

Queen's University Philosophy PhD application guidance

In your PhD research proposal, please make sure you attend to the following:

Proposal

- The proposal needs to present your plan to develop and defend a philosophical argument in your PhD project.
 - The department is strongly committed to inclusion and pluralism, so the argument you propose could be, for instance, historical, comparative, phenomenological, or analytic in orientation. This is not an exhaustive list, and applicants should feel free to propose the specific project they want to work on.
 - However, your proposal must include a clear and specific argumentative goal and a clear set of objectives linked to your main goal, whatever area and tradition you focus on.
- The proposal should directly refer to current research on your chosen area of focus, thus demonstrating your awareness of the current state of research in your focus area of philosophy.
- A proposal that is broadly descriptive and lacks a clear argument, and/or which does not refer to current research in your focus area, is unlikely to be successful.

Project timeline

- Please include a specific planned timeline of work for each of years 1-3 of your PhD project.
 - This could e.g. be divided up by semester, by chapter, or by three-month time periods.
- Please make clear how your proposed project will be completed within the standard timeline for PhD study (in so doing, specify whether you plan to study for 3 years full-time, or 6 years part-time).

Supervisory team

- It is advisable for you to review the expertise of the [current Philosophy staff](#), and in your application, note at least a primary supervisor, and ideally also a secondary supervisor, who have expertise that is directly relevant to your planned PhD project.
- It's okay to contact a potential primary supervisor for a brief email discussion regarding whether your planned project falls under their area of expertise.
- If you don't know who you'd like to work with or your preferred supervisor isn't able to accept new students during the period you want to study, then we can help you find a supervisory team after you apply.