

PHILOSOPHY - M.A.

College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Philosophy
www.kent.edu/philosophy

About This Program

The Master of Arts degree in Philosophy offers intensive, in-depth study of philosophy, with particular attention to the diversity of philosophical methods, perspectives and traditions, as well as their relation to other disciplines. Read more...

Contact Information

- Program Coordinator: **Gina Zavota** | gzavota@kent.edu | 330-672-0266
- Connect with an Admissions Counselor: U.S. Student | International Student

Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
 - In person
- **Location:**
 - Kent Campus

Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries*

Philosophy and religion teachers, postsecondary

- 6.7% faster than the average
- 30,900 number of jobs
- \$76,160 potential earnings

Lawyers

- 4.0% about as fast as the average
- 813,900 number of jobs
- \$126,930 potential earnings

Social workers, all other

- 5.1% faster than the average
- 62,500 number of jobs
- \$64,210 potential earnings

Public relations and fundraising managers

- 9.2% much faster than the average
- 88,000 number of jobs
- \$118,430 potential earnings

Social and community service managers

- 17.0% much faster than the average
- 175,500 number of jobs
- \$69,600 potential earnings

Media and communication workers, all other

- 8.1% much faster than the average
- 35,200 number of jobs
- \$49,730 potential earnings

News analysts, reporters, and journalists

- -11.2% decline
- 52,000 number of jobs
- \$49,300 potential earnings

Writers and authors

- -2.3% decline
- 131,200 number of jobs
- \$67,120 potential earnings

Additional Careers

- Bioethicists
- Business/management positions
- Communication specialists

* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics'

Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

For more information about graduate admissions, visit the graduate admission website. For more information on international admissions, visit the international admission website.

Admission Requirements

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university
- Minimum 3.000 undergraduate GPA on a 4.000-point scale
- Official transcript(s)
- Writing sample
- Goal statement
- Three letters of recommendation
- English language proficiency - all international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions to waive) by earning one of the following:¹
 - Minimum 102 TOEFL iBT score
 - Minimum 7.5 IELTS score
 - Minimum 73 PTE score
 - Minimum 130 DET score

¹ International applicants who do not meet the above test scores may be considered for conditional admission.

Application Deadlines

- **Fall Semester**
 - Priority deadline: February 1
Applications submitted by this deadline will receive the strongest consideration for admission.
- **Spring Semester**
 - Rolling admissions

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

| Code | Title | Credit Hours |
|---|--|--------------|
| Major Requirements | | |
| PHIL 51038 | INTERMEDIATE LOGIC | 3 |
| PHIL 60191 | GRADUATE SEMINAR ¹ | 6 |
| PHIL 69101 | PROSEMINAR: PROFESSIONAL AND PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING ² | 6 |
| Philosophy (PHIL) Elective Coursework ³ | | 15 |
| <i>Culminating Experience</i> | | |
| Thesis or Research, choose from the following: ⁴ | | 6 |
| PHIL 69199 | THESIS I | |
| PHIL 69998 | RESEARCH | |
| Additional Philosophy (PHIL) coursework and a paper | | |
| Minimum Total Credit Hours: | | 36 |

¹ Students take PHIL 60191 in their second and third semesters in the program.

² Beyond required and elective coursework, students are required to participate in PHIL 69101 for each semester in residence. Maximum 6 credit hours of the course may be counted toward the degree requirements. The graduate coordinator, in consultation with the graduate faculty, will consider various options for satisfying the graduate proseminar requirement where circumstances dictate.

³ One graduate course in a discipline outside of philosophy may be taken with departmental approval.

⁴ Proposals for a culminating experience can be made only after a student has met the following requirements: completion of (or present good standing in) one section each of PHIL 51038 and PHIL 60191, as well as 6 credit hours of elective course work.

Graduation Requirements

| Minimum Major GPA | Minimum Overall GPA |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| - | 3.000 |

- Students who lack background preparation in a specific area will be required to take an undergraduate course and earn a minimum B grade in that course as a prerequisite to further graduate study. The student's advisory group, in consultation with the graduate coordinator, will determine which course prerequisites are needed.
- No more than one-half of a graduate student's coursework may be taken in 50000-level courses.
- Grades below C are not counted toward completion of requirements for the degree.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the history of philosophy from the classical period to the present day, of the various fields of philosophical inquiry and of central philosophical questions, both historical and contemporary.
2. Articulate and defend their positions through philosophical argumentation in both written and oral form.

3. Successfully navigate the professional academic world and prepare strong applications to doctoral programs, if they choose to continue their studies after completion of the master's degree.

Full Description

The Master of Arts degree in Philosophy offers intensive, in-depth study of philosophy, with particular attention to the diversity and plurality of philosophical methods, perspectives and traditions, and their relation to other disciplines.

Most of our graduates go on to pursue doctoral degrees in philosophy, while others are seeking a terminal master's degree in philosophy to supplement and enhance their careers or their work in other disciplines.

The graduate program stresses both breadth and depth and offers students the option of a thesis or a non-thesis research project as a culminating experience.