

PHILOSOPHY, B.A. TO PHILOSOPHY, M.A. ACCELERATED PROGRAM (BEGINNING FALL 2026)

Saint Louis University's accelerated Philosophy B.A. to M.A. program offers qualified philosophy majors the opportunity of beginning work toward the M.A. degree in philosophy while completing requirements for the B.A., thereby reducing the time needed to earn the M.A. degree.

SLU's philosophy graduate program is ranked by the Philosophical Gourmet Report (<https://philosophicalgourmet.com/>) near the top 50 (of the 200 such programs in the USA) and is ranked among the best in the world for Medieval Philosophy and Philosophy of Religion.

For additional information, see the catalog entries for the following SLU programs:

Philosophy, B.A. (<https://catalog.slu.edu/colleges-schools/arts-sciences/philosophy/philosophy-ba/>)

Philosophy, M.A. (<https://catalog.slu.edu/colleges-schools/arts-sciences/philosophy/philosophy-ma/>)

Requirements

Admission Requirements

To be admitted to the accelerated program, students should have a minimum of 75 earned undergraduate credits with an overall GPA of 3.80 in their philosophy. They must also have completed the following courses:

- PHIL 1700 (<https://courseleaf.slu.edu/search/?P=PHIL%201700>) The Examined Life: Ultimate Questions (3 cr) or a course that meets the Ultimate Questions: Philosophy core attribute
- PHIL 2050 (<https://courseleaf.slu.edu/search/?P=PHIL%202050>) Ethics (3 cr)
- PHIL 4040 (<https://courseleaf.slu.edu/search/?P=PHIL%204040>) Symbolic Logic (3 cr)
- Two other PHIL courses at the 4000-level

Program Requirements

During the accelerated program, students will be required to take PHIL 5980 (<https://courseleaf.slu.edu/search/?P=PHIL%205980>) Graduate Independent Study in Philosophy (1-3 cr) in lieu of the undergraduate senior inquiry course, PHIL 4880 (<https://courseleaf.slu.edu/search/?P=PHIL%204880>) Senior Inquiry: Project (0,3 cr). Students can then take up to an additional 12 credits PHIL courses at the 5000 level and above that will count towards the master's degree and as Philosophy Electives in the bachelor's in philosophy.

Once students progress into the M.A. program, they will be required to finish whatever remaining M.A. requirements.

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		
HIST 1000	History Matters	3
CORE 1000	Ignite First Year Seminar	2-3
CORE 1500	Cura Personalis 1: Self in Community	1
PHIL 1700	The Examined Life: Ultimate Questions	3
HIST 1200	Communicating About History	3
Elective		3
Credits		15-16
Spring		
HIST 2800	Historian's Craft: Methods Proseminar	3
CORE 1600	Ultimate Questions: Theology	3
ENGL 1900	Advanced Strategies of Rhetoric and Research	3
PHIL 2050	Ethics	3
Elective		3
Credits		15
Year Two		
Fall		
CORE 3800	Ways of Thinking: Natural and Applied Sciences	3
PHIL 4040	Symbolic Logic	3
Undergraduate University Core and/or Electives		9
Credits		15
Spring		
PHIL 4XXX course		3
PHIL 3XXX course		3
CORE 2800	Eloquentia Perfecta 3: Creative Expression	2-3
Undergraduate University Core and/or Electives		6
Credits		14-15
Year Three		
Fall		
CORE 3500	Cura Personalis 3: Self in the World	1
PHIL 4XXX course		3
Undergraduate University Core and/or Electives		12
Apply to accelerated program		
Credits		16
Spring		
PHIL 5450	Ancient Philosophy	3
CORE 3600	Ways of Thinking: Social and Behavioral Sciences	3
Undergraduate University Core and/or Electives		9
Credits		15

Year Four**Fall**

PHIL 5500	Medieval Philosophy	3
PHIL 5980	Graduate Independent Study in Philosophy	3
Undergraduate University Core and/or Electives		9
Credits		15

Spring

PHIL 5600	Modern Philosophy	3
PHIL 5/6XXX Elective		3
Undergraduate University Core and/or Electives		9

B.A. degree conferred

Credits	15
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Summer

PHIL 5980	Graduate Independent Study in Philosophy	3
Credits		3

Year Five**Fall**

PHIL 5/6XXX Electives		9
Credits		9

Spring

PHIL 5/6XXX Electives		9
Credits		9

Total Credits	141-143
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Contact Us

For additional information about this program, please contact slphilosophy@slu.edu or call 314-977-3149.