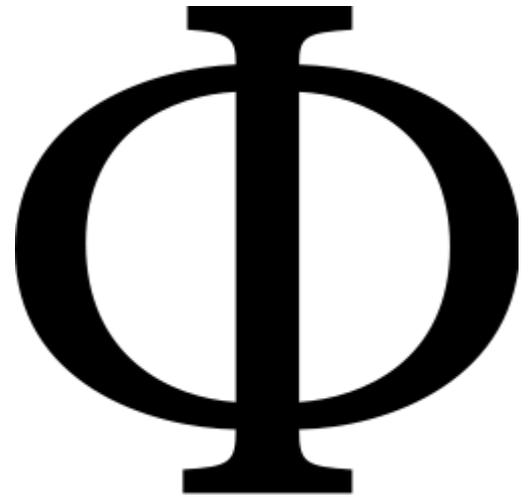


# Philosophy Freegree at FUB



## What is the Free University of Brighton?

The Free University of Brighton (FUB) has been organised in response to the increased 'marketisation' of our Higher Education that is most clearly illustrated by the introduction of tuition fees. FUB arose as a response to the massive hike in fees that began in 2010, when the cost of a University education rose to £9000 per year, meaning that the average student leaves University with some £27,000 worth of debt. We joined the protests but we also began to organise alternatives based on the simple idea of 'Education for love, not money'.

In 2015 we began a 'freegree' - a free, degree-level course. 70 students signed up for a Humanities and Social Sciences course. In 2016 we began a second 'stream' of freegree, a degree-level Philosophy course. Contact points are as follows:

- Website: [freeuniversitybrighton.org](http://freeuniversitybrighton.org)
- Twitter: [@freeunibrighton](https://twitter.com/freeunibrighton)
- Email: [contact@freeuniversitybrighton.org](mailto:contact@freeuniversitybrighton.org)
- Philosophy Course Co-ordinator: [matt@razorsmile.org](mailto:matt@razorsmile.org)

# How will the Philosophy Freegree work?

The Philosophy freegree will run on the basis of three terms per year - usually each course will be 10 weeks long, consisting 4 weeks teaching, a 2 week break, then 4 more weeks teaching. Classes will be once a week. In addition there is often a fortnightly 'reading group' available and each student will be assigned to a tutor group to support their learning in small tutorial sessions. The freegree has been designed so that each course gives 20 credits with a full 'degree' being made up of 240 credits and so the freegree is designed to be completed over 4 years. Courses will cover similar areas a normal Philosophy degree would cover. We want to keep classes reasonably small, 10 to 15 students maximum, often less.

Just like the rest of the FUB freegree we offer three modes of study -

- (1) assessed work (essays and assignments as in a traditional University)
- (2) recorded attendance
- (3) unassessed.

Whilst we encourage students who want to pursue essays and assessments, this is not the only means of learning and we welcome those who want to attend and contribute without having to do assessments.

## What will a student need to do?

FUB is collectively organised by students, academics and supporters and so students will need to realise they are co-producing their education. Unlike traditional Universities we run as a democratic and open co-operative. In practical terms a student on the Philosophy freegree would need to attend class at least once a week, put aside time for reading and study each week and keep in touch with FUB through various internet platforms (you would need access to a computer or a smartphone as minimum). No qualifications are required to join the course but we are happy to chat about any worries or concerns you might have before starting.

## How long will it take to get a Philosophy freegree?

We have set a rough guideline of 12 courses, 4 of which will be at a 'higher' level (roughly equivalent to a Third Year undergraduate course). Before doing the higher courses the student will need to have completed assessments for 8 other Philosophy courses.

It's worth noting, however, that whilst this '12 course' structure is our basic guideline, much depends on what the student wants to do. If they want to pursue philosophy as part of their personal development, as a mean by which they might better understand and change the world around them, then this minimum is enough. If they wanted to go into academic post-graduate study then they may want to do more than this minimum.

Whatever the goal, there is also a temporal and intensive component to study and we'd expect students to study with us for a certain amount of time as well, so alongside the number of courses we'd also say that a temporal guideline would be 4 years with one course a term. If you wanted to go into academic post-graduate work you would probably do well to add a research project to the 12 course minimum, which would mean perhaps doing the 12 courses in the first 3 years and then spending a year on a research project.

### **Key Information**

**Ryver** is our main communication tool for classes and FUB generally. Make sure you access this and know how it works—an introductory page is available at [freeuniversitybrighton.org/fubo](https://freeuniversitybrighton.org/fubo)—make sure you join the 'Philosophy Degree' forum (available in the list of 'Open Forums').

**Location** of classes is the Learning Centre at the Hollingdean Depot, Upper Hollindean Road, Brighton, BN1 7GA.

**Class calendar** is available at [freeuniversitybrighton.org/freegreeclasses](https://freeuniversitybrighton.org/freegreeclasses)

Education for everyone, not just the rich.

# **Courses for 2017—2018**

October to December 2017

## **1. Existentialism**

Facilitator—Dr Matt Lee, Monday evenings, 7-9.30pm, begins October 2nd,

## **2. Philosophy of Consciousness**

Facilitator—Dr John Thornton, Saturday mornings, 10.30am-1pm, begins October 7th

January to April 2018

## **3. Philosophy of Mind**

Facilitator-Tom Beament, Monday evenings, 7-9.30pm, begins January 15th

## **4. Epistemological Issues**

Facilitator-Dr Jacob Berkson, Saturday mornings, 11.30am-2.30pm, begins January 20th

May to July 2018

## **5. Weird Metaphysics**

Facilitator-Dr Charlie Blake, Monday evenings, 7-9.30pm, begins May 7th

## **6. Metaphysical Thoughts**

Facilitator-Dr Jacob Berkson, Saturday mornings, 11.30am-2.30pm, begins May 12th

**Course descriptions and class details will be available on Ryver.**