

Global Philosophies & Worldviews BA (Hons)

UCAS Code: Combined Honours only (please see website for details)

Duration: 3 years | Full-time | Hope Park | 2026/2027

Placement year opportunities available



Course Overview

Liverpool is a truly global city, shaped by centuries of migration, trade, and cultural exchange. Its diverse history and rich cultural mix make it the perfect setting for the Global Philosophies and Worldviews degree, where you will explore how different traditions, cultures, and religions shape the way people understand the world.

The Global Philosophies and Worldviews course takes you on a journey across traditions, examining Asian philosophical and religious thought, as well as Western, Jewish, Muslim, and Christian approaches to life's biggest questions. You will investigate how people form and reform their worldviews, asking critical questions about secularism, scientism, and the challenges of pluralism in a media-saturated world.

Studying Global Philosophies and Worldviews develops your ability to critically engage with diverse perspectives and misunderstood traditions. This degree prepares you for careers that require cultural understanding and engagement with different communities, such as journalism, law, politics, education, policing, and human resource management.

Fees and Additional Costs

The tuition fees for 2026/2027 are £9,790 for full-time undergraduate courses.

On top of your tuition fees, you also need around £150 to purchase key textbooks throughout your Degree.

You will also need to consider the cost of your accommodation each year whilst you study at university. Visit our accommodation webpages for further details about our Halls of Residence:
www.hope.ac.uk/halls

Entry Requirements

This course follows the standard University entry requirements. Please see the website for further information.



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Global Philosophies & Worldviews

Curriculum

Year One

Comparative Philosophy

In this module, you will be introduced to the ways philosophical questions are tackled in different traditions – and whether there is a just way of making sense of and evaluating these differences. We'll explore whether the concept of philosophy itself can apply across cultures (as in the debate about whether there is an 'African philosophy' which is not simply an echo of Western norms of thinking). This part of the course will get you thinking critically about questions of truth, relativism, dialogue and epistemic justice.

Global Ethics

In this module, you will take a deep dive into non-Western ways of understanding right and wrong and the good life – such as the Confucian ethics that still play a huge part in Chinese culture. You will explore diverse notions of freedom, duty and the human person very different from the individualism that plays such a role in much Western thinking – and you will be analysing the challenges faced by any attempt to construct a global ethic.

Year Two

You will critically study a range of religious philosophies from cultures where the division between 'religion' and 'philosophy' is never absolute. Exploring such topics as the Hindu Bhagavad Gita, Indian and Japanese Buddhist ideas of liberation and Islamic thinking about God, you will gain a rich understanding of the diversity and relevance of religious thinking.

Your engagement with questions of ethics and value will be deepened by considering such areas as Islamic political philosophy, the nature of art and beauty in Zen, comparative approaches to applied ethics (such as beginning and end of life issues) and the significance of indigenous and Daoist thought for reimagining our relationship to nature.

Year Three

You will critically explore the fundamental philosophy of what it is to be a person, and how we relate to reality through such areas as the nondualism of Hindu Advaita Vedanta, the deconstruction of the self in Zen Buddhism and the complex mystical path of the Kabbalah. We'll consider how different traditions respond to a digital age and to questions of artificial intelligence.

As we continue to build on our study of ethics and value, you will encounter the crucial philosophy of existentialism as an international phenomenon. We'll also explore the contrasting notion of communal identity, for instance in African philosophical notions of 'ubuntu'.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Teaching on this degree is structured into lectures, where all students are taught together, and smaller groups of seminars and tutorials.

Year 1

3 x 1- hour lectures; 2 x 1- hour seminars; 1 x 1-hour small group tutorial per week.

Year 2

2 x 1- hour lectures; 2 x 1- hour seminars; 1 x 1-hour small group tutorial per week.

Year 3

2 x 1- hour lectures; 2 x 1- hour seminars per week, plus regular research supervision (some in small groups, some one-to-one).

ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK

You will have a number of assessments throughout your studies, including essays, presentations, vivas, exams (in your 2nd and 3rd years), textual analyses and portfolios.

