

Choose
UMSL

Philosophy MA

Philosophy is about hard questions: Are we free? Is there a God? What is knowledge? What should I do with my life? Philosophy develops your skills in thinking, analysis, writing, argumentation, and critical reading. Studying philosophy makes you more open-minded: you'll encounter the ideas of people who have lived lives very different from yours, and you'll be impressed by them. Philosophy is enormously interesting and rewarding. If anyone ever asks you "why study philosophy" you'll answer "why haven't you started yet?"

Career Outlook

Employers increasingly value the analytical, critical thinking, and writing skills taught in philosophy programs making our graduates highly sought after. In addition, philosophy graduates consistently outperform in mid-career earnings. Thus, a philosophy MA provides excellent preparation for many different career pathways.

Future Career Options

- Philosophy professor
- Lawyer
- Journalist
- Secondary and higher education teacher
- Non-profit professional
- Patient care advocate
- Human resources, employee relations, and benefits coordinator
- Interpersonal consulting
- Mediation/conflict management
- Mental health counselor
- Career counselor
- Human Rights officer

Skills developed through degree completion

- Read and engage critically with a broad range of historical and contemporary philosophy
- Understand moral theories and apply them to ethical and practical problems
- Understand methods and formal reasoning tools and apply them using research skills
- Apply philosophical concepts, analytical skills, and critical thinking to other disciplines
- Create, write, present, and defend own philosophical views clearly

2-YEAR ACADEMIC MAP

Successful alumni have gone on to fulfill many of the opportunities above. Additional possibilities are taken from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Contact an advisor to discuss additional future career options.

UMSL | Arts &
Sciences
University of Missouri–St. Louis

College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Philosophy
599 Lucas Hall
314-516-5631
umsl.edu/~philo

Master of Arts in Philosophy

Full-Time Student

Year 1 FALL SEMESTER (9 credit hours)

1

PHIL 5400: Proseminar in Philosophy (3)
PHIL 5410: Seminar in Significant Figures in Philosophy (3)
PHIL Seminar in Epistemology (3)

SPRING SEMESTER (9 credit hours)

PHIL 5530: Seminar in Social and Political Philosophy (3)
PHIL 5561: Graduate Formal Logic (3)
PHIL 5580: Seminar in Philosophy of Science (3)

Year 2 FALL SEMESTER (9 credit hours)

2

PHIL 5478: Seminar in Philosophy of Mind (3)
PHIL 5538: Seminar in Ethical Theory (3)
PHIL 5545: Seminar in Metaphysics (3)

SPRING SEMESTER (6 credit hours)

PHIL 5410: Seminar in Significant Figures in Philosophy (3)
PHIL 5495: Thesis Research (6)

Part-Time Student

Year 1 FALL SEMESTER (6 credit hours)

1

PHIL 5400: Proseminar in Philosophy (3)
PHIL 5410: Seminar in Significant Figures in Philosophy (3)

SPRING SEMESTER (6 credit hours)

PHIL 5530: Seminar in Social and Political Philosophy (3)
PHIL 5561: Graduate Formal Logic (3)

Year 2 FALL SEMESTER (6 credit hours)

2

PHIL 5478: Seminar in Philosophy of Mind (3)
PHIL Seminar in Epistemology (3)

SPRING SEMESTER (6 credit hours)

PHIL 5580: Seminar in Philosophy of Science (3)
PHIL 5478: Seminar in Significant Figures in Philosophy (3)

Year 3 FALL SEMESTER (6 credit hours)

3

PHIL 5545: Seminar in Metaphysics (3)
PHIL 5538: Seminar in Ethical Theory (3)

SPRING SEMESTER (6 credit hours)

PHIL 5495: Thesis Research (6)

2023-2024

2-YEAR ACADEMIC MAP

This is a sample academic map for the courses to take each academic semester/session. It does not include all the available exit tracks. **This map is not a substitute for academic advisement.** Contact your advisor when making final selections.

- Summer and Intersession courses

Don't forget that summers and winter breaks are a way to fast-track your route to degree completion – and lighten your load during fall and spring!

- Apply for Graduation

Don't forget that students should apply for graduation the semester that you intend to graduate, so apply prior to the deadline!



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888-GO-2-UMSL

314-516-5451

admissions.umsl.edu

Degree completed!

