

PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS AND ECONOMICS

UNDERGRADUATE STUDY

WARWICK
THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

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Our lives are profoundly affected by politics. But how and why are policy decisions made? How do economic considerations impact on these decisions? What are the ethical implications of the decisions politicians make, and which decisions should they make?

Studying Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE) enables you to develop your own answers to these questions and to consider the world from the viewpoint of philosophers, economists and political scientists.

PHILOSOPHY questions the underlying values to any economic and political considerations: What is the purpose of the state? Should the state provide only physical security and the rule of law, or should it also safeguard citizens' welfare and promote equality? In philosophy, you will learn about different approaches to these fundamental questions, and acquire the critical thinking skills that enable you to form your own position and debate it with others.

POLITICS shapes decisions on whether we live in a time of war or peace, where we can live and work, whom we can marry, what quality of healthcare we can access at what cost, how fast we may drive, and whether and how much we have to pay for school and university. In politics, you will learn to analyse and assess the complex political debates, ideologies and institutions which shape these decisions.

ECONOMICS impacts key considerations in many political decisions: Will higher taxes for the rich really leave us worse off? Are privatised public utilities likely to be more or less efficient than state-run utilities? In economics, you will develop your understanding of economic models to explain and predict economic behaviour and impact, and acquire data analysis skills to measure economic activity.

PPE is an ideal choice if you're fascinated by current affairs and want to gain a broad and rounded understanding of the world around you. Deepen your understanding of why and how governing institutions and big businesses make decisions, how the consequences of these actions influence our world and impact on our futures, and what would make for a better and more just society.

PPE AT WARWICK

HIGH QUALITY TEACHING AND RESEARCH

Philosophy, Politics and Economics are internationally renowned for their teaching and research and are ranked top 50 in the world*. Ranked within the top three in the UK**, Philosophy is taught by a unique mix of world-leading philosophers in both continental and analytic philosophy. Our Politics department and Economics department are both ranked 4th in their fields in the UK.**

As a Warwick PPE student, you'll benefit from the innovative research insights of our teaching staff, who share your curiosity and love of the subjects. In the most recent Research Excellence Framework (REF 2014), Politics and International Studies ranked 1st for Research Environment; Philosophy was rated 1st in the UK for Research Output, with 90% of publications judged internationally excellent or world-leading, and 96% of research submitted by Economics was rated world-leading or 'internationally excellent'.

* QS World University Rankings, 2021
** The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide, 2021

BRIDGING THE DISCIPLINES

Our bridge model enables you to identify and develop your understanding of how the disciplines interact by providing a range of opportunities for you to investigate how the three subjects relate to one another. You can study interdisciplinary topics throughout the course in core and optional modules and your final-year core modules provide real-life context, focusing on important topics at the intersection of the disciplines. Examples of recent topics include: climate change, migration and refugees, ethical limitations of markets, welfare measurement, national and global governance, and global public goods.

You'll also be able to make the most of other opportunities to investigate how the three subjects relate to one another, such as taking a module through Warwick's Institute for Advanced Teaching and Learning (IATL), and undertaking your own interdisciplinary research.



92%

OF OUR PPE STUDENTS WERE SATISFIED OVERALL WITH THE COURSE*



97%

FOUND THE COURSE INTELLECTUALLY STIMULATING*

*National Student Survey (NSS) 2020

FLEXIBILITY TO SPECIALISE

In addition to core modules carefully designed to provide you with a solid foundation in all three subjects, you will be able to choose from a wealth of optional modules. You will also have the opportunity to take options from at least one other subject area, such as business, law, psychology, sociology, history or modern languages.

You'll have the flexibility to tailor the programme to your interests and future plans by choosing from a range of pathways. You can choose to continue studying all three subjects in equal proportions, or you may focus on two of the three subjects in more depth, even taking up to 80% of your optional modules in one discipline. Majoring in Economics means you would graduate with a BSc.

A DIVERSE AND ACTIVE COMMUNITY

With a community of over 180 members of academic staff and around 175 students in your year group from all over the world, you'll have the opportunity to draw on the multiple perspectives of people from different backgrounds, cultures, and experiences. There are also many opportunities to extend your learning outside of the lecture theatre (see p 14-15 for more information).

SUPPORT

As soon as you arrive, your Personal Tutor and a student mentor will introduce you to life as a PPE student and will support your academic development throughout your time at Warwick. In addition, you'll benefit from the academic support of your lecturers and seminar leaders, who are experts in their field.



"I chose to study PPE because it perfectly encapsulated my areas of interest, knowledge, and passion. The inextricable connection between the three subjects excited and further motivated me to study PPE, in the hopes that it would equip me with the necessary skills and tools to develop a more holistic lens of the world in which we live."

JOSH,
BA PPE ECONOMICS AND POLITICS,
YEAR 3



COURSE STRUCTURE

Your PPE programme will support you with the foundation of the disciplines and enable you to specialise and hone your skills to best suit your interests and career path.

YEAR ONE

Your first year comprises foundation modules in each department. You'll study a wide range of historical and contemporary philosophical topics such as moral philosophy, aesthetics, and logic in the introductory Philosophy module, and political theory and political science with Politics. In Economics you will cover micro- and macroeconomics, mathematical and statistical techniques at either an intermediate or advanced level, and computing and data analysis.

Core modules:

- ▶ Introduction to Philosophy
- ▶ Introduction to Politics
- ▶ Economics 1
- ▶ Quantitative Techniques, comprised of:
 1. Mathematical Techniques A or B
 2. Statistical Techniques A or B
 3. Computing and Data Analysis

You will then choose one or two optional modules, either within the three departments or from other departments in the Humanities and Social Sciences faculties, including the Business School and Language Centre.

YEAR TWO

In your second year you'll select a pathway, choosing either to continue on a Tripartite course and study all three disciplines, or to move to a Bipartite course and specialise in two of the subjects. You may also choose to major in Economics, which will allow you to graduate with a BSc rather than a BA.

Depending on your pathway, you will take a combination of core modules from across the disciplines from the following list:

Optional core modules:

- ▶ History of Modern Philosophy
- ▶ Ethics
- ▶ Applied Ethics
- ▶ Political Theory from Hobbes: Seeking Freedom and Equality
- ▶ Issues in Political Theory
- ▶ Economics 2
- ▶ Applied Econometrics
- ▶ Econometrics 1

Depending on your pathway, you'll be able to choose up to half of your modules from a wide range of options from the three departments.

You can also study a variety of interdisciplinary modules, which focus on crossing 'traditional' topic lines and bring the disciplinary perspectives together.

Again, options are not limited to the PPE departments, as you may choose to study one year-long or two term-long modules in either your second or final year from outside the departments.

YEAR THREE

In your third year you'll choose at least two from a list of three interdisciplinary modules in Principles of Political Economy, which each combine two of the three disciplines. These modules are available only to PPE students and are designed as part of our bridge model, providing real life context so that you can integrate your studies in the three disciplines and focus on important topics at the intersection of philosophy, politics, and economics.

You will again be able to choose from an interesting variety of optional modules. Many students also choose to take a dissertation or a research project either in PPE or the field of their choice.

I chose to take the PPE Dissertation because I wanted an opportunity to pursue my interest in a particular area completely independently and further my research and time management skills. I did my dissertation on the role of Britain in the Middle East in the early 20th century, and tied this historical outlook to themes of energy security and imperial politics. I was able to bring in economics in terms of the importance of Middle Eastern oil to Britain's economy and how this has developed over time. The skills I've learned over the course of PPE in being able to synthesise political and economic thinking definitely improved my dissertation and enabled me to complete comprehensive research and writing to a level I was proud of.

ADAM,
PPE GRADUATE

OPTIONAL MODULES

Our academics provide research-led teaching, which means that they keep content fresh and up-to-date with current thinking and developments in their subject. We also add new modules in line with research developments and in response to student feedback. So you'll be choosing from a varied selection of interesting specialisms and interdisciplinary options.

You will have a wide range of interesting potential specialisms and pathways through your course so that you can explore the issues that interest you the most.

In **Philosophy**, you will study with world-leading scholars in both analytic and continental philosophy. Topics in 2020/21 have included: Sartre and Existentialism; Chinese Philosophy; Feminism; Logic; Philosophy of the Emotions and Authority and Democracy.

Politics and International Studies have four research clusters, whose world-leading work provides the basis for research-led teaching in comparative politics and democratisation, political theory, international political economy, and international relations and security.

In **Economics**, you can choose to focus on areas such as development economics, the EU, behavioural economics, public policy, banking, econometrics, economics history, industrial economics and international trade.

As well as focusing on individual disciplines, there is also a high degree of intellectual freedom to cross 'traditional' topic lines, as you can see from the selection of modules taken in 2020/21:

INTERDISCIPLINARY OPTIONS WITHIN PPE (2020/21)

- ▶ Philosophy of Religion
- ▶ States and Markets: An Introduction to International Political Economy
- ▶ Capitalism and its Alternatives
- ▶ Gender and Development
- ▶ The Political Economy of Money
- ▶ The International Economy in the Twentieth Century
- ▶ Economics of Public Policy
- ▶ Post-Kantian Social and Political Philosophy
- ▶ The Philosophy of Terrorism and Counterterrorism

CROSS DISCIPLINES

Optional modules are also available from outside the department. These can come from other areas in the Social Sciences, Humanities and Business School. Particularly popular are Warwick Business School, Law, Psychology, Sociology, History, and interdisciplinary modules with IATL (Institute of Advanced Teaching and Learning).



"I really enjoy the flexibility PPE provides. In your first year, everyone takes the same core modules that provide an introduction into each of the disciplines, allowing you to see what you like and focus on that in second year. You can also take an optional module in first year which allows you to explore an area of interest - for me, this was keeping up with my German by taking a language module. Over the course of the degree so far, I've developed a strong interest in financial economics and will be interning at the Financial Conduct Authority over the summer to explore that further."

JAMES,
PPE GRADUATE

LANGUAGES

Another option is to study a language. Languages are particularly popular if you intend to apply for a year abroad as part of your studies. We teach a wide variety of languages at Warwick, including Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Italian, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish.



"I really appreciated the possibility to study abroad. I had a chance to go to the US and get a first-hand understanding of the American style of teaching that greatly contributed to my academic performance. Also, being there during the Presidential Elections was a real chance to understand American politics better and enrich my studies of this field. I returned to Warwick with a new perspective on education and American culture, which will support my further studies and prepare me for my future career."

LUKASZ,
PPE GRADUATE



"I loved the first two years of my degree and I didn't want it to end, so I decided to do a year abroad. It was a great opportunity to dig deeper into what really interested me academically, and it didn't hurt that it was in Australia. Everybody at Monash was so welcoming and it was intriguing to see how a different university functioned. The highlight of my year abroad was a road trip around New Zealand with some other exchange students during the Christmas holiday. The scenery was breathtaking. After a year away, I felt well prepared for my final year back at Warwick. In fact, my Research in Applied Economics Project was inspired by Economics of Climate Change, a module I had studied in Australia."

MATT,
PPE GRADUATE

STUDY ABROAD

You can apply to spend a year studying abroad, through our long-standing partnerships with prestigious universities around the world. You have two potential routes:

Integrated: within your 3 year degree

An integrated year allows you to replace the second year of your degree programme with a year abroad. The marks you earn while overseas will count as the second year of your degree results, and you will take equivalent modules to meet your pathway requirements. Integrated exchanges are available through Philosophy and Politics and International Studies. In recent years our students have taken part in exchanges in Canada.

Intercalated: adding a year to your programme

The intercalated option will add one year to your degree programme, with your year abroad taken between your second and final years. The grades obtained don't count directly towards your final degree, but if you pass the year then your degree certificate will show "with intercalated year". All study abroad is taught in English.

There are also opportunities to undertake a year-long work placement or internship, either as part of your degree or as a voluntary year out.

Examples of our current partners, available to our students in 2020/21*:

- Canada** – University of Waterloo, University of British Columbia
- Australia** – Monash University, Melbourne (with potential to spend half year in Monash Selangor, Malaysia)
- Hong Kong** – City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong University
- China** – Tsinghua University, Shanghai Jiao Tong University
- Japan** – Hokkaido University, Waseda University
- Singapore** – National University of Singapore
- South Korea** – Seoul National University
- Europe** – Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden

*This list is illustrative - partners may change in future years.



YOUR LEARNING

Typically, you will have 10 to 15 hours of contact time per week through a combination of lectures and seminars. Lectures provide you with information, analysis and argument, on the basis of which you prepare for discussion or problem solving in your seminars. Seminars are much smaller groups, in which you deepen your learning through interactive group discussion, debates, and exchange of ideas. In your third year you may choose to place a stronger emphasis on individual research through a dissertation.

TEACHING METHODS

Tutors will provide you with reading, instructions, notes or tasks, and guide work and discussions. You'll be expected to prepare independently or in groups, and share your views and debate the issues and concepts with your classmates. Module tutors are available outside of class to give advice on essay writing and other matters related to their module. They will also give you feedback on your essays to help you improve your writing and problem-solving techniques.

SKILLS SESSIONS

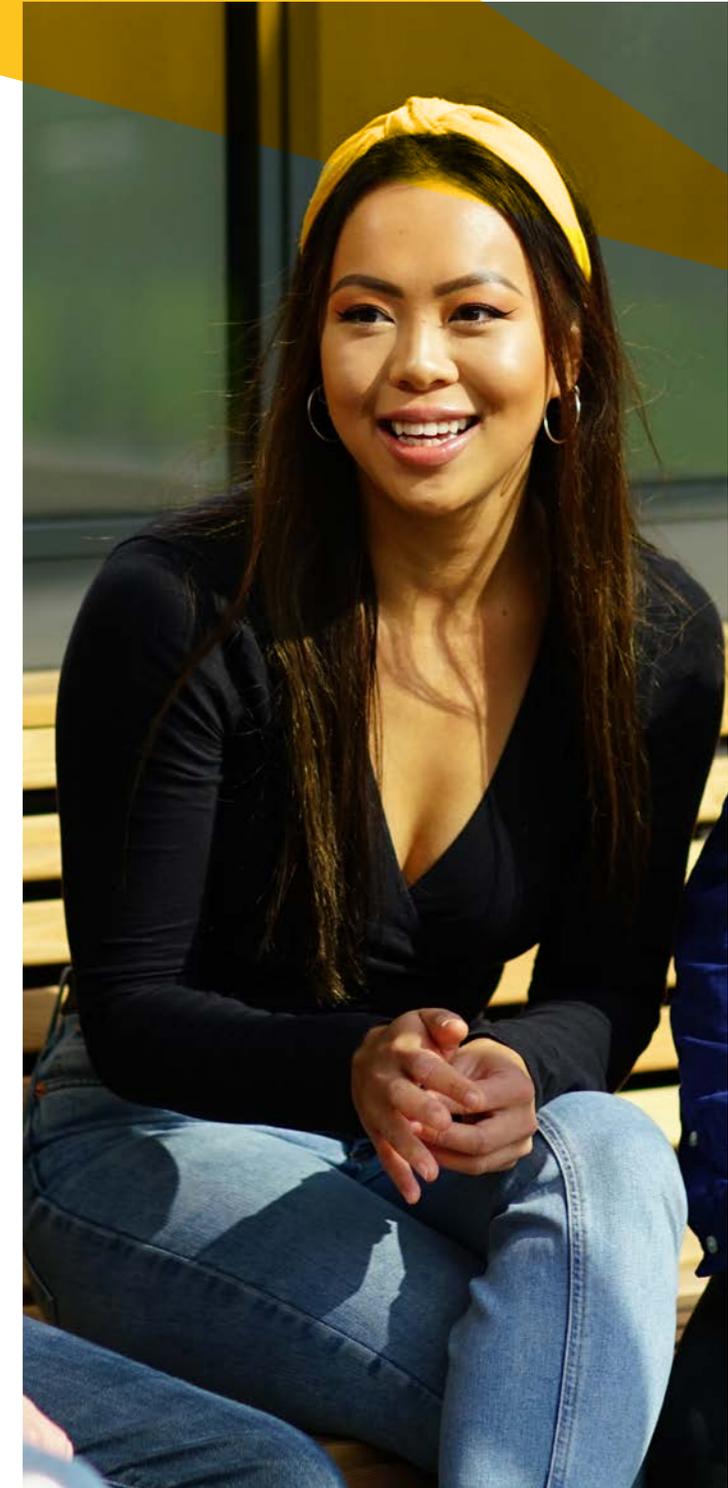
Study skills will be built into your core modules in the first year. So you will develop your academic reading, essay writing, exam technique, and critical thinking and presentation skills. We also offer specific sessions in writing Politics and Philosophy essays and in maths and stats skills and using data analysis software for Economics. The Warwick Skills team offers the Undergraduate Skills Programme and Academic Writing Programme to help you perfect a range of skills and develop yourself further.

ASSESSMENTS

You'll be assessed through a mix of exams, tests, essays and other assessments, and you'll get extensive feedback to help you progress. You'll also have formative essays and tests, which are compulsory assessments that may not necessarily contribute marks to your overall grade. They will, however, provide you with invaluable feedback on what is required from your degree, and guidance on how to develop your style and skills in preparation for your main assessments and exams. Some modules allow you to choose your assessment method, between essay or exam, or occasionally try different styles of assessment, such as filmmaking and blogging.

LEARNING OUTSIDE OF YOUR DEGREE

To deepen your knowledge and develop skills beyond your degree, there are many opportunities to get involved with student societies, volunteer projects, research assistantships, debates and talks with high profile speakers.



OUR STUDENT COMMUNITY



"Welcome Week at Warwick made me feel like I was welcomed to this university from Day 0. We played an Economic Game which showed a glimpse of what PPE is and where it would take us. I enjoyed it so much and met first-year PPEists who have been my friends since then. The secret of PPEists is that we all love to argue about the topics we are deeply interested in and from the first day we were involved in the knowledge we would study throughout the course."

SZISZI,
BSC PPE WITH ECONOMICS
MAJOR, YEAR 3

SUPPORT



"It is one thing for a department to help you when things go wrong, and it is an entirely separate thing to provide consistent support to help you achieve whatever you are looking for. The PPE Office, Senior Tutors and support staff have demonstrated time and time again how much they care about my well-being, growth and development as a student, and, more pertinently, a person. My entire university experience has been improved knowing that no matter the difficulty, there is a team of able and caring people here to help."

DANIEL,
PPE GRADUATE

COMMON ROOM



"I have extensively used the PPE Common Room, to the extent that my friends say I practically lived out of it! For me, the PPE Common Room was a social space; I had the opportunity to meet new people I would never have approached on my own, while indulging in intellectually stimulating conversations each time I visited the space. Whether you want to have an intense discussion about Hobbes' philosophy, or to have a chilling session in the middle of submission season; the common room (surprisingly) is the perfect setting for both."

TANISHK,
BSC PPE WITH
ECONOMICS MAJOR,
YEAR 3

SOCIETIES



"The close knit PPE Society eased making friends on my course. As a fresher, I was immediately grouped into a PPE "family" with students in older years who helped me settle into university and provided stellar advice. Not only does the society host stimulating events, including a symposium with multiple PPE societies across the country, but also a really fun social side. There are nights out to go on together and events such as ice skating and trampolining. I was fortunate enough to bag a space on PPE tour to Barcelona in my first year, which was so much fun I couldn't help going again to Budapest this year!"

XANTHE,
PPE GRADUATE

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS



"During my time, I have been fortunate to have been given a chance to expand my academic abilities by undertaking a research assistantship to one of the professors at the Business School. By gathering, evaluating and analysing data on cultural participation in Coventry, I was able to put my analytical skills into practice. My work greatly contributed to the Coventry City of Culture 2021 festival thus it is a great pleasure to see my work having direct and visible effects on the local community. This had granted me a place alongside the Insight Intelligence Team at the Coventry City Council, which is an incredible chance to closely observe how local policy-making is done."

LUKASZ,
PPE GRADUATE



"Working as a Research Assistant was an invaluable experience. It gave me a chance to put in to practice what I had learnt during my PPE degree and to explore new statistical and programming techniques. Most importantly, I had the opportunity to work alongside some of the best Economists in the world, which helped me to develop my own research."

STEFANIA,
PPE GRADUATE

PPE GRADUATES

Some careers of recent graduates include:

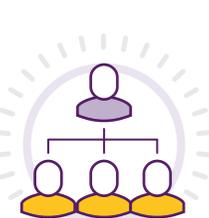
Analyst, Broadcasting Intern, Business Analyst, Campaigns Officer, Charity Intern, Civil Service Policy Adviser, Corporate Tax Adviser, Diplomatic Attaché, Economist, Journalist, Lawyer, Lecturer, Maths Teacher, Parliamentary Assistant, Portfolio Manager, Production Editor (Publishing), Researcher (Think Tank, academia), Risk analyst, Sales Manager, Senior Associate, Solicitor, Trader.

PPE graduates have gone on to pursue the following postgraduate programmes at leading institutions in the UK, Europe, North America and throughout the world:

Advanced Computer Science and Internet Economics, Business Development, Continental Philosophy, Development Studies, Economics, Economic History, European Political and Governance Studies, Law, Marketing, Management with Finance, MBA, Philosophy, Political Science and Government, Public Policy and Development, Social and Cultural Anthropology, Strategic Fashion Marketing.

Employers specifically like PPE students because they:-

- ▶ Have mathematical, statistical and data-based research skills.
- ▶ Have developed communication and presentation skills in both verbal discussion and writing.
- ▶ Develop strategy and use creative thinking to solve complex problems.
- ▶ Consider social and ethical issues in a structured and critical way.
- ▶ Think clearly in the abstract and construct social arguments.
- ▶ Have intellectual autonomy, since much of their academic work is independent.



96%

OF 2017/18 WARWICK PPE GRADUATES IN EMPLOYMENT WERE IN PROFESSIONAL OR MANAGERIAL ROLES SIX MONTHS AFTER GRADUATING



CAREERS SUPPORT



6TH
 MOST TARGETED UNIVERSITY BY THE UK'S TOP 100 GRADUATE EMPLOYERS
(The Graduate Market in 2021, High Fliers Research Ltd.)

Many of our students secure their own internships during their degree. Our Student Careers and Skills team can help you to devise and implement your career plans at any stage of your course and up to 3 years after graduation. We provide skills training, employer-led workshops, alumni talks, regular careers fairs and one-to-one bespoke careers advice with a PPE Careers Consultant.

The PPE Society has also run sessions with some of the high profile employers already highlighted and they also have alumni contacts who can mentor students interested in their field. Opportunities to work as a Research Assistant and Student Ambassador offer further work experience to boost your CV and gain relevant transferable skills.

"I use PPE on a daily basis at work, where I evaluate ongoing international development projects. My PPE skill set means I can engage in hypothesis-driven approaches to thinking and writing; I can design research, collect data, implement statistical and qualitative analysis, and draw conclusions based on what I find. Politics has also taught me the importance of identifying key change makers to have conversations with to make these evaluations useful and impactful in changing public policy both in the UK and abroad."

JONATHAN,
 PPE GRADUATE 2015
 SENIOR ASSOCIATE, PwC

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A level: A*AA plus GCSE Mathematics A/7 or above (or acceptable equivalent)

IB: 38 points, to include 5 in Standard Level Maths/Maths Studies

We welcome a range of A level equivalent qualifications from across the world. We also encourage applications from candidates with Access to HE Diploma (QAA-recognised) including appropriate subjects with distinction grades in level 3 units and students who complete the Warwick International Foundation Programme (IFP). So if you are unsure what the level is for you, just get in touch ugadmission@warwick.ac.uk.

Check these on our website www.warwick.ac.uk/ug/courses before you apply, so that you have the most up-to-date information, as the requirements could change for the next entry cycle.

Offers normally exclude General Studies and Critical Thinking.



HOW TO **APPLY**

Applications are made through UCAS ucas.com

If you are made and accept an offer, and meet any outstanding conditions, we will confirm your place and look forward to warmly welcoming you at the start of your life here at Warwick.

For more detailed information about how we process applications please visit:
warwick.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/apply

OVERSEAS APPLICANTS

At Warwick, we welcome applications from across the globe, and have dedicated teams available to advise and support, as well as a global network of Agents and Representatives.

For more information on applying from your country see:
warwick.ac.uk/io

STUDENT FEES AND FUNDING

We want to ensure that, wherever possible, financial circumstances do not become a barrier to studying at Warwick. We provide extra financial support for qualifying students from lower income families

warwick.ac.uk/studentfunding

**Philosophy, Politics
and Economics**
University of Warwick
Coventry
CV4 8UW

ACCOMMODATION

We believe that where you live underpins your University experience. Warwick Accommodation manages around 7000 self-catering residences on campus. At Warwick, you'll enjoy the freedom of independent living alongside your fellow students but with the security of knowing you're surrounded by people who can support you should you need it.

For more information visit:
warwick.ac.uk/accommodation

DISCOVER MORE

To find out more about the University, including opportunities to visit and engage with your department of choice, visit:

warwick.ac.uk/undergraduate/visits

This course information was accurate at the time of publication (June, 2021). While the University tries to ensure that the information is accurate, it does not warrant that this is the case. The University may need to make changes including to the course content, syllabus, delivery, methods of assessment, or to comply with external accrediting or reviewing bodies. It is therefore important that you revisit the relevant course website before you apply and when you accept an offer to ensure you are viewing the most up to date information. This information should not be construed as an offer and nor does it create a contract or other legally binding relationship between the University and you or a third party. For full terms and conditions, please visit warwick.ac.uk/ugtermsandconditions

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