MASTER OF ARTS
PHILOSOPHY
SPECIALIZATION IN MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE STUDIES

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). For more information on these programs, see “Admission Requirements.”

The collaborative master’s in Medieval and Renaissance Studies (MDR) has two goals:

- To offer at the graduate level a multi-disciplinary education in Medieval and Renaissance Studies;
- To teach students the theoretical approaches and methods of research specific to the study of the period.

Since the 16th century, study of the middle ages implies studying a ‘middle’, or intermediary period, seen as standing between two great civilizations: Roman antiquity and the modern western world. This definition has had a major impact on scholarship, crystallizing a periodization that has now become traditional in most of the humanities.

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 (https://www.uottawa.ca/graduate-studies/programs-admission/apply/specific-requirements/) webpage.

To be admitted to the MA program a candidate must have an honours BA in Philosophy (or the equivalent) with a minimum "B" average. The Department reserves the right to impose a preliminary examination.

Candidates lacking the necessary background may be admitted to a qualifying program.

An application dossier must include official transcripts and two letters of recommendation. For the master’s with thesis, the dossier must also include a description of the intended field of research, and a sample of written work in philosophy (15-25 pp.).

Collaborative Programs

The Department of Philosophy is a participating unit in the collaborative programs in Women’s Studies (master’s level only) and in Medieval and Renaissance Studies (master’s level only).

The collaborative program in Medieval and Renaissance Studies has been established for students wishing to enrich their training in Philosophy by including an interdisciplinary component in Medieval and Renaissance Studies. The specific requirements of the collaborative program include two core courses in medieval studies and a thesis on a topic related to Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

Students should indicate in their initial application for admission to the master’s program in Philosophy that they wish to be accepted into the collaborative program in Medieval and Renaissance Studies. Candidates must hold an honours degree or the equivalent.

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).

In accordance with the University of Ottawa regulation, students have a right to produce their work, their thesis, and to answer examination questions in French or in English.

Program Requirements

An accelerated route leading from the MA program into the PhD program is available (see PhD Program).

Master’s with Collaborative Specialization (Thesis)

Students must complete the requirements of their primary program and those of the collaborative program. The course MDV 5100 (3 units) in Medieval and Renaissance Studies will be counted towards the requirements of the primary program. Consequently, students in the specialization will have only one extra course to take.

The Master’s with Collaborative Specialization (Thesis) consists of 5 (one-term) courses, an approved thesis project, and a thesis, including defence.

Compulsory Courses (PHI):

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

Second Language Proficiency Requirement 1

Compulsory Courses (MDV):

MDV 5100 Medieval and Renaissance Studies Research Methods and Tools 3 Units

MDV 5900 Interdisciplinary Research Seminar 3 Units

Thesis Project:

PHI 6999 Preparation and Presentation of the M.A. Thesis Project

Thesis:

THM 7999 Master’s Thesis 3

Note(s):

1

MA 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.)

2 Students must complete the two compulsory courses before they enroll to the thesis.

3 The thesis must be on a topic related to Medieval and Renaissance studies; the proposed topic must be approved by the program committee of the participating unit and the committee of the collaborative program. The supervision of the thesis must be carried out by a professor approved by the collaborative program committee. At least one of the two thesis examiners must be a member of the collaborative program. The title of the degree will indicate the discipline of the participating unit with the specification "specialization in Medieval and Renaissance Studies."

Duration of Program
Students are expected to fulfill all requirements within two years. The maximum time permitted is four years from the date of initial enrollment in the program.

Minimum Standards
The passing grade in all courses is C+. Students who fail two courses (equivalent to 6 units) must withdraw from the program.

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 activities: Dean’s Lecture Series, Treasures of the Library, and Excellence Lectures.

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

PHI 5319 Aesthetics and philosophy of art (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5320 History of analytic philosophy (3 units)
Study of an aspect or a specific set of texts in contemporary analytic philosophy (19th-20th centuries). This course has variable topics and may be taken several times if the themes are different.
Course Component: Lecture

PHI 5321 History of continental philosophy (3 units)
Study of an aspect or a specific set of texts in contemporary continental philosophy (19th-20th centuries). This course has variable topics and may be taken several times if the themes are different.
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5323 Asian and Comparative Philosophy (3 units)
Internal or comparative study of an aspect or a specific set of texts in Asian philosophy. This course has variable topics and may be taken several times if the themes are different.
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5324 Philosophy of mind and cognitive science (3 units)
Study of an aspect or a specific set of texts in philosophy of mind and cognitive science. This course has variable topics and may be taken several times if the themes are different.
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5325 Metaphilosophy (3 units)
Study of an aspect or a specific set of texts in metaphilosophy and/or methodology of philosophy. This course has variable topics and may be taken several times if the themes are different.
Course Component: Seminar

PHI 5326 Metaethics (3 units)
Study of an aspect or a specific set of texts in metaethics. This course has variable topics and may be taken several times if the themes are different.
Course Component: Seminar

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

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

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

PHI 5341 Logic and Philosophy of Science (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar
Volet / Course Component:
PHI 5348 Philosophy of History (3 units)
Volet / Course Component:
PHI 5347 Philosophy of Religion (3 units)
Volet / Course Component:
PHI 5346 Social and Political Philosophy (3 units)
Volet / Course Component:
PHI 5345 Ethics (3 units)
Volet / Course Component:
PHI 5344 Philosophical Anthropology (3 units)
Volet / Course Component:
PHI 5343 Metaphysics (3 units)
Volet / Course Component:
PHI 5342 Epistemology (3 units)

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PHI 8999 Élaboration et présentation du projet de thèse de doctorat / Preparation and Presentation of Ph.D. Thesis Project
Rédaction du projet de thèse de doctorat en consultation avec le superviseur, évaluation par le comité de thèse et, dans le cas d’une approbation, présentation et défense du projet dans le cadre d’un séminaire. La note donnée sera S (satisfaisant) ou NS (non satisfaisant). / Writing of the Ph.D. thesis project in consultation with the supervisor, evaluation by the thesis committee, and, in the case of approbation, presentation and defence of the project in a seminar. The course will be graded S (satisfactory) / NS (Not satisfactory).
Volet / Course Component: Recherche / Research

MDV 5100 Medieval and Renaissance Studies Research Methods and Tools (3 units)
Approaches to the study of manuscripts (paleography, codicology, iconography) and texts (explication, diplomatics, liturgy, stemmata) of the period.
Course Component: Seminar

MDV 5500 Méthodes et outils de recherche des études médiévales et de la Renaissance (3 crédits)
Approches à l’étude de manuscrits (paléographie, codicologie, iconographie) et textes (explication des textes, diplomatique, liturgie, stemmata) de l’époque.
Volet : Cours magistral

MDV 5900 Séminaire de recherche interdisciplinaire / Interdisciplinary Research Seminar (3 crédits / 3 units)
Séminaire bilingue à thèmes variables destiné à explorer le sens et la valeur du travail interdisciplinaire en études médiévales et modernes. / Bilingual seminar using varying themes as a vehicle for exploring the meaning and value of interdisciplinary work in medieval and modern studies.
Volet / Course Component: Séminaire / Seminar