



MA Philosophy of Mind and Embodied Cognition

(One Year Full Time or Two Years Part Time)



Introduction

This unique Masters course examines the intersection of philosophy, phenomenology and the cognitive sciences to explore the profound relationship between mind, body and world.

By examining the role of the body in shaping perception, emotions and attention, students gain a deeper understanding of the mind and its place in the natural world. The programme offers small group seminars with the opportunity to engage in philosophical debates to enhance critical thinking and presentation skills.

The MA in Philosophy of Mind and Embodied Cognition draws upon the research interests of a stellar faculty of philosophers, psychologists and cognitive scientists at UCD. It brings together expertise from the phenomenological and analytic traditions in philosophy alongside empirical approaches to the study of the mind and brain to offer a unique taught Masters course on this much-discussed and important topic.

Programme Highlight

Key outcomes include preparing students for academic careers, honing research skills, and fostering the ability to present and defend philosophical ideas effectively.

Students have the opportunity to choose from a wide variety of modules that blend analytic and phenomenological traditions with contemporary scientific research, including up to three modules from UCD's interdisciplinary Cognitive Science programme.

Programme Content and Structure



Core Modules

- Topics in Philosophy of Mind and Cognition
- Dissertation

Students have to take the core module, 'Topics in Philosophy of Mind and Cognition'. In addition, students must take **five** option modules, **up to three** of which may be from UCD's Cognitive Science programme. Please see website for details. While it is recommended that full-time students take three modules in each semester, it is up to the student. Students must then complete the dissertation which is worth 30 credits.

Option Modules

You must select two or more Philosophy option modules. *(This is an indicative list and may be subject to change.)*

- Authenticity & Implicit Attitudes
- Invention of the Modern Self
- Merleau-Ponty's Phenomenology of Perception
- Feminist & Gender Theory
- Topics in Continental Philosophy
- The Cultural Mind
- Philosophy of Time
- Reading and Research

Optionally, you may choose up to three modules from UCD's Cognitive Science programme. These include:

- Introduction to Cognitive Science
- Embodied & Enactive Approaches to Cognitive Science
- Connectionism & Dynamical Systems
- Fundamentals of Neuropsychology
- Introduction to Cognitive Psychology
- Embodied & Social Cognitive Neuroscience
- Topics in Cognitive Science: Post-Cognitive Approaches

Why study at UCD?



Graduate Education

12,000 graduate students; 17% graduate research students; structured PhDs



Graduate Employability

Ranked no. 1 in Ireland in QS Graduate Employability ranking



Global Careers

Dedicated careers support; 2 year stayback visa to work in Ireland



Global Community

8,500 international students and 300,000 alumni network across 165 countries



Global Profile

UCD is ranked in the top 1% of higher education institutions worldwide



Welcoming Campus

Modern parkland campus with 24 hr security. Wide range of facilities, clubs, societies and supports



Career Opportunities

The programme teaches a broad range of transferable skills that are applicable to a wide range of careers. These include problem-solving, analysing and synthesising scientific literature, clear and concise writing, conceptual analysis, and ethical reasoning.

In addition to a number of our graduates going on to further academic research opportunities, some recent roles they have progressed to include Ethical AI Consultant, journalists, poets and writers, civil servants and the corporate world.

Academic Profile



Assistant Professor Keith Wilson
MA Programme Co-ordinator

Philosophy of mind is a fascinating and rapidly developing field. It intersects with many key areas of philosophy, including metaphysics, epistemology, phenomenology, logic, philosophy of language, and philosophy of science. Increasingly, philosophers also look to the latest empirical research in psychology, neuroscience and the cognitive sciences to inform and develop their views, shedding new light upon centuries old debates. This includes the development of 'artificially intelligent' systems, which give rise to a variety of ethical and metaphysical questions.

This MA programme offers the opportunity to explore some of the fundamental questions in the philosophy of mind and cognition, including the nature of consciousness, perception, attention, action, memory, emotion, language and cognition. Students can choose from a wide variety of modules covering both analytic and contemporary European philosophical traditions, as well as from our interdisciplinary Cognitive Science programme. This makes for a varied and exciting programme that will help to develop your understanding of the complex relation between mind, body and world, and provide a springboard to further study or research.

Applicant Profile

- This programme is intended for students with a primary degree in Philosophy, or in another degree that has significant philosophical components; an upper second class honours, or international equivalent is required.
- Candidates with an upper second class honours in a postgraduate conversion course such as a Higher Diploma in Philosophy may be considered. MA students may be required to attend an interview either via Zoom or in person.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 in each element), or equivalent.

Fees and Scholarships

Tuition fee information is available on www.ucd.ie/fees. Please note that UCD offers a number of graduate scholarships for full-time, self-funding international students, holding an offer of a place on a UCD masters programme. Please see www.ucd.ie/global/scholarships for further information.

Related Masters

- MA Philosophy
- MSc Cognitive Science
- MA Contemporary European Philosophy
- MA Ethics: Theory & Practice
- MA Philosophy & Literature
- MA Philosophy & Public Affairs

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APPLY NOW

This programme receives significant interest so please apply early online at

www.ucd.ie/apply