General information
Start: Winter and Summer semester
Duration: 4 semesters
Degree: Master of Arts

Application and enrolment
Admission requirements
The admission requirement for a Master’s degree programme is usually an undergraduate degree or equivalent qualification in the same or a closely related field of study.

For more information about conditions of enrolment and the application for admission please read the admission regulations

Application
With German university entrance qualification:
Please apply online at the University of Oldenburg.

EU - or international applicants:
Please apply via uni-assist e.V.

For more detailed information and deadlines, refer to:
www.uni-oldenburg.de/en/students/application-and-enrolment

Further Information
Philosophy Homepage
www.uni-oldenburg.de/en/philosophy

Courses of Study
www.uni-oldenburg.de/en/students/degree-programmes

Funding
www.uni-oldenburg.de/studium/finanzierung

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PhD
Master Degree
Single-Subject Bachelor
Dual-Subject Bachelor
Primary field: Philosophy (M.A.)
Considering the problems that determine the situation of our time – the seemingly relentless growth of wealth in societies goes hand in hand with the relative impoverishment of its producers; the advancing domination of nature made possible by natural sciences and technology seems to be linked to the thread if not to the irreparable destruction of our nature on which life is grounded; globalisation through fusion causes humanity to drift apart; violence and misery are spreading globally.

Within the university it is philosophy where all these pressing problems battering us can be discussed in fundamental and clarifying basic ideas. Philosophy is committed to a long tradition and a 2000-year-old practice of questioning: What can we know? What shall we do? What can we hope for? What is man?

The Master programme Philosophy at Oldenburg University takes up these fundamental questions. Students understand the basic principles of philosophy and its rich history. They deepen central theories based on classical philosophers as well as contemporary discussions, and acquire skills of extensive text analysis and critique and altogether transfer skills they acquired on philosophical topics to non-philosophical areas.

The Institute of Philosophy offers good conditions for this aim. Characterized by its strong interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary orientation it qualifies students - on the basis of a broad content-historical and methodical knowledge of the subject - for critical comment on scientific and social problems and for analytical argumentative evaluation. The Master of Arts in Philosophy establishes links to less philosophical areas.

Besides the methodical strand there is a practice choice module, you may choose from three alternatives:
- In the module conduct of a tutorial you will be given the opportunity to teach for one semester in the introductory basic modules of the bachelor programme.
- The module internship offers you a non-academic internship and serves as an early orientation on the labour market.
- In specific language courses relevant for the major field of study you are given the possibility to acquire or refine language skills for your particular specialization.

In the second and third semester you may study a semester abroad at a foreign university (the institute has close contacts with Siena, Milano, Reading, Oxford, Covilhã). The fourth semester is reserved for the master thesis.

There are only few concrete occupational fields assigned to philosophy as a subject, and a relatively small percentage of graduates will be able to work philosophically in a narrower sense. Study of Philosophy works out a basic humanistic education and knowledge of cultural tradition and therefore forms key competences like reflectivity, argumentation skills, critical faculties and creativity to a large extend. Graduates who have acquired these key competences can be regarded as all-rounders among the arts scholars. Other than a classical career field at universities (with very limited vacancies, as it is generally known) activities in periodicals, journals, publishers, other media, in libraries, bookstores, in adult education (academies, adult education centres) in public administration and organizations, in political areas or even as independent authors are common working fields of philosophers. Recently, there have been activities in ethics committees, offices for impact assessment, consulting or in philosophical practices as interesting and promising occupational fields.

**Programme structure and content**

In the course of the Philosophy Master programme you will acquire 120 credit points (ECTS), which distribute among 5 modules in the field of philosophy (15 ECTS each), one practice choice module (15 ECTS), and the Master thesis (30 ECTS). The Master curriculum in philosophy consists of the following modules:

**Advanced module (2 compulsory modules)**
- Theoretical philosophy and Basics of the Sciences: 12 ECTS
- Practical Philosophy - Ethics, Law, Society: 12 ECTS
- History of philosophy: 12 ECTS
- Aesthetics and cultural philosophy: 12 ECTS

**Deepening modules (3 compulsory modules)**
- Theoretical Philosophy and Philosophy of Society: 15 ECTS
- History of Philosophy: 15 ECTS
- Accentuation: 15 ECTS
- Practice choice module: 12 ECTS
- Self-studies: 9 ECTS
- Master thesis: 30 ECTS

During the first semester you may select advanced modules according to your previous studies: Theoretical Philosophy and Basics of Sciences; Practical Philosophy - Ethics, Law, Society; History of Philosophy; Aesthetics and Cultural Philosophy. By doing so, you will consolidate your knowledge within the sub-disciplines. The option of choice in the advanced modules offers you a flexible adjustment to the study structures in Oldenburg if you have finished your Bachelor at another university. During the second and third semester you will study in the deepening modules.

You choose three modules out of four: Theoretical Philosophy and Basics of Sciences; Philosophy of Society; History of Philosophy, Accentuation.

The following modules:

**Careers and areas of employment**

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