

PhD Scholarships in Philosophy

with the Centre for Ethics as Study in Human Value

Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, University of Pardubice, Czech Republic



Centre for Ethics as Study in Human Value invites graduates in philosophy and neighbouring disciplines to apply for an internationally open PhD scholarship. Alongside conducting research in ethics and political philosophy, a key part of the Centre's aim is to foster the development of the next generation of academics. To its PhD students, it offers an inspiring environment of a friendly community of researchers and doctoral students, a regular PhD seminar, and the opportunity to engage in the philosophical life of the Centre, including participation in conferences, workshops and seminars. The students can use a well-furnished PhD room and a common room, as well as the Centre's library and study. Full-time PhD students pay no tuition fee, receive a monthly stipend and have funding opportunities for travel.

The Centre for Ethics brings together a group of international researchers in ethics and political philosophy to work on issues surrounding the distinctive value of human life. Alongside the study of general ethical and political problems, the Centre favours a ground-up approach to timely topics, such as attitudes towards marginalised groups and topics including populism, nationalism, religious conflict, and climate change. The Centre has working links with partner institutions including King's College London, University of Melbourne, University of Uppsala, Åbo Akademi, Tilburg University, University of Genoa and University College Dublin. The Centre has hosted prestigious research projects, for instance the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action fellowships.

Areas of possible research projects include

- Climate justice, environmental and animal ethics
- The value of humanity, racism, sexism, homophobia, social exclusion
- Social and political emotions, postfactism, populism and demagoguery
- Philosophy of emotions, situated affectivity
- Patriotism, nationalism, cosmopolitanism and liberal universalism
- Home, family, ethics of closeness and distance
- Good and evil, remorse, shame, punishment, forgiveness
- Ancient ethics, virtue ethics, Platonic ethics, Socratic dialogue
- Ethics and technology, AI, robotics, new media, digital ethics
- Morality in philosophy and art, ethics and literature

Research projects of our current PhD students

- Minds of their own: A scientifically grounded animal ethics theory
- The Role of Attention in Animal Ethics Education
- Hermeneutical Responsibility and Resistance in Environmental Ethics
- An analysis of ethical challenges exposed in vulnerable communities through hyper-personalization of digital content
- Coming alive to a sentient world
- A Non-dualistic Foundation of Platonic Ethics
- Pyrrhonian Scepticism and the Possibility of Attaining Tranquility as an Ultimate Ethical End
- The Origin of Evil in Plato
- Rethinking Mortality Through Existential Concept of Natality
- Eco-Ontology: The Flesh in Merleau-Ponty and Deleuze

Practical information

Applicants are strongly encouraged to consult their Research Proposal with their prospective supervisor in advance to learn about how to write it. Possible supervisors and co-supervisors include: Ondřej Beran, Silvia Caprioglio Panizza, Matej Cívik, Niklas Forsberg, Antony Fredriksson, Ondřej Krása, John Lippitt, Kamila Pacovská. (The research team of the Centre: <https://centreforethics.upce.cz/en/team>)

The standard length of study is 4 years in the full-time study mode. Full-time, resident students admitted to the PhD programme pay no tuition fees and receive a monthly stipend (approx. 1000 EUR) to defray living expenses.

The working language of the PhD programme and of the Centre is English and applicants should have a good grasp of academic English. No knowledge of Czech is required.

The University of Pardubice is located within walking distance from the historical centre of Pardubice, a charming city in the heart of Europe. Pardubice is well connected by train to several major European cities, including Prague (1 hour) and Vienna (3 hours).

Application deadline: 30 April 2026

Interviews: mid May 2026

Decision: by the end of May 2026

Starting date: 1 October 2026

Contact for inquiries:

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Information about admission requirements



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Come and visit our team! We are happy to help with Erasmus and Ceepus mobility, or with other scholarships. You can also come as a freemover.

