



Twin Cities Campus

Philosophy M.A.

Philosophy Department

College of Liberal Arts

Link to a [list of faculty](#) for this program.

Contact Information:

Department of Philosophy, 271 19th Avenue South, 831 Heller Hall, Minneapolis, MN 55455-0310 (612-625-6563; fax: 612-626-8380)

Email: umphil@umn.edu

Website: <http://www.philosophy.umn.edu>

- Program Type: Master's
- Requirements for this program are current for Spring 2020
- Length of program in credits: 30
- This program does not require summer semesters for timely completion.
- Degree: Master of Arts

Along with the program-specific requirements listed below, please read the [General Information](#) section of the catalog website for requirements that apply to all major fields.

Students are primarily admitted to the PhD program, while admission to the MA is intended for those with professional goals in other fields, and is limited (0-2 candidates per year).

Philosophy is noteworthy for its emphasis on the individual student's research interests. With the help of an advisor, students design their own program of study, which consists of the philosophy major and either a supporting program or a minor. The minor or supporting program, drawn at least in part from a department or departments other than philosophy, complements the student's research focus. Students gain a broad base of knowledge through required coursework. Terminal MA students are required to take two history courses; one in ancient philosophy and one in modern.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

Prerequisites for Admission

Other requirements to be completed before admission:

Recognizing that evidence of ability to pursue graduate study in philosophy is diverse, the department does not specify prerequisites for admission. Normally, those admitted have a broad undergraduate background that includes some courses in philosophy.

Special Application Requirements:

Students must apply to both the University and the Department of Philosophy. The department application for admission and aid is available from the Admissions and Aid Committee at the address listed above, or may be downloaded from the philosophy website at www.philosophy.umn.edu. All application materials may be uploaded the Graduate School Admissions website. Department materials required include a completed application form, personal statement, transcripts, scores from the GRE General Test, three letters of recommendation, and a writing sample. Students interested in DOVE or ICGC Fellowship (Interdisciplinary Center for Global Change) should include a statement expressing their interest. Students interested in the ICGC Fellowship should also contact the Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Global Change. Applications, together with all supporting materials, must be received by December 31. The philosophy department reviews applications once a year, and admits students for entry in the fall semester only.

Applicants must submit their test score(s) from the following:

- GRE

International applicants must submit score(s) from one of the following tests:

- TOEFL
 - Internet Based - Total Score: 79
 - Internet Based - Writing Score: 21
 - Internet Based - Reading Score: 19
 - Paper Based - Total Score: 550
- IELTS
 - Total Score: 6.5



- MELAB

Key to [test abbreviations](#)(GRE, TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB).

For an online application or for more information about graduate education admissions, see the [General Information](#) section of the catalog website.

Program Requirements

Plan A: Plan A requires 14 major credits, 6 credits outside the major, and 10 thesis credits. The final exam is written and oral.

Plan B: Plan B requires 24 major credits and 6 credits outside the major. The final exam is written and oral. A capstone project is required.

Capstone Project: The project is three Plan B papers. For details see Philosophy Department Degree Program: MA, available as a PDF on the philosophy website at www.philosophy.umn.edu.

This program may be completed with a minor.

Use of 4xxx courses toward program requirements is permitted under certain conditions with adviser approval.

A minimum GPA of 3.00 is required for students to remain in good standing.

Use of 4xxx level courses toward program requirements is permitted under certain conditions with advisor approval. For graduate credit, students must enroll in the appropriate 8xxx level (1 credit) accompanying workshop.

Courses from outside the Philosophy department, in consultation with the director of graduate studies, may be applied towards the major credit requirement in certain circumstances.

Required Philosophy Courses

Philosophy coursework should show that consideration has been paid to the diversity and variety of areas of philosophy, as well as to the student's specialized interest. The department recommends that students consult with their advisors and the director of graduate studies when choosing coursework.

Take 14 or more credit(s) from the following:

- PHIL 5xxx
- PHIL 8xxx

Outside Courses -- Related Fields

Take 6 credits outside the major in related fields or a minor.

Plan Options

Plan A

Thesis Credits

Take 10 or more credit(s) from the following:

- PHIL 8777 - Thesis Credits: Master's (1.0 - 18.0 cr)

-OR-

Plan B

Take 10 or more credit(s) from the following:

- PHIL 5xxx
- PHIL 8xxx