Rules for selection for *Philosophy, Politics and Economic2027-2028*
These rules are established by the Executive Board of Utrecht University, on 29-09-2026.

Utrecht University's undergraduate programme Philosophy, Politics and Economics is classified as a small-scale, intensive programme, and it is designed for ambitious students. Therefore, the programme will select a maximum of 75 students per year.

1. Admittance to the selection procedure

1.1. Preliminary education
In order to be admitted to the undergraduate programme Philosophy, Politics and Economics for the 2027-2028 academic year, the candidate must have successfully completed one of the following preliminary educational requirements by 31 August 2027:

- A VWO diploma with the subjects Mathematics A or B;
- A comparable international diploma (such as an International Baccalaureate (IB) with equivalent exam subject(s) in Mathematics).

A completed first year of a Dutch university of applied sciences (HBO) degree programme or an HBO degree certificate, with a demonstrated pre-university secondary school (VWO) level knowledge of Mathematics A or B (wiskunde A or wiskunde B). One way to do this is to take an examination at Boswell-Bèta (in Dutch). We also accept the OMPT-A Mathematics exam (minimal 75%).

1.2. English
Given that English is the official language of the undergraduate programme Philosophy, Politics and Economics, non-native speakers have to prove their proficiency. PPE accepts the following exams:

- VWO diploma with a grade 7 or higher for English; or
- IELTS, Academic Module. Minimum score: 7.0 overall band, with at least a 6.5 for each component (writing, reading, speaking, listening); or
- TOEFL, Internet based. Minimum score: 100, with at least 25 for speaking, 22 for listening, and at least 24 for the other sections (reading, writing). Institutional scores are not accepted. The TOEFL institution code for Utrecht University is 9062; or
- Cambridge Certificates:
- Cambridge English C1 Advanced (CAE). Minimum score: 185 total, with at least 176 for each component; or
- Cambridge English C2 Proficiency (CPE). Minimum score: 185 total, with at least 176 for each component; or
- For HBO candidates: a state examination (in Dutch) administered by the Dutch Education Executive Agency (DUO: Dienst Uitvoering Onderwijs). The deadline for registration for this exam is 31 December.

For a complete list of exemptions, we refer to: https://www.uu.nl/en/bachelors/general-information/how-to-apply/english-language-requirements/emi-advanced

2. The application and selection procedure

2.1. Candidates must register via Studielink for the undergraduate programme Philosophy, Politics and Economics no later than January 14 (23:59 CET) of 2027.

2.2. Students who have registered for the undergraduate programme Philosophy, Politics and Economics in time and fulfil the requirements, will be included as candidates in the selection process for admission in the 2027-2028 academic year.

2.3. Candidates are asked to provide the following documents:

- An official transcript of grades (final or pre-final year);

- Contact information of a current or former school teacher, advisor, or mentor, of whom we ask to fill in a recommendation form.
- A written motivation (according to a prescribed format);
- The results of a profile test (standard test).

2.4. Candidates must complete their application, including all required documents, no later than January 14 (23:59 CET) of 2027. Candidates who have not, or who have only partially completed their application, or who have submitted it after this date, will be excluded from further participation in the admissions process for the undergraduate programme Philosophy, Politics and Economics.

2.5 Candidates will be selected on the basis of a ranking, which is made by using the following criteria:
- Lower-order cognitive skills (40%)
- Higher-order cognitive skills (15%)
- Match with the programme, in terms of its focus (studying political and economic issues from multiple perspectives), its educational philosophy (small-scale and intensive education) and its international/intercultural orientation (45%)

2.6. The documents mentioned in article 2.3 will be used to assess the criteria mentioned in article 2.5., in the following way:
- Lower-order cognitive skills are assessed on the basis of the transcript of grades and the competence profile test.
- Higher-order cognitive skills are assessed on the basis of the written motivation and letter of recommendation. Match with the programme is assessed by the written motivation and the letter of recommendation.

On this basis, and in consideration of the programme's aim to offer its students a diverse classroom, all candidates will be ranked.

2.7 An oral interview may be held to help the Admissions Committee reach its final admission decisions. The interview process provides a platform for applicants to highlight the perspective they aim to bring to PPE Utrecht. If such are offered, they will be held online or in-person in mid-April 2027, exact dates will be communicated in time.

2.8. The results of the selection are only valid for admission to the undergraduate programme Philosophy, Politics and Economics for the 2027-2028 academic year. PPE does not offer deferred admission.
2.9. The applicant will receive written notification whether they have been admitted to the programme before the end of April 2027

2.10. The applicant must accept (or decline) this notification of admission within two weeks of receipt. A notification of admission that has not been accepted within two weeks will expire.

2.11. A candidate may submit an objection to the selection decision to the Executive Board of Utrecht University (Submit an appeal - Practical matters - Students UU) within six weeks after the date indicated on the admission decision.

Administrative data
Programme code: CROHO 54999
Study programme: Philosophy, Politics and Economics
Number of limited enrolment places: 75
Formal starting date of selection: 1 October 2026
Contact: