

Philosophy MA

Philosophy is about hard questions: Are we free? Is there a God? What is knowledge? What should I do with my life? In addressing these questions, philosophy develops your skills in thinking, analysis, writing, argumentation, and critical reading. Studying philosophy makes you more open-minded; you will encounter the ideas of people who have lived lives very different from yours, and you will be impressed by them. Philosophy is enormously interesting and rewarding. If anyone ever asks you "Why study philosophy?" You will 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

- · Career Counselor
- Human Resources, Employee Relations, and Benefits Coordinator
- · Human Rights Officer
- · Interpersonal Consulting
- Journalist
- · Lawyer/Paralegal
- · Mediation/Conflict Management
- · Mental Health Counselor
- · Nonprofit Professional/Community Affairs Liaison
- · Patient Care Advocate
- · Secondary and Higher Education Teacher

Skills Developed By 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

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.



STARTS RIGHT NOW

This is a sample academic map for the courses to take each academic semester/session. This map is not a substitute for academic advisement. Contact your advisor when making final selections.



APPLY FOR GRADUATION

Don't forget that students should apply for graduation one year prior to the intended graduation date, so apply prior to the deadline.

umsl.edu

888-GO-2-UMSL 314-516-5451 umsl.edu/gradschool

2024-2025 ACADEMIC MAP

PHIL 5495: Thesis Research (6)

Year	Master of Arts in Philosophy Full-Time Student: FALL SEMESTER (9 credit hours) PHIL 5400: Proseminar in Philosophy (3) PHIL 5410: Seminar in Significant Figures in Philosophy (3) Philosophy Seminar in Epistemology (3) SPRING SEMESTER (9 credit hours) PHIL 5530: Seminar in Social and Political Policy (3) PHIL 5561: Graduate Formal Logic (3) PHIL 5580: Seminar in Philosophy of Science (3)	•	Check once completed
Year 2	FALL SEMESTER (9 credit hours) PHIL 5478: Seminar in Philosophy of Mind (3) PHIL 5538: Seminar in Metaphysics (3) PHIL 5545: Seminar in Ethical Theory (3) SPRING SEMESTER (9 credit hours) PHIL 5410: Seminar in Significant Figures in Philosophy (3) PHIL 5495: Thesis Research (6)		
Year	Part-Time Student: FALL SEMESTER (6 credit hours) 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 Policy (3) PHIL 5561: Graduate Formal Logic (3)		
Year 2	FALL SEMESTER (6 credit hours) PHIL 5478: Seminar in Philosophy of Mind (3) Philosophy Seminar in Epistemology (3) SPRING SEMESTER (6 credit hours) PHIL 5478: Seminar in Philosophy of Mind (3) PHIL 5580: Seminar in Philosophy of Science (3)	•	
Year 3	FALL SEMESTER (6 credit hours) PHIL 5538: Seminar in Metaphysics (3) PHIL 5545: Seminar in Ethical Theory (3) SPRING SEMESTER (6 credit hours)		

Last updated May 2024