

Education and Examination Regulations 2024-2025

Programme: BSc Philosophy, Politics and Economics

Clause 2.1 – Admission

1. Preliminary education
In order to be admissible to the undergraduate programme Philosophy, Politics and Economics for the 2024-2025 academic year, the candidate must have successfully completed one of the following preliminary educational requirements by 31 July 2024:
 - a. A vwo diploma with the subjects Mathematics A or B;
 - b. A comparable international diploma (such as an International Baccalaureate (IB) with equivalent exam subject(s) in Mathematics).
 - c. A completed first year of a Dutch university of applied sciences (HBO) degree programme or an HBO degree certificate, with a demonstrated pre-university secondary school (vwo) level knowledge of Mathematics A or B (wiskunde A or wiskunde B). The candidate either has to take an examination at Boswell-Bèta (in Dutch) or take a state examination at vwo level (through the medium of Dutch) administered by the Dutch Education Executive Agency (DUO: Dienst Uitvoering Onderwijs). The candidate must also prove that their English proficiency is at vwo level mark 8¹ or higher.
2. Maximum capacity
Each academic year, the programme Philosophy, Politics and Economics admits a maximum of 75 students. The admissions committee will rank the applications received using the criteria set out in the third paragraph, and in addition will consider its aim to offer its students an international classroom. The committee will accept applications for admission in order of their ranking.
3. Selection procedure
The programme Philosophy, Politics and Economics is a selective programme. The selection procedure is described in the Rules of Selection of the programme.

Clause 2.2 – Language requirements

Given that English is the official language of the undergraduate programme Philosophy, Politics and Economics, non-native speakers have to prove their proficiency. PPE accepts the following exams:

- vwo diploma with a grade 8 or higher for English; or
- IELTS, Academic Module. Minimum score: 7.0 overall band, with at least a 6.0 for each component (writing, reading, speaking, listening); or
- TOEFL, Internet based. Minimum score: 100, with at least 23 for writing, and at least 20 for the other sections (reading, speaking, listening). Institutional scores are not accepted. The TOEFL institution code for Utrecht University is 9062; or
- Cambridge Certificates: Advanced English or Proficiency in English, minimum score C; or
- For HBO candidates: By completing any of the tests described above with the minimum score, or by completing a state examination for English at vwo level (through the medium of Dutch) administered by the Dutch Education Executive Agency (DUO: Dienst Uitvoering Onderwijs).

In some cases students are considered proficient in English and are not required to provide an English language test score. These exceptions can be found on PPE's website on Applications and Admissions: <https://www.uu.nl/en/bachelors/philosophy-politics-and-economics/application-and-admission>.

Clause 2.3 – Entrance examination

The entrance examination described in Article 7.29 of the Higher Education and Research Act concerns the following courses at pre-university secondary (vwo) level: English and

¹ <https://www.uu.nl/en/bachelors/philosophy-politics-and-economics/application-and-admission>

Mathematics A or Mathematics B, and no more than two of the following courses at pre-university secondary (vwo) level: German, French, History and Economics.

Students who are admissible through the entrance examination also participate in the selection procedure as stated in the Rules of selection.

Clause 3.1 – Aim of the degree programme

1. The programme aims to:
 - provide specialised knowledge, skills and insight in the field of philosophy, political science and governance theories, economics, and history, and enable attainment of the intended learning outcomes referred to in paragraph 2.
 - provide an academic education, i.e. to develop competences (knowledge, skills and attitudes) concerning:
 - academic thought, actions and communication;
 - use of relevant academic instruments;
 - (academic) communication in English;
 - application of specific knowledge of a field in a broader academic, philosophy of science and socio-cultural context;
 - standards of conduct applicable during studies and within the discipline.
 - prepare the student for a further academic career.
2. The intended learning outcomes have been designed in accordance with the relevant international standards (Dublin-descriptors). They are divided into five types of competences:
 - a. *Knowledge, Understanding, and Application*. PPE graduates:
 - have a basic knowledge and understanding of the four constitutive disciplines:
 - philosophical theories and methods relevant to normative evaluations of political and economic institutions;
 - historical theories and methods about the historical origins and development of political and economic institutions;
 - economic theories and methods about the functioning of economic institutions and the empirical analysis of economic phenomena;
 - political science and governance theories and methods about the functioning of political institutions and the empirical analysis of political phenomena.
 - are able to:
 - interpret and analyse problems and challenges for political and economic institutions in terms of the theories and methods available in philosophy, history, economics and governance;
 - evaluate various real-world situations and use conceptual models representing empirical reality for the purposes of analysis, evaluation and prediction.
 - b. *Making Judgments and Taking Responsibility*. PPE graduates will have the ability:
 - to find, organize and present information with an aim to make judgments about complex problems and their possible resolutions
 - To make ethical judgments with respect to political and economic institutions, while balancing these with social and scientific considerations.
 - to reflect critically, independently and creatively on the quality of political and economic institutions, on societal and scientific proposals for improvements of these institutions, as well as to design innovative solutions and proposals.
 - to integrate knowledge with personal experience and reflection; students commit to values that matter to them and learn to take responsibility for these commitments and take initiatives to realize them in practice.
 - c. *Interdisciplinary skills*. PPE graduates will have the ability:
 - to appreciate the ways in which disciplinary knowledge is constructed and communicated, to address the limitations of current knowledge from these disciplines and to recognise that often no single best answer is available from a

- single discipline.
 - to integrate theories and methods from the disciplines of philosophy, history, economics and governance in the study of problems and challenges for political and economic institutions.
 - to be aware of disciplinary biases and assumptions, and to value different perspectives.
- d. *Research skills*. PPE graduates will have the ability:
- to process information; the ability to gather, organize and deploy evidence, data and information from a wide variety of sources; good practices in citation.
 - to conduct a research plan: the ability to make a research plan and determine the research approach aligned with the research question.
 - to conduct elementary research, analyse and interpret data (quantitative and qualitative), and make valid interpretations and conclusions with sensitivity to the context.
 - to construct and articulate sound arguments in a debate, and to critically assess the arguments presented by others and by oneself.
 - to communicate their own research in written and verbal form according to the standards of the disciplinary and interdisciplinary training offered in the program.
- e. *Professional skills*. PPE graduates will have the ability:
- to reflect critically upon their own progress, abilities and deficiencies in their academic career, both in academic terms and in terms of their wider personal development.
 - to cooperate productively with others, to be a team player, who takes initiative and is able to combine these with the ideas of others, and the ability to provide and receive feedback.
 - to communicate about economic and political problems and institutional responses to these problems with audiences with various backgrounds.
 - to reflect upon the norms of academic integrity which are required in doing academic research, as well as the norms of professional integrity which are required when working in professional life.
 - to contribute with these professional skills to society, driven by curiosity into complex social contexts and by an attitude of social responsibility.
- f. *Digital Literacy*. PPE graduates possess the skill to:
- responsibly and critically collect, manage, evaluate and analyse digital resources and data, and are aware of relevant societal influences and consequences of digitization for one's field of study.

Clause 3.2 – Attendance mode

The BSc Philosophy, Politics and Economics is a full-time programme.

Clause 3.3 – Language in which the programme is taught

The programme is taught in English: 100% of the courses for the degree programme is taught in English. Annex 7 provides the reasoning behind the programme's language policy.

Clause 3.5 – Major

1. One portion of the study programme consists of the major, which has a study load of 135 EC. Within the major, the courses listed in Appendix 1, having a total study load of 90 EC (excluding the thesis, see paragraph 2), are compulsory.
2. The major includes an undergraduate thesis having a study load of 15 EC at an advanced level (3) (see Appendix 1). This thesis serves as an aptitude test of the required knowledge, skills, and attitudes.
3. The remaining courses for the major, including the 30 EC of the Thematic package consisting of 4 related courses, are to be chosen by students from among the courses listed in Appendix 2.

4. The major includes courses that are related to the academic and social context of Philosophy, Politics and Economics (plus History). These courses are listed in Appendices 1 and 2.
5. The programme components that fall within the major must include at least 45 EC in advanced level (3) courses.

Students who commenced their studies in a previous academic year must complete the curriculum as described in the EER Appendix for the year in question.

Clause 4.7 – Evaluation of quality of the education

1. The Director of Education is responsible for monitoring the quality of the courses and teaching. To this end the Director of Education will ensure that quality assurance involves evaluating courses and an evaluation at curriculum level. In ensuring the quality of courses the Director of Education will draw on the advice and suggestions for improvement of the curriculum committees on promoting and safeguarding the quality of the course.
2. The courses and teaching in the degree programme will be evaluated using one or more of the following means:
 - a. course evaluation: at the end of the course, the participating students are asked to evaluate the course through the digital survey system;
 - b. evaluation at curriculum level: through curriculum dialogues (in Dutch *onderwijsgesprekken*)
 - c. by means of the National Student Survey (*Nationale Studenten Enquête – NSE*) the students will be asked for their opinion on all aspects of the courses, teaching and the facilities.
3. Students who have participated in courses offered by the Faculty of Humanities will be informed of the results of the course evaluations.

Appendix 1 (art. 3.5) – Compulsory courses major

Curriculum Programme: BSc Philosophy, Politics and Economics

The required components of the major consists of the following courses:

Compulsory courses year 1 (60 EC):

Course code	Course name	Level	EC	Period
PP1V18001	Comparative Democratic Institutions	1	7.5	1
PP1V18002	Major Debates in Global Economic History	1	7.5	1
PP1V18003	Ethics & Public Policy	1	7.5	2
PP1V18004	Microeconomics	1	7.5	2
PP2V18001	Macroeconomics	2	7.5	3
PP2V18002	The Politics of Policymaking	2	7.5	3
PP2V18003	Political Philosophy	2	7.5	4
PP2V18004	The History of Politics	2	7.5	4
PP2V23001	Professional and Interdisciplinary Skills (first year)	2	0	1 2 3 4

Compulsory courses year 2 & 3 (30 EC):

Course code	Course name	Level	EC	Period
PP2V19001	Doing Research (1): Qualitative Methods	2	7.5	1
PP2V19002	Doing Research (2): Quantitative Methods	2	7.5	2
PP3V19001	Reasoning & Argumentation	3	7.5	3
PP3V19002	Knowledge in Debate	3	7.5	4
PP3V23002	Professional and Interdisciplinary Skills (second year)	3	0	1 2 3 4
PP3V23003	Professional and Interdisciplinary Skills (third year)	3	0	1 2 3 4

Thesis (15 EC):

Course code	Course name	Level	EC	Period
PP3V20002	PPE BSc Thesis	3	15	3 4

Appendix 2 (art. 3.5) – Electives major

Thematic Packages – one Thematic Package compulsory (30 EC)

Thematic Package 1: Challenges to the Welfare State

Course code	Course name	Level	EC	Period
PP2V19003	The Welfare State: Past and Present	2	7.5	1
PP2V19004	Principles of the Welfare State	2	7.5	2
PP3V20003	Integrating Insights	3	7.5	3
PP3V20004	PPE in Society	3	7.5	4

Thematic Package 2: Markets and Regulators

Course code	Course name	Level	EC	Period
PP2V22001	Institutions and the Rise of Capitalism	2	7.5	1
PP2V21001	Politics & History of Market Governance	2	7.5	2
PP3V20003	Integrating Insights	3	7.5	3
PP3V20004	PPE in Society	3	7.5	4

Thematic Package 3: Pathways to a Sustainable Future

Course code	Course name	Level	EC	Period
PP2V19007	Understanding Sustainability Challenges	2	7.5	1
PP2V19008	Crafting Effective and Fair Sustainable Policies	2	7.5	2
PP3V20003	Integrating Insights	3	7.5	3
PP3V20004	PPE in Society	3	7.5	4

Thematic Package 4: Democracy and its Discontents

Course code	Course name	Level	EC	Period
PP2V19009	Foundations of Democracy	2	7.5	1
PP2V19010	Challenges to Liberal Democracy	2	7.5	2
PP3V20003	Integrating Insights	3	7.5	3
PP3V20004	PPE in Society	3	7.5	4

Appendix 6 – Transitional Provisions 2024-2025

Students who started in the academic years 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-2024 need to complete the education programme as described in the EER-attachment for their academic year. If certain components of the programme are not offered in the current academic year 2024-2025, the following transitional provisions will apply.

The new courses are equivalent to the old courses (see below), unless stated otherwise. If a student has completed the old course, the new equivalent course can't be taken as well.

Transitional provisions for students who started in 2018-2019 (cohort 2018), 2019-2020 (cohort 2019), 2020-2021 (cohort 2020), 2021-2022 (cohort 2021), 2022-2023 (Cohort 2022), 2023-2024 (Cohort 2023) [Exam Programme PP-MAJOR-18]

Compulsory courses major

Old Code	To do in 2024-2025
PP2V18002: Politics & Policy Making	PP2V18002: The Politics of Policymaking
PP2V18005: Interdisciplinary Skills (first year)	PP2V23001: Professional and Interdisciplinary Skills (first year)
PP3V19003: Interdisciplinary Skills (second year)	PP3V23002: Professional and Interdisciplinary Skills (second year)
PP3V20005: Interdisciplinary Skills (third year)	PP3V23003: Professional and Interdisciplinary Skills (third year)
PP2V18006: Professional Development (first year)	PP2V23001: Professional and Interdisciplinary Skills (first year)
PP3V19004: Professional Development (second year)	PP3V23002: Professional and Interdisciplinary Skills (second year)
PP3V20006: Professional development (third year)	PP3V23003: Professional and Interdisciplinary Skills (third year)

Electives major

Old Code	To do in 2024-2025
PP2V19007: Governance of Sustainability PP2V19007: Institutions for Sustainability	PP2V19007: Understanding Sustainability Challenges
PP2V19010: Challenges to Representative Democracy	PP2V19010: Challenges to Liberal Democracy
PP3V19005: Capstone Project (welfare state) PP3V19007: Capstone Project (markets) PP3V19010: Capstone Project (sustainability) PP3V19012: Capstone Project (democracy)	PP3V20003: Integrating Insights
PP3V19006: PPE in Society (welfare state) PP3V19008: PPE in Society (markets) PP3V19011: PPE in Society (sustainability) PP3V19013: PPE in Society (democracy)	PP3V20004: PPE in Society
PP2V19006: The Role of Corporations	PP2V21001: Politics & History of Market Governance
PP2V19005: Regulatory Responses to Market Failures	PP2V22001: Institutions and the Rise of Capitalism

Appendix 7 (art. 3.3) – Language Policy

PPE is a selective international programme that prepares students for addressing major global challenges. It is taught in an international classroom, with students and staff from across Europe and beyond. The diversity of perspectives that this international composition of the PPE community offers is crucial for achieving our learning goals in making judgments and taking responsibility (B), interdisciplinary skills (C), and professional skills (E). It trains students to confront different questions and perspectives, both disciplinarily speaking, as well as personally and interculturally speaking. The different experiences, backgrounds and perceptions of students – but also of teachers – present in the small-scale international classrooms and the international PPE community at large challenge students to become aware of the limits and situatedness of one's own perspective and take responsibility for it. This learning experience stimulates them to cultivate a sense of openness and to develop the necessary communicative skills for responding appropriately to differing perspectives. To facilitate the international classroom and the international community of students and staff beyond the classroom, the official language of the program is English. Hence, all classes are taught in English.