DOCTORATE IN PHILOSOPHY

The Department of Philosophy offers MA (with or without thesis) and PhD programs in Philosophy. The programs are offered in English and French. According to the University’s policy, students may pursue their studies in the official language of their choice.

The Department participates in the collaborative programs in Women’s Studies (at the MA level), in Medieval and Renaissance Studies (at the MA level) and in Canadian Studies (at the PhD level).

The programs are governed by the general regulations (http://www.grad.uottawa.ca/Default.aspx?tabid=1807) in effect for graduate studies.

Admission Requirements

For the most accurate and up to date information on application deadlines, language tests and other admission requirements, please visit the specific requirements (http://www.uottawa.ca/graduate-studies/programs-admission/apply/specific-requirements) webpage.

Admission Requirements

Candidates are admitted to the PhD on the basis of an MA in Philosophy with a minimum “B+” average.

An application dossier must include official transcripts, two letters of recommendation, a description of the intended field of research, and a sample of written work. For candidates wishing to enter the PhD without an MA the application dossier must include a detailed statement of research plans.

Language Requirements

Proficiency in both French and English is strongly encouraged so that students may take advantage of the full range of activities — lectures, personal contacts, and courses — available in the Department (graduate courses are normally not duplicated in the two languages).

Transfer from Master's to PhD

In addition, for those enrolled in the MA in Philosophy, the Department offers an accelerated entrance to the PhD after completing, with a minimum “A-” average, six courses and a major research paper; normally these requirements can be fulfilled within twelve months. Students accepted into the PhD by this accelerated route do not require an MA. Please note that the minimal admission average requirements for the doctoral program must also be met.

Program Requirements

Doctorate

The PhD program consists of six (one-term) courses, a comprehensive exam, a thesis project, and a thesis, including defence.

Compulsory Courses:

18 elective course units in philosophy (PHI) at the graduate level

Second Language Proficiency Requirement

Comprehensive Examination

Thesis:

PHI 8998 Candidacy Examination (PhD) 0 Unit

THD 9999 Doctoral Thesis 0 Unit

Note(s)

1 Doctoral candidates must also complete a proficiency requirement in the second official language. This requirement can be completed in one of three ways:

- Passing (50%) the FLS 1000 exam; OR
- Completing 6 units of FLS courses at your level (as determined by the Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute); OR
- Successfully completing a Philosophy graduate seminar given in French. (N.B. As per University regulations, students may write examinations and papers in the official language of their choice.)

Doctoral students must have sufficient mastery of languages to complete their research project; that is, they must be capable of studying texts in the original language and be able to check translations.

Minimum Standards

The passing grade in all courses is C+. Students who fail two courses (equivalent to 6 units), the thesis proposal, or whose research progress is deemed unsatisfactory are required to withdraw.

Duration of Program

The program is designed to be completed in four years. The maximum time permitted is six years, or seven years in the case of transfer students.

Thesis Advisory Committee

For information on the Thesis Advisory Committee, please consult the graduate studies secretariat of the Department of Philosophy.

Research

Research Fields & Facilities

Located in the heart of Canada’s capital, a few steps away from Parliament Hill, the University of Ottawa is among Canada’s top 10 research universities.

uOttawa focuses research strengths and efforts in four Strategic Areas of Development in Research (SADRs):

- Canada and the World
- Health
- e-Society
- Molecular and Environmental Sciences

With cutting-edge research, our graduate students, researchers and educators strongly influence national and international priorities.

Research at the Faculty of Arts

The Faculty of Arts is proud of the state of the art research conducted by its professors. In the spirit of showcasing its research to the university community as well as to the general public, the Faculty has created three
Facilities, Research Centres and Institutes at the Faculty of Arts


For more information, refer to the list of faculty members and their research fields on Uniweb.

IMPORTANT: Candidates and students looking for professors to supervise their thesis or research project can also consult the website of the faculty or department (https://www.uottawa.ca/graduate-studies/students/academic-unit-contact-information) of their program of choice. Uniweb does not list all professors authorized to supervise research projects at the University of Ottawa.

Courses

For a detailed description of the seminars available in any year, please consult the department webpage (http://arts.uottawa.ca/philosophy/graduate/description-of-graduate-courses). Information is normally available early in the winter for the next academic year.

PHI 5319 Aesthetics I (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5331 Ancient Philosophy I (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5332 Medieval Philosophy I (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5333 Modern Philosophy I (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5334 Anglo-American Philosophy I (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5335 French Philosophy I (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5336 German Philosophy I (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5341 Logic and Philosophy of Science I (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5342 Epistemology I (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5343 Metaphysics I (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5344 Philosophical Anthropology I (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5345 Ethics I (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5346 Social and Political Philosophy I (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5347 Philosophy of Religion I (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5348 Philosophy of History I (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5349 Ancient Philosophy II (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5350 Ancient Philosophy III (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5351 Medieval Philosophy II (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5352 Medieval Philosophy III (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5353 Modern Philosophy II (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5354 Modern Philosophy III (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5355 Anglo American Philosophy II (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5356 Anglo American Philosophy III (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5357 French Philosophy II (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5358 French Philosophy III (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5359 German Philosophy II (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5360 German Philosophy III (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5361 Logic and Philosophy of Science II (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5362 Logic and Philosophy of Science III (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5363 Epistemology II (3 units)
Course Component: Lecture

PHI 5364 Epistemology III (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5365 Metaphysics II (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5366 Metaphysics III (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5367 Philosophical Anthropology II (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5368 Philosophical Anthropology III (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5369 Ethics II (3 units)
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PHI 5370 Ethics III (3 units)
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PHI 5372 Social and Political Philosophy III (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5373 Philosophy of Religion II (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5374 Social and Political Philosophy IV (3 units)
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PHI 5381 Social and Political Philosophy XI (3 units)
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PHI 5382 Social and Political Philosophy XII (3 units)
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