PHILOSOPHY, M.A.

Saint Louis University's Master of Arts in Philosophy is designed for students who want to broaden their philosophical knowledge through graduate studies without necessarily intending to pursue a Ph.D (https://catalog.slu.edu/colleges-schools/arts-sciences/philosophy/philosophy-phd/).

Curriculum Overview

Courses in SLU's philosophy graduate program examine historical and contemporary issues such as problems in metaphysics, epistemology, social and political ethics and philosophy of religion, among others.

Graduate Handbook (https://www.slu.edu/arts-and-sciences/philosophy/gradhandbook2020.pdf)

Fieldwork and Research Opportunities

Unique resources available to the program include the international philosophical journal *Res Philosophica*; the Vatican Film Library, one of the finest repositories of its kind in the Western hemisphere; and the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

There are regular opportunities to work with eminent visiting scholars, numerous colloquia and conferences, a wide variety of reading groups and opportunities to participate in exchange programs.

Careers

Possible careers for philosophy graduates include diplomat, professor, lawyer, church minister and public service official.

Admission Requirements

There are no requirements for acceptance into the graduate program in philosophy. However, a philosophy major is strongly recommended. In general, at least six philosophy courses are expected, including logic and history of philosophy.

The application deadline is March 1.

Application Requirements

- Application form and fee
- Transcript(s)
- Three letters of recommendation
- Résumé
- Professional goal statement
- Writing sample

Requirements for International Students

All admission policies and requirements for domestic students apply to international students. International students must also meet the following additional requirements:

- Demonstrate English Language Proficiency (https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/office-admission/undergraduate/english-language-proficiency/)
- Financial documents are required to complete an application for admission and be reviewed for admission and merit scholarships.
- Proof of financial support that must include:
  - A letter of financial support from the person(s) or sponsoring agency funding the student's time at Saint Louis University
  - A letter from the sponsor's bank verifying that the funds are available and will be so for the duration of the student's study at the University
- Academic records, in English translation, of students who have undertaken postsecondary studies outside the United States must include:
  - Courses taken and/or lectures attended
  - Practical laboratory work
  - The maximum and minimum grades attainable
  - The grades earned or the results of all end-of-term examinations
  - Any honors or degrees received.

WES and ECE transcripts are accepted.

Review Process

Applications are reviewed by a committee of philosophy department faculty members.

Tuition

Tuition	Cost Per Credit
Graduate Tuition	$1,310

Additional charges may apply. Other resources are listed below:

Net Price Calculator (https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/tuition-and-costs/calculator.php)

Information on Tuition and Fees (https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition/)

Miscellaneous Fees (https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/fees/)

Information on Summer Tuition (https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition-summer/)

Scholarships and Financial Aid

For priority consideration for departmental graduate scholarships, students should complete their applications by the program admission deadlines listed.

For more information, visit the student financial services office online at http://www.slu.edu/financial-aid (http://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/).

Learning Outcomes

1. Graduates will be able to analyze and defend a philosophical position on a philosophical problem.
2. Graduates will be able to gather sources relevant to a philosophical problem.
3. Graduates will be able to interpret sources relevant to a philosophical problem.
4. Graduates will be able to synthesize sources relevant to a philosophical problem.

Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
History Requirement		
Select a course with the "Ancient Philosophy" attribute		3
Select a course with the "Medieval Philosophy" attribute		3
Select a course with the "Modern Philosophy" attribute		3
Philosophy Elective Courses †		27
Total Credits		**36**

† • Up to 6 credits may be taken outside of philosophy, with approval from the advisor.
  • Up to 6 credits may be taken at the 4000-level.
  • No more than 6 credits may be in PHIL 5970 Research Topics or PHIL 5980 Graduate Reading Course , or a combination thereof.
  • Students' writing an M.A. thesis must enroll in PHIL 5990 Thesis Research (0-6 cr).

Non-Course Requirements

 Proficiency in a foreign language, if needed for research

Continuation Standards

Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 in all graduate/professional courses.

Roadmap

Roadmaps are recommended semester-by-semester plans of study for programs and assume full-time enrollment unless otherwise noted.

Courses and milestones designated as critical (marked with !) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation. Transfer credit may change the roadmap.

This roadmap should not be used in the place of regular academic advising appointments. All students are encouraged to meet with their advisor/mentor each semester. Requirements, course availability and sequencing are subject to change.

Course	Title	Credits
Year One		
Fall		
PHIL 6400	Ancient Philosophy (See program notes)	3
PHIL 6220	Advanced Logic	3
PHIL 6300	Advanced Ethics	3
	Credits	**9**
Spring		
PHIL 6450	Medieval Philosophy (See program notes)	3
PHIL 6340	Advanced Epistemology	3
PHIL 6360	Seminar in Political Philosophy	3
	Credits	**9**
Year Two		
Fall		
PHIL 6500	Modern Philosophy (See program notes)	3
PHIL 6260	Problems in Philosophy of Religion	3
PHIL 6000	Seminar in Major Philosopher in Ethics	3
	Credits	**9**
Spring		
PHIL 6200	Philosophy of Science	3
PHIL 5990	Thesis Research (See program notes)	6
	Credits	**9**
	Total Credits	**36**

Program Notes

Requirements for the Master of Arts:

• 36 credits total (over two years)
• History Requirement: 9 credits distributed as follows: 3 hrs in Ancient, 3 hrs in Medieval and 3 hrs in Modern.
• PHIL 5990 Thesis Research (0-6 cr) may be taken in the second year, under advisor supervision.
• Up to 6 credits may be taken outside of philosophy, with approval from the advisor
• No more than six credits may be in Research Topics (PHIL 6970 Graduate Research Topics (1-3 cr), or PHIL 5980 Graduate Reading Course (1-3 cr) or a combination thereof.
• Proficiency in a foreign language, if needed for research.

Contact Us

For more information about our program, please contact:

Kent Staley, Ph.D.
Coordinator of Graduate Studies
Department of Philosophy
kent.staley@slu.edu
314-977-3151