

We are Cambridge Assessment Admissions Testing, part of the University of Cambridge. We give every student the opportunity to let their true potential shine.

### Where can I find out more?

About the Philosophy Test:  
[admissionstesting.org/phil](https://admissionstesting.org/phil)

Admissions testing support:  
[admissionstesting.org/help](https://admissionstesting.org/help)

University of Oxford – Admissions Information:  
+44 (0)1865 288000  
[ox.ac.uk/ask](https://ox.ac.uk/ask)  
[ox.ac.uk/phil](https://ox.ac.uk/phil)

### Key dates for the Philosophy Test 2020

Registration opens	1 September
Requests for modified question papers	By 30 September
Registration deadline	15 October by 18.00 BST <i>This is the same date as the UCAS application deadline</i>
Test date	4 November

### Results

The test is marked by the University of Oxford. You are not automatically sent your test results, but you may request your score as part of the usual University of Oxford feedback process.

# PHILOSOPHY TEST

*for the joint course of Philosophy and Theology*



Guide for students

Register by 15 October 2020



 **Cambridge Assessment  
Admissions Testing**

The Triangle Building  
Shaftesbury Road  
Cambridge  
CB2 8EA  
United Kingdom

All details are correct at the time of going to print in January 2020 but may be subject to change.  
Please check the Philosophy Test website for the latest information.



[admissionstesting.org](https://admissionstesting.org)



[@admissionstests](https://twitter.com/admissionstests)



## The Philosophy Test

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You need to take the Philosophy Test if you are applying to study **the joint course of Philosophy and Theology at the University of Oxford**.

You do not need to take the Philosophy Test for any other courses at the University of Oxford:

- If you are applying for Psychology, Philosophy and Linguistics (PPL) or Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE), you need to take the Thinking Skills Assessment (TSA) Oxford.
- If you are applying for any Philosophy and Modern Languages course, you need to take the relevant parts of the Modern Languages Admissions Tests (MLAT) only.

Please see [ox.ac.uk/tests](https://www.ox.ac.uk/tests) for more information on which courses require which admissions tests.

The test is only one part of the overall application process.

### What's in the test?

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The Philosophy Test is a 60-minute test of philosophical reasoning skills. There is no expectation that you will have undertaken any formal study of philosophy, and it is not a test of your philosophical knowledge.

You will typically be asked to undertake a comprehension exercise and write a short essay or answer a structured question. Credit will be given for precise and careful reasoning which answers the question asked, with particular merit being given to answers which anticipate and are able to answer objections to the reasoning given. No credit will be given for irrelevance, nor for the statement of opinions without evidence or argument to support them.

## Where do I take the Philosophy Test?

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**You must take the test at a centre that is authorised to run tests administered by Cambridge Assessment Admissions Testing** (for most test-takers this is their own school or college). Check with your Exams Officer if your school or college is already registered as a centre that can run our tests.

If your school or college is not already registered as a centre, they can apply to become a test centre. The deadline for centre applications is 30 September. [admissionstesting.org/become-a-centre](https://admissionstesting.org/become-a-centre)

If you are not able to take the test at school or college, you need to find an authorised open test centre instead. [admissionstesting.org/find-a-centre](https://admissionstesting.org/find-a-centre)

### How and when do I register?

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**You need to be registered as a candidate by the test centre.** Please ask the Exams Officer at your centre to register you. Please also ask for your candidate entry number as proof that your registration is complete.

Registration opens on 1 September 2020 and closes on 15 October 2020. **As late registrations are not accepted, ask your centre to register you for the Philosophy Test well before the registration deadline. Please note that some open centres set internal deadlines in advance of the general registration deadline. Test registration is separate from your UCAS application.**

You must give your centre your name, date of birth and UCAS number exactly as they have been entered on your UCAS application.

## How much does the test cost?

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You don't need to pay a test entry fee but your school/college/test centre may charge an administration fee for running the test.

### What if I need Access Arrangements?

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Access Arrangements are available if you have a disability or special requirement, and are normally entitled to support for exams.

You need to inform your centre of any special requirements when they register you for the test. They will ask for full details and a copy of your medical evidence. Requests for modified question papers must be submitted by your centre by 30 September 2020.

### How do I prepare for the Philosophy Test?

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Doing a practice paper in timed conditions is an excellent way to prepare and gets you used to the test format and question style. You can find a specimen paper and further guidance at: [ox.ac.uk/phil](https://www.ox.ac.uk/phil).

