer to utilize the services of <https://www.gvcworld.eu/page/about-global-visa-center-world-gvcw>, which supports countries such as UK, China, or Russia.

2. Degree validation: Degrees issued by foreign universities should be officially Apostilled/ Certified. The authenticity of degrees from foreign institutions can be verified through one of the following methods:

- a. APOSTILLE stamp for countries that have ratified the Hague Convention;
- b. certification from the local Greek Consular Authorities for countries not part of the Hague Convention;
- c. verification via a link that allows confirmation of the authenticity of the title by the issuing authority;
- d. electronic confirmation of authenticity using a QR CODE issued by the degree-awarding institution.

3. Health Insurance: If you are not an EU citizen, you will need health insurance (if you need a visa, you must present the health insurance at the Consulate); prices start from only €60 per year. EU citizens should obtain and present a European Health Insurance Card.

4. Registration Form: You will find it on the website of the Program.

5. Fees: Successful applicants should pay the first installment of the tuition fee (€1000) between August 1-10 and promptly provide proof of payment to the Secretariat. In case of non-payment of the first installment or non-enrollment of one or more successful applicants, their spot will be offered to those next in line.

The second installment of the tuition fee (€1000) must be settled between January 1-10. In the event of not completing the program on time, additional tuition fees of five hundred euros (€800) are applicable for each additional semester of study.

To initiate the enrollment process, please submit copies of items 1-4 to the Secretariat between September 1-10 (item 5 should have been submitted by August 10). The enrollment procedure will be concluded in September, with guidance from the Secretariat.

Getting Ready

Successful candidates are advised to thoroughly review the [NKUA Concise Guide for international students](#) and follow the procedures described there. Several key points merit particular attention:

1. Housing: Determine your preferred neighborhood(s) in the city of Athens for residence and establish contact with a reputable agent.
2. If you opt not to secure accommodation remotely, arrange for temporary lodging for your initial days in Athens.
3. Plan to arrive in Athens at least one week before classes start.
4. Attend the teleconference meeting scheduled around September 20th. During this meeting, you will receive guidance on how to apply for your new email address (@uoa) and access to the university's electronic services. To complete this process, you will need your 13-digit Registration Number. After the meeting, kindly sign the application and send it to the Secretariat. Your access will be granted within one to two days.

If you miss the meeting, you will have to apply by yourself here:

<https://webadm.uoa.gr/katsika/users/src/index.php>. (please note that the page is currently available only in Greek)

Upon arrival in Athens

Students should once more carefully study the [NKUA Concise Guide for international students](#) and follow the procedures described there. The most important things to do after arriving in Athens are as follows:

1. Come to the informal meeting with the Director.
2. Apply here for your student ID: <https://academicid.minedu.gov.gr/>.
3. Register at <https://eclass.uoa.gr/index.php?localize=en> and enroll in the classes.
4. Visit the [Secretariat of the Program](#) and complete your enrollment; bring with you a certified copy of your undergraduate degree and your passport.
5. Find permanent accommodation.
6. Buy a SIM-card.
7. Obtain a Tax Identification Number (ΑΦΜ), if necessary.
8. Obtain a residence permit, if necessary.
Postgraduate students from outside the EU who are holders of a D1.1 Visa with an annual duration need to apply for a residence permit **only** if they want to work alongside their studies in Greece.
9. Open a bank account if you wish to do so.

E-mail

All essential information is delivered to your UoA e-mail address. It is your responsibility to ensure that you regularly check your e-mail accounts.

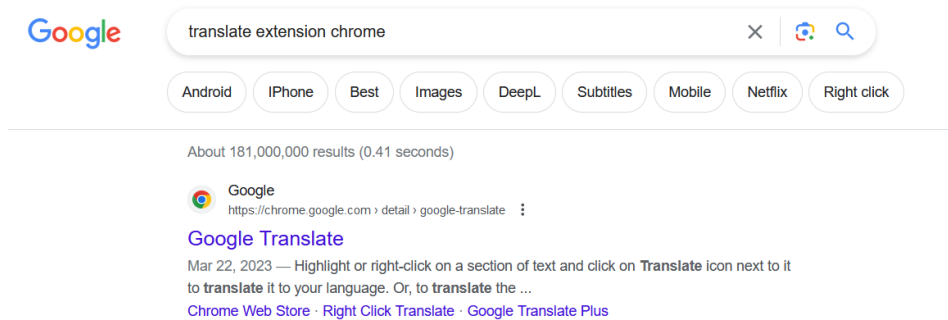
To set up an account you will need to visit noc.uoa.gr and follow the guidelines. This is the first thing to do to ensure access to the rest of student web services.

IT Services

Service desk support is available via telephone +30 210-727-5600 and email helpdesk@noc.uoa.gr. More information is available at noc.uoa.gr.

NOTE: if a webpage is in Greek, you may easily reload it in English by installing a relevant extension: In your browser, use your add-on browser tab or try to find a translator extension by typing “translate extension [name of your browser, e.g.] chrome”. You will be prompted to “add” the extension on the top command line of your browser. You may then click on that extension every time you wish to have a Greek page translated automatically into English.

Example:



There are available extensions for all popular browsers such as Mozilla Firefox and Google Chrome.

Academic Calendar

The Calendar for the academic year 2023-24:

	Winter Semester	Spring Semester
Expected arrival of students	25 September	
Inaugural Conference	28-29 September 2023	
Classes start	2 October	12 February 2024
Public Holidays or no classes	28 October (National Holiday)	18 March (Clean Monday) 25 March (National Holiday) 1 May
Christmas/Easter break	23 December– 7 January	29 April– 12 May
Classes end	12 January	24 May
Submission of Essays or Exams Week	29 January -2 February	3-7 June
Summer Term (Thesis Preparation)		10 June– 27 September
Thesis Submission		30 September

The Calendar for the academic year 2024-25:

	Winter Semester	Spring Semester
Expected arrival of students	23 September	
Classes start	7 October	17 February
Public Holidays or no classes	28 October (National Holiday)	21 February 3 March (Clean Monday) 25 March (National Holiday) 1 May
Christmas/Easter break	23 December – 7 January	14-27 April
Classes end	17 January	30 May
Submission of Essays or Exams Week	3-7 February	9-13 June
Summer Term (Thesis Preparation)		16 June – 29 September
Thesis Submission		30 September

Personal Tutor

During the first week of the Winter Semester, and in consultation with the members of the academic staff, the Director appoints a Personal Tutor for each student. The Personal Tutor meets individually with each student at least once per Semester (in person or remotely), providing advice and support on matters related to study, courses, academic options, and prospects. The Personal Tutor is responsible for monitoring the student's progress throughout their studies. During the Summer Term, the duties of the Personal Tutor are assumed and performed by the thesis supervisor.

The Courses

Courses are taught at the Department of History and Philosophy of Science, primarily in person. Each course meets once a week, for a 3-hour session, and for a total of 13 weeks.

For the courses currently offered and detailed syllabus for each of them, please visit the relevant webpage: https://contemporaryphilosophy.phs.uoa.gr/study/courses_2023_2024/

Courses offered in the academic year 2023-24:

Winter Semester:

[Metaphysics and Epistemology](#)

Yannis Stephanou

[Philosophy of Science](#)

Chrysostomos Mantzavinos

[Modern Philosophy](#)

Anthony Hatzimoysis

Spring Semester:

[Fundamentals of Analytic Philosophy](#)

Eleni Manolakaki

[Philosophy of Mind and Language](#)

Eleni Manolakaki

[Philosophy of Technology](#)

Manolis Simos

[Philosophy of Biology and the Life Sciences](#)

Stavros Ioannidis

[Phenomenology](#)

Anthony Hatzimoysis

[Hermeneutics](#)

Chrysostomos Mantzavinos

The evaluation takes place as described in the syllabus of each course. Grading is done on a scale of 1-10. Grades between 1-4 amount to a failure, and the student has to retake the course. At the end of each semester, after the completion of the courses, postgraduate students carry out evaluations of each course and each instructor.

Course Schedule

Winter Semester

MONDAY	18:00-21:00	Philosophy of Science
WEDNESDAY	18:00-21:00	Modern Philosophy
THURSDAY	18:00-21:00	Metaphysics and Epistemology

Spring Semester

MONDAY	15:00-18:00	Fundamentals of Analytic Philosophy
	18:00-21:00	Hermeneutics
TUESDAY	15:00-18:00	Philosophy of Technology
WEDNESDAY	18:00-21:00	Philosophy of Mind and Language
THURSDAY	15:00-18:00	Philosophy of Biology
	18:00-21:00	Phenomenology

Further Resources

Libraries:

All enrolled students have access to all university libraries, including the [Library of the Department of History and Philosophy of Science](#) and the [School of Philosophy Library](#).

Access to the Catalogue of all NKUA libraries is available at <http://www-en.lib.uoa.gr>.

[Blegen Library](#) in the Center of Athens is another valuable place for studying and working.

Courses in Ancient and Modern Greek:

[Foreign Language Teaching Centre \('Didaskaleio'\)](#)

[Nederlands Instituut Athene and Taalhuis Amsterdam](#)

<https://elearninguoa.org/course/arts-culture-greek-language/classical-greek-level>

E-Class:

E-class

E-class is the web-based platform we use to deliver announcements and learning material. You will be able to access the platform after setting up an account for the web services. On E-class you can find a list of all the courses you can register to, access course materials, lecture handouts, and receive class announcements. If you have any queries about the content of each course, please check with the course tutor first. To access the modules and be granted access, visit eclass.uoa.gr/modules/auth/courses.php?fc=1270 and either click on the LHS field or for some modules, press the italics under the module name and fill in the form.

Parallel scientific engagement:

Athens is a vibrant city – also in terms of doing philosophy. Conferences, series of talks, informal reading groups etc. are organized by the various university departments, societies, circles or groups.

Registered students are expected to attend the Inaugural Conference of the MA Program, which takes place in the main venue of the University of Athens on 28th and 29th September 2023:

["Contemporary Philosophy meets Philosophy of Science: Trends and Perspectives"](#)

The Master's Thesis

In consultation with the Director, graduate students apply for the preparation of their Thesis during the month of April. The application includes the following: proposed title of the Thesis, supervisor's name, and a summary of the proposed Thesis.

Next, the Steering Committee appoints the supervisor and the other two members of the examination committee for each student's thesis. The maximum number of theses that each professor can supervise is set at three (3) per year.

The Thesis must be original, and possess a research-oriented character. The title of the Thesis can be changed upon the student's request and with the consent of the supervisor.

Writing Guidelines: The Thesis has a length of 20,000 words. This word count does not include the bibliography and possible appendices. The main text must be written in a font of the student's choice, size 11 or 12", with 1.5 spacing and full alignment. Footnotes should be in size 10" and single-spaced.

In order for the Thesis to be approved, the student must defend it before the examination committee. The work is graded by the committee members immediately after its defense.

Students are not obliged to remain in Athens during the Summer Term. You can write your Thesis wherever you prefer and electronically submit it by Sept. 30.

Your dissertation should in the first instance be submitted to the Secretary of the MA. After the successful examination of your dissertation, the final copy should be uploaded to the University repository of postgraduate dissertations. Please check the guidelines posted on the Library website:

<http://sci.lib.uoa.gr/ypiresies/psifiaki-bibliothiki-gkrizas-bibliografias/pergamos-digital-repository.html>

Assessment

Professors delivering each module will decide upon the method of assessment which can be based on, solely or a combination of, oral or written examinations.

The assessment requirements for each course unit (e.g. whether there will be a presentation or not, whether you will have to come up with your essay question, etc.) are specified in the individual course guides. Please make sure that you carefully read the course guide available on the MA website (alternatively, click on the course titles above to be prompted to the relevant pdf).

Essay and Coursework Submission

Format

- The main text must be written in a font of the student's choice, size 11 or 12", with 1.5 spacing and full alignment. Footnotes should be in size 10" and single-spaced.
- Pages must be numbered and your ID number and the course code must appear on each page.
- The total number of words (excluding the bibliography/final list of references, but including any footnotes) must be printed at the end of the essay.

Referencing and Bibliography

Students can use any form of referencing, so long as they consistently provide all the relevant citations and reference details. The most common styles are *APA*, *MLA* and *Chicago* so choose one and use it consistently. Essays and presentations should have a list of references and sources consulted and used in the assignment.

Marking

Marking is on the scale of 1-10 (including halves, 7.0, 7.5, etc.) with a minimum passing mark of five out of ten (5/10). Marks are usually released four (4) weeks at the latest after essay submissions or completion of any other form of examination. Note that you may see your grades for each course by visiting <https://my-uni.uoa.gr>

Guidelines for Assignments

Whether it is a presentation or an essay, professors will guide students to prepare their assignments. Guidelines will depend on the specific needs of the assignment and the course, but in general, students can discuss a plan of their assignment with the course tutor at an appropriate stage and receive feedback. This is an integral part of your learning process and requires your active participation to make the most out of it.

How to make use of your feedback

The purpose of written feedback is to (i) understand how the tutor marked your assignment and (ii) to help you improve your assignments and marks in the future.

Feedback will not only be negative, but also positive, so make the most out of it by preparing yourself on what you should and should not do in the future. It is important to improve yourself by addressing any drawbacks in your work but also by reflecting on what you did well.

Criticism will usually be in the form of recommendations or suggestions, and it is aimed to be constructive rather than dismissive.

Although the comments may seem to relate only to the piece of work, the general underlying points, such as having structured content, presenting clearly, and having a worked argument in the essay, will be important for other assignments in the future.

Some further tips

The mark of the assessment is what a student would look at first but even if it is not what you had expected, read the feedback to learn from it and help you improve more generally.

Read the feedback once you receive it and come back later when reflecting on how to prepare your next assignment. This enables you to consider the comments and suggestions more dispassionately and make use of them constructively.

In case you do not understand the feedback and need more information or even more help on how to improve your work, arrange a meeting with your module tutor in their office hours.

You may also find it helpful to share your experiences and discuss parts of the feedback and the general underlying points with your fellow students.

Essay preparation

The main aim of an essay is to improve your skills in structuring a piece of work and constructing an argument. As seminars progress, give yourself some time to think about a topic that you find interesting but also manageable since you may have to research different essays or prepare for an exam in the same semester. To prepare for essay writing, meet your tutor to discuss a plan you have drafted that may include a topic and a basic structure of the essay.

Writing the introduction may be helpful as you progress with your essay when you have a clearer view of the topic and your arguments. You may find it helpful to revise your introduction a couple of times as you are revising your essay. This will be beneficial because it crystallizes the main points of the rest of the essay. Remember that the introduction is the first impression and prepares what follows in the rest of the essay, but do not use more time than revising the main sections.

The main body of the essay is the part you want to put more effort into. Writing as clearly as you can will not only help make the essay more accessible to the reader but will also help you to structure your sections more easily. Don't forget that the main body should consist of self-contained paragraphs that establish the connections necessary to reach your conclusion.

Concluding the essay is one of the last things you want to do by briefly reiterating the argument and highlighting the information used to reach the conclusion.

As with other assignments, sharing your essay with fellow students is a good strategy to highlight unclear points and improve various aspects of it, such as, how you structure your argument.

Reading your essay aloud or changing the font of your document are other ways to have different angles on your written essay and correct any mistakes. Make sure to proofread your work, but it is also advised not to endlessly refine your diction. Omitting redundant elements, writing simply but not simplistically and connecting your points smoothly are ways to achieve an apposite style.

Finally, as philosopher Peter Lipton wrote in his writing guide, often, the problem with philosophical writing is not “lack of originality; it is rather that the originality is not exploited”. For more of his enriching advice, you may check: www.hps.cam.ac.uk/students/research-guide/writing-philosophy

Plagiarism: Zero tolerance

When writing scientific papers in the context of individual courses, as well as the Thesis, the student is obligated to respect the copyright of the authors of the sources used and strictly adhere to the current academic rules to avoid plagiarism. Plagiarism is considered a serious academic misconduct.

Plagiarism is: a. The verbatim copying of text from any written source (published or unpublished) without placing the text in quotation marks and/or without properly citing the source from which it is taken. b. The transfer of a text with minimal phrasal changes and without making proper reference to the source from which it is taken. c. Quoting any material, even from already published studies of the author himself, without a relevant reference. In the event that plagiarism (even of a limited extent) is found, the work in which it has been committed must be graded "zero" (0).

Graduation

The Graduation takes place in November, in the presence of members of the Steering Committee, the Director of *The MA in Contemporary Philosophy/Philosophy of Science*, the Chair of the Department of History and Philosophy of Science, and, possibly, a representative of the Rector.

The text of the assurance given by the graduates is as follows:

«Τοῦ Μεταπτυχιακοῦ Τίτλου Σπουδῶν περί την Σύγχρονη Φιλοσοφία *The MA in Contemporary Philosophy/Philosophy of Science* του Τμήματος Ιστορίας και Φιλοσοφίας της Επιστήμης του Εθνικού και Καποδιστριακού Πανεπιστημίου Αθηνῶν ἀξιωθέντες, παρέχομεν κατά τήν ἡμετέραν συνείδησιν πρό τοῦ Πρυτάνεως καί τοῦ Διευθυντοῦ τοῦ Μεταπτυχιακοῦ Προγράμματος διαβεβαίωσιν τήνδε. Τῆς μέν ἐπιστήμης ὡς οἶόν τε μάλιστα ἐν τῷ βίῳ ἐπιμελήσεσθαι κάπὶ το τελειότερον αὐτὴν προαγαγεῖν πειράσεσθαι, πᾶν δὲ ποιήσιν προθύμως ὅ,τι ἂν μέλλῃ ἐς εὐσέβειαν οἴσειν καὶ κόσμον ἠθῶν καὶ σεμνότητα τρόπων, μηδ' ἐθελήσιν τάναντία ὧν αὐτοὶ γινώσκομεν διδάσκειν μηδέ καπηλεύειν τὴν ἐπιστήμην.»

Graduates who have successfully completed *The MA in Contemporary Philosophy/Philosophy of Science* but cannot participate in the Graduation in person will be able to attend and participate online.

Award of Excellence

The MA in Contemporary Philosophy/Philosophy of Science grants an Award of Excellence to the best student of each year upon successful completion of their courses and Thesis. The Award is honorary and is personally signed by the Director of the Program.

Eligibility Criteria:

1. Attainment of an average score greater than eight, considering both semester courses and the Thesis.
2. Completion of the program within the standard one-year duration.

Selection Process:

The Steering Committee evaluates students based on their average score, ranking them in descending order. The Award of Excellence is presented to the highest-ranking student.

Supporting Information

Temporary Withdrawal

In the rare occasion that you like to temporarily withdraw, then, you will have to apply for a maximum of two semesters (no tuition fees will apply for the temporary withdrawal) by citing your circumstances (health issues and important personal or family reasons). The MA committee will decide on the application and if the withdrawal is granted, then, you will have to register again at least two weeks before the end date of the withdrawal.

Permanent Withdrawal

If you are thinking of permanently withdrawing you are strongly advised to consult your personal tutor/supervisor in the first instance. Please don't hesitate to discuss any issues with them. Once a decision to withdraw permanently is made, you should apply to the Department. You will need to provide your last date of attendance and select a reason for your withdrawal.

Duration of Studies

The MA is undertaken over one year on a full-time basis.

We understand that mitigating circumstances sometimes may not be available, or sometimes it can take longer to resolve any issues that you may face, so for that or any other reason, you may wish to extend your studies. This is possible but the extension cannot exceed half of the approved time of study (6 months for full-time - 18 months in total being the limit, and 12 months for part-time), but it will require extra payable tuition fees of 40% of the semester cost (400,00 Euros).

Exchange Programs

You can participate in international student exchange programs like Erasmus+ or CIVIS by successfully completing up to 30 credits as long as you have completed the first semester.

Pursuing a PhD

Graduate students who are considering pursuing a Ph.D. in philosophy are encouraged to consult with their PA and supervisor about their goals. It is best advised that students should develop strong academic and professional relationships with at least three members of the faculty while completing their M.A. degree requirements.

Tuition Fees

€2.000, payable in two equal installments of €1.000 each.

The Fee is payable upon registration for each semester.

Full-time students will be required to pay half of the tuition fees in the first and the rest in the second semester. For part-time students, 800 Euros are required per semester in the first year and the rest of 400 Euros in the winter semester of the second academic year.

The same fees apply to all students (European and Overseas).

Extensions and Exemptions: We understand that you may find yourself in a precarious financial situation so for this reason, we can allow an extension of no more than 50% of the fees for the semester, which, however, cannot pass the end of it. In any case, full payment is a prerequisite for any participation in the exams and marks submission.

Tuition fee exemptions apply for low-income individuals, but for more information please contact the Secretary at contemporaryphilosophy@phs.uoa.gr

DISABILITY SERVICES

The University of Athens' Accessibility Units provide advice, information, and support to disabled students, including those with a specific learning difficulty or a long-term health condition (including mental health conditions).

Exam accommodations and adjustments are possible and can be granted by the MA committee following the guidelines of the Disability Committee and the Accessibility Unit.

Students in need of more information can visit the website: access.uoa.gr or phone the Accessibility Unit on +30 210 7275687 and +30 210 7275183.

Your Department liaisons are:

Associate Professor Heleni Gemtou (egemtou@phs.uoa.gr) and

Mrs. Maria Gika, Head of the Department Secretariat (mgika@phs.uoa.gr).

USEFUL INFORMATION

The Degree



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
**National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens**
— EST. 1837 —

MASTER'S DEGREE

GRADUATE PROGRAMME
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE (NKUA),
«THE MA IN CONTEMPORARY PHILOSOPHY / PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE»

..... (first name/last name) has been awarded the Degree of Master of Arts, having followed the approved programme «The MA in Contemporary Philosophy / Philosophy of Science» with the grade of «.....» [excellent/very good/good (10)] on (date).

In witness whereof this degree is issued

Athens, 00/00/0000

THE RECTOR

THE DIRECTOR OF THE PROGRAMME

THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT