

These programme regulations should be read in conjunction with the University's [core regulations for undergraduate programmes](#), and the [marking and classification conventions for undergraduate programmes](#).

[First intake 2026-27]

BSc Philosophy and Physics (VF53)

BSc Philosophy and Physics with Year Abroad (VF54)

BSc Philosophy and Physics with Placement (VF55)

1. These programmes are available at Durham City, in a full-time mode of study.
2. All module selections must be timetable compatible and approved by the Director of Natural Sciences or by their nominee to ensure a credible pathway through to 120 credits of Year 3 modules.

Level 1 (Certificate)

3. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Foundations of Physics 1 #	PHYS1122	40
Knowledge and Reality	PHIL1021	20
Science, Medicine and Society	PHIL1111	20

4. **Either** Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Linear Algebra I *	MATH1071	20
Calculus I *	MATH1061	20

Or Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Single Mathematics A *	MATH1561	20
Single Mathematics B *	MATH1571	20

Level 2 (Diploma)

5. Candidates shall study and be assessed in:

		Credit value
Foundations of Physics 2A *	PHYS2581	20
Mathematical Methods in Physics *	PHYS2611	20
Discovery Skills in Physics *	PHYS1101	20

6. Candidates shall study and be assessed in 60 credits taken from modules selected from List A which are from the Level 2 "Science, Medicine, and Society" Pathway, "Mind, Language, and Metaphysics" Pathway or "History and Philosophy of Natural Sciences" Pathway:

List A		Credit value
Philosophy of Mind	PHIL2011	20
Language, Logic, and Reality	PHIL2021	20
Philosophy of Religion	PHIL2091	20
Philosophy of Science	PHIL2151	20
Philosophy of Economics and Politics: Theory, Methods & Values	PHIL2171	20
Fundamentals of Logic	PHIL2181	20
History, Science and Medicine	PHIL2191	20
Epistemology	PHIL2211	20

Year 3 (with Year Abroad)

7. Students admitted to the BSc Philosophy and Physics (VF53) can apply to transfer to the BSc Philosophy and Physics with Year Abroad programme (VF54). Students undertaking the BSc Philosophy and Physics with Year Abroad programme (VF54) will undertake an approved exchange in an overseas university taking a course of study chosen in consultation with the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee and the host institution.
8. Candidates wishing to transfer to the BSc Philosophy and Physics with Year Abroad (VF54) must:
 - a. have successfully completed Level 1 of the BSc Philosophy and Physics (VF53) and progressed to Level 2 of the Honours programme; and
 - b. during the first term of Level 2 study, apply to the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee to be admitted to the BSc Philosophy and Physics (with Year Abroad) (VF54); and
 - c. secure an exchange opportunity with an approved international partner institution of the University; and
 - d. successfully complete Level 2 of the BSc Philosophy and Physics (VF53) to be eligible to progress to Level 3 of the BSc Philosophy and Physics (VF53) Honours programme; and
 - e. register for the module "Natural Sciences Overseas BSc (NSCI 3986)"
9. Candidates who the Board of Examiners deem to have made satisfactory progress on the year abroad will continue to Level 3 of the BSc Philosophy and Physics with Year Abroad (VF54). Students who have not made satisfactory progress on the year abroad will not be permitted to continue on the BSc Philosophy and Physics with Year Abroad (VF54) programme, but must instead proceed to Level 3 of the BSc Philosophy and Physics (VF53) programme.

Year 3 (with Placement)

10. Candidates admitted to the BSc Philosophy and Physics (VF53) can apply to transfer to the BSc Philosophy and Physics with Placement (VF55). Students undertaking the BSc Philosophy and Physics with Placement (VF55) will undertake an approved placement chosen in consultation with the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee and the host partner.
11. Candidates wishing to transfer to the BSc Philosophy and Physics with Placement (VF55) as their third year must:
 - a. Have successfully completed Level 1 of the BSc Philosophy and Physics (VF53) and progressed to Level 2 of the Honours BSc programme; and
 - b. During the first term of Level 2 study, the student must discuss their intention to apply with the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee in order to be admitted to the BSc Philosophy and Physics with Placement (VF55) and receive approval by the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee; and
 - c. Secure a Placement Year opportunity or opportunities comprising at least 40 weeks of professional-level work experience, agreed with the Director of Natural Sciences or their nominee; and
 - d. Successfully complete Level 2 to be eligible to progress to Level 3 of the BSc Philosophy and Physics (VF53) Honours programme; and
 - e. register for the module "Natural Sciences Placement BSc (NSCI 3976)"
12. Candidates who the Board of Examiners deem to have made satisfactory progress on the placement will continue to Level 3 of the BSc Philosophy and Physics with Placement (VF55). Students who have not made satisfactory progress on the placement will not be permitted to continue on the BSc Philosophy and Physics with Placement (VF55) programme, but must instead proceed to Level 3 of the BSc Philosophy and Physics (VF53) programme.

Level 3 (Degree)

13. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Foundations of Physics 3A	PHYS3621	20
Foundations of Physics 2B	PHYS2591	20
Laboratory Skills and Electronics 3	PHYS3681	20

14. Candidates shall study and be assessed in at least 20 credits taken from modules selected from List B

List B		Credit value
Philosophy Long Dissertation	PHIL3112	40

Philosophy Short Dissertation	PHIL3101	20
Science Enterprise	NSCI3001	20
Physics into Schools	PHYS3611	20
Physics in Society 3	PHYS3691	20
BSc Project	PHYS3701	20

15. Candidates shall study and be assessed in at least 40 credits taken from modules selected from List B which are from the Level 3 “Science, Medicine, and Society” Pathway or the “Mind, Language, and Metaphysics” Pathway

List B		Credit value
Philosophical Issues in Contemporary Science	PHIL3021	20
Metaphysics	PHIL3171	20
History and Philosophical Psychiatry	PHIL3181	20
Formal and Philosophical Logic	PHIL3201	20
Biomedical Ethics Past and Present	PHIL3211	20
Philosophy Long Dissertation	PHIL3112	40
Philosophy, Climate Change and the Environment	PHIL3221	20
Philosophy Short Dissertation	PHIL3101	20

16. Candidates shall study and be assessed in any remaining credits from List C:

List C	Credit value
Physics modules from Level 3 BSc Physics (F300) regulations	
List B	

Assessment, progression and award

17. Modules marked with the # symbol must be passed at no less than 40% in order to progress to the next level of study.
18. Modules marked with the * symbol must be passed at no less than 40% in order to progress to the next level of study. Students who have not passed will not be permitted to continue the BSc Philosophy and Physics (VF53) programme, but must instead proceed to BSc Natural Sciences (CFG0) programme.