

PROGRAMME PROPOSAL

Provision of a British Philosophy and Culture Summer
School for students of Beijing Normal University

Summer 2023



About Us

The city of York

Halfway between London and Edinburgh, in the North of England, York is a contemporary city of contrast. Renowned for its rich history and heritage, York is full of culture. You can still walk around the city on the city walls, and enjoy the spectacular views of York Minster, the majestic cathedral which dominates the city.

York is regularly named one of the best places to live and visit in the UK, and with a population of 200,000, it's big enough to feel lively but small enough to feel like home. Join us to experience it in person.

The University of York

The University of York is a leading, research-led university, one of the success stories in UK higher education.

Since our foundation in 1963, we have powered our way to a consistently high ranking in the UK and are one of just six post-war universities to have appeared in the world top 100.

We are a proud member of the Russell Group.

10th in the UK

for our research,
the Times Higher
Education's REF ranking,
2021

17th in the UK

in the Times Good
University Guide 2023,
with 13 subjects ranked
in the top 10

19th overall

Complete University
Guide 2023, with nine
subjects ranked
in the top 10

21st in the UK

Guardian Good
University Guide 2023,
with 6 subjects ranked
in the top 10

Centre for Global Programmes

Part of International Recruitment, Partnerships and Mobility of the University of York, we at the Centre for Global Programmes have been running **summer schools** and **short courses** for international students and university staff for over 20 years. We have a long track record of delivering high quality bespoke and open-access academic programmes, ensuring we deliver learning outcomes that meet the needs of our students and partners.

Our **online programmes** have proven that they can widen the reach of our courses and allow access to education for those who are not able to travel to York.

Working closely with local people opening up their homes to our students, we have also been running our own high quality **homestay programme** for over 20 years.

We can also provide a gateway to further **university level collaboration** such as research and staff or student mobility.

We are a friendly, supportive and inclusive centre.

We get to know our participants, accommodate their needs, and help them develop.

Programme Overview

We are pleased to offer the following bespoke programme to students of {{Partner}}.

Objectives

The overall objectives of the proposed programme are:

- To provide an opportunity to experience philosophical debate in English
- To enhance students' international outlook
- To enhance students' academic communication skills in English with an emphasis on seminar participation

Components

To meet the above objectives, we can offer the following components:

Introduction to British Philosophy

- Key note lectures
- Post-lecture discussions
- Trips

Culture

- Discussion and exploration of current affairs and global issues

Project

- Reflections on ideas and outcomes of discussions
- Poster presentation

Academic communication skills

- Seminar skills
- Critical thinking

Programme Details

The following outline syllabi can be considered a basis for discussion. Upon receipt of your expression of further interest we will develop this descriptive account into detailed aims, syllabi and assessment plans in consultation with you.

Introduction to British Philosophy

Forming the backbone of the programme, keynote lectures will be given by established and leading academics from the philosophy department at York. The general theme of these lectures will be 'British Philosophy', with weekly sub-themes devoted to Empiricism, Political Philosophy and Freedom of Belief. The following constitutes a summary of the each week's focus:

Week 1: The Problem of Perception

- Arguments from illusion
 - Their logical structure and presuppositions
- The primary-secondary quality distinction
 - Perceptual relativity
 - Physicalism
- Naïve Realism
 - Rejecting the argument from illusion
 - The inseparability of primary and secondary qualities

Week 2: The Social Contract

- The State of Nature
 - Human nature and the need for a social order
- Problems with natural law theory
 - Cultural relativity
 - Epistemological issues
- Contractarianism
 - What would we all agree to?
 - The problem of free-riders

Week 3: State, Faith and Toleration

- Locke on toleration
 - The political value of toleration
 - The limits of toleration
- Passive obedience
 - The source of sovereignty
 - Obedience to the powers that be
- Mill's Harm Principle
 - The limits of state power
 - Freedom of thought and freedom of speech

Lectures will be followed by Q and As with the speaker. Follow up discussion sessions with CGP tutors will allow the participants to explore the topics in further depth.

Culture

This component provides students with the opportunity to broaden their cultural horizons and raise their international awareness and sensitivity to UK culture. The students will learn about various aspects of British culture and will be asked to reflect and discuss the potential reasons behind cultural similarities and differences. Concurrently, sessions would also focus on language skills including vocabulary learning and pronunciation skills.

Project

In this component, the students will reflect upon, synthesise and apply new learning gained. Given that the programme would be only three weeks in length, and not formally assessed, we would recommend that the final week culminates in a brief student presentation. One possible means of organising this would be to ask the students to submit a series of reflections throughout the programme, describing how their thoughts are evolving. Following feedback from tutors, each student could then select the most significant aspects of their intellectual journey, and present these in the form of a poster. The subsequent poster presentation could then be attended by members of the teaching staff, who could circulate, ask questions, and gain a sense of how the programme has been influencing the intellectual life of the students.

Academic communication skills

The aim of these sessions is to help students fully participate in post-lecture small group discussions. Students will be able to produce the appropriate functional language items to give and politely challenge opinions, interrupt, build on previous speakers ideas, summarise, etc.

In order to achieve these aims, there will be an emphasis early on in the programme on functional language for seminars, as well as tools for critically evaluating arguments

Teaching hours

Timings and duration of programme components are typically as follows:

- three sessions, totalling 4.5 hours, per day of learning (between 9am - 10.30am, 11am - 12pm, 1pm - 3pm)
- the total number of study hours per week will be up to 22.5.

We are happy to discuss precise timing with you to ensure we meet any requirements you may have.

Our approach to teaching

We aim to provide active and experiential learning with participants involved and engaged intellectually and effectively. Teachers will be responsive to participant needs and be flexible in adapting them if required.

Student evaluation

As well as giving the students formative feedback during the sessions, a summative end-of-course interview will conclude the programme. Feedback will be given both one-to-one and in writing.

Programme evaluation

The programme will be evaluated both formatively and summatively.

Formative evaluation

Typically we use an end-of-week-one feedback questionnaire as a vehicle for mid-course formative evaluation. Tutors, our admin team and the Programme Manager will continually monitor issues that arise in the delivery of the programme through regular contact with participants.

Summative evaluation

An on-line end-of-course written evaluation will inform us of revisions and adjustments to be made for future groups. A post-programme tutors' meeting will assess the effectiveness of the course structure, materials and activities, and generate action points to guide programme development. These will be followed up in a pre-course planning meeting for any further cohort. A programme report and evaluation will be sent after the programme along with participant grades and reports, as appropriate.

Certificate

On successful completion of the programme, participants will receive a University of York certificate of attendance.

Staffing

Programme Management and Administration

A Programme Manager will be appointed to oversee all aspects of programme design, delivery and evaluation, and will be the main point of contact.

Teaching

Teaching will be carried out by qualified and experienced staff who will be confirmed nearer the time. We have our own team of teachers and a pool of regular part-time teachers who all have specialist teaching qualifications. Key-note lecturers can also be provided by specialist academics from the university departments.

Senior staff involved in this programme

Matt Smelt-Webb

Matt is Head of York Courses, Centre for Global Programmes. He studied Economics at the University of Manchester, holds a postgraduate certificate and Diploma in English Language Teaching and has a Masters in Management from the University of Durham Business School. He has 20 years' experience of teaching English for General, Specific and Academic Purposes and he has taught and developed courses in professional communication skills to managers and diplomats in the UK and overseas. After training in Oman, he worked in Turkey, The Czech Republic and Portugal and became a Director of Studies at International House, Lodz, Poland and trained teachers in the Baltic States before returning to the UK to work as a Business English and Communication Skills trainer for York Associates. He managed and developed bespoke specialist programmes at the Centre for English Language Teaching for fourteen years before he and his team joined with the Study Abroad Office to form the Centre for Global Programmes. His publications include a business grammar pack and teacher's books for business English course books.

Nick Milner

Nick is Deputy Head of York Courses. He has over 25 years of experience working in ELT as a teacher, teacher trainer and manager. He worked in Spain for 10 years teaching both General and Business English, including work as a Cambridge Examiner. He then worked in Cambridge and York as a Director of Studies before spending 6 years working as Head of the International Department at a private secondary school. As well as a BA in English, a Postgraduate Certificate in Teaching and a Diploma in TESOL, Nick also studied a Diploma in ELT Management and he specialises in professional development, teacher training and Internationalisation of HE.

Aoife Burke

Aoife is a Programme Manager. She has been teaching and developing curriculum in the field of ELT and methodology for over 10 years. As an educator, she has taught English language in a range of educational contexts. She has spent time working in Spain and Japan before she took up her current post at the University of York. Aoife specialises in developing and delivering bespoke courses for international students and holds a Diploma in English Language Teaching as well as an MA in Education (Leadership and Management).

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Suzanne Khouja

Suzanne Khouja is a Programme Manager. She has worked in ELT for over 25 years in both teaching and managerial roles. She spent 20 years in Spain teaching General and Business English as well as exam preparation classes. She was also an accredited Cambridge examiner. Suzanne taught in France and Japan before taking up a permanent position at the University of York after many years teaching on summer courses here. Suzanne specialises in intercultural communication, EMI, teacher training and the development of external exam preparation, especially IELTS. She holds an MA in Applied Linguistics and an IH Certificate for the Teaching of Young Learners.

Accommodation and catering

Campus accommodation in student bedrooms can be provided in the summer months. Participants will have access to kitchens and kitchen equipment.

Weekday lunches can be bought at one of the many cafes and restaurants on campus. Lunches are also available at the campus Market Square which houses a supermarket and other shops.

Programme Costs

Guideline costs for the proposed programme in 2023.

Item	Cost (£)
All-inclusive fee per student	£2760.00

The above costs are based on a group of at least 10 students participating in the three-week programme.

Tuition fee includes:

- ✓ All teaching materials (including classroom materials)
- ✓ Access to online teaching platform
- ✓ Accommodation on campus
- ✓ Lectures and seminars
- ✓ Homework and marking
- ✓ Welcome and farewell events
- ✓ Assessment
- ✓ Welfare support
- ✓ Airport pick ups and drop offs
- ✓ End of course certificate
- ✓ Timetabled trips including buses and entry fees
- ✓ Access to pre-course website
- ✓ Access to email and library
- ✓ Access to student social coordinators or mentors
- ✓ Access to social programme
- ✓ Access to post course International Conversation Afternoons



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