

# PHILOSOPHY



College of Arts and Sciences • Department of Philosophy

## Degrees Available at SIUE

- Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science in Philosophy

## What is Philosophy?

Philosophy is the attempt to think carefully, critically, and systematically about the most challenging questions that face humanity. Philosophy is the oldest academic discipline, with roots that can be traced to ancient Greece and to thinkers who asked probing questions to help them understand themselves and the world around them. Philosophy is sometimes called “the queen of the sciences” because every major academic discipline—from math to psychology—was at one time part of philosophy. Today philosophy continues to spawn new cutting edge fields like cognitive science. Some classic philosophical questions include:

- What makes something good?
- What is a person?
- What is virtue?
- What makes something just or unjust?
- What are minds and bodies, and how are they related?
- What is knowledge, and how is it best acquired?
- What makes something beautiful?

## Philosophy at SIUE

At SIUE, pursuing a degree in philosophy allows you to follow your interests. Since classes are often centered on a discussion, you can be an active participant every day. Philosophy is fun, but it also requires hard work. In order to help develop your ability to solve complex problems, generate ideas, communicate clearly, respond to others, adapt to change and think creatively, faculty in the Department of Philosophy will challenge you throughout your course of study. Being challenged each day helps students develop deep analytical skills that will translate in everyday life as well as their chosen profession.

## Career Opportunities

A degree in philosophy focuses primarily on clear thinking and writing. Due to this focus, students will be prepared for a wide range of careers including law, medicine, bioethics, finance, diplomacy, journalism, public relations and business. Students earning a degree in philosophy are also well-prepared for graduate and professional school. Philosophy students tend to score higher on the LSAT and the verbal and analytical writing portions of the GRE than students from other majors, and are among the highest scorers on the GMAT.

Famous philosophy majors include: Thomas Jefferson, Carl Icahn, George Soros, David Souter, Steven Colbert, Mary Higgins Clark, Phil Jackson and Bruce Lee. Philosophy majors can end up wherever they desire since the basic skills they develop help ensure they will thrive wherever their interests take them.

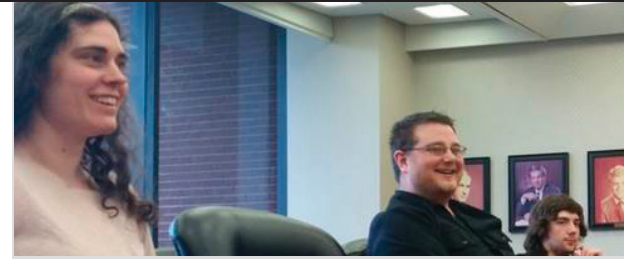
## Admission Requirements

To be admitted to the bachelor of science or bachelor of arts program, students must:

- Complete all academic development courses required by the University
  - Complete any courses required to address high school deficiencies
  - Complete RA 101, PHIL 207 or PHIL 213 with a grade of C or better
- Note: RA 101 does not count for credit toward the major in philosophy

## Contact Information

Department of Philosophy  
College of Arts and Sciences  
618.650.2250



## Faculty

### Matthew C. Cashen, PhD

2007, Washington University

### Michelle E. Catalano, MA

2010, University of Missouri-St. Louis

### Suzanne L. Cataldi, PhD

1991, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

### Judith K. Crane, PhD

1999, Tulane University

### Raymond C. Darr, MA

1984, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

### Saba Fatima, PhD

2012, Binghamton University

### Gregory P. Fields, PhD

1994, University of Hawai'i

### Richard J. Fry, PhD

2013, Georgetown University

### Erik R. Krag, PhD

2012, University of Tennessee

### William S. Larkin, PhD

1998, University of California Santa Barbara

### Greg Littmann, PhD

2004, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

### Bryan L. Lueck, PhD

2007, The Pennsylvania State University

### Erik J. Meade, MA

2001, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

### Christopher H. Pearson, PhD

2007, University of Washington

### Alison Reiheld, PhD

2010, Michigan State University

### Edward W. Schallert, MA

1990, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

### Matthew Schunke, PhD

2009, Rice University

### Robert B. Ware, DPhil

1995, Oxford University

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
**EDWARDSVILLE**

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

## Sample Four-Year Curriculum - Bachelor of Arts, Philosophy

	FALL SEMESTER	SPRING SEMESTER		
YEAR 1	ENG 101 – English Composition I	3	ENG 102 – English Composition II	3
	<b>Foreign Language 101</b> (BICS)	4	<b>Foreign Language 102</b> (BICS, EGC)	4
	<b>RA 101 - Reasoning and Argumentation, or PHIL 213</b>	3	SPC 101-Public Speaking, or SPC 103	3
	QR 101-Quantitative Reasoning, or MATH 150 or higher	3	Life Science (BLS)	3
	New Freshman Seminar	3	100-200 level PHIL Elective (BHUM)	3
	Total	16	Total	16
	YEAR 2	<b>PHIL (Value Theory)</b> (BHUM)	3	PHIL Elective (Cult Pl, Relg, Spec Fields) (EUSC)
Fine and Performing Arts (BPPA)		3	PHIL Elective (BHUM)	3
Physical Science (BPS)		3	Minor	3
Life, Physical or Social Science with a Lab Experience (EL)		1	Minor	3
Social Science (BSS)		3	Elective	3
Health Experience (EH)		1	Total	15
Total		14		
YEAR 3	PHIL Elective (History of Western Phil) (BHUM, EGC)	3	PHIL Elective (Metaphysics and Epistemology) (BHUM)	3
	PHIL Elective (BHUM)	3	PHIL Elective (Cult Pl, Relg, or Special Fields) (BHUM)	3
	Interdisciplinary Studies (IS)	3	PHIL Elective (BHUM)	3
	Minor	6	Minor	6
	Total	15	Total	15
YEAR 4	PHIL 490 – Philosophy Seminar	3	PHIL 480 – Senior Assignment (SRA)	3
	Minor/Elective	6	Elective	9
	Elective	6	Elective	2
	Total	15	Total	14

## Sample Four-Year Curriculum - Bachelor of Science, Philosophy

	FALL SEMESTER	SPRING SEMESTER		
YEAR 1	ENG 101 – English Composition I	3	ENG 102 – English Composition II	3
	<b>RA 101 - Reasoning and Argumentation or PHIL 213</b>	3	SPC 101 - Public Speaking or SPC 103	3
	QR 101 - Quantitative Reasoning or MATH 150 or higher	3	Life Science (BLS)	3
	Social Sciences (BSS)	3	100-200 level PHIL Elective	3
	New Freshman Seminar (NFS)	3	Information and Communication in Society (BICS)	3
	Total	15	<b>(PHIL 207 or PHIL 213)</b>	
			Total	15
YEAR 2	<b>PHIL (Value Theory)</b> (BHUM)	3	PHIL (Cultural Pluralism, Religion or Special Fields) (EUSC)	3
	Fine and Performing Arts (BPPA)	3	PHIL Elective	3
	Physical Science (BPS)	3	Life, Physical or Social Sciences (BL, BP or BSS)	3
	Life, Physical or Social Science (BLS, BPS or BSS)	3	Life, Physical or Social Sciences with Lab Experience (EL)	1
	Life, Physical or Social Science with a Lab Experience (EL)	1	Minor	3
	Minor	3	Health Experience (EH)	1
	Total	16	Total	14
YEAR 3	PHIL (History of Western Philosophy) (EGC)	3	PHIL Elective (Metaphysics and Epistemology)	3
	PHIL Elective	3	PHIL (Cultural Pluralism, Religion or Special Fields)	3
	Interdisciplinary Studies (IS)	3	Life, Physical or Social Science (BL, BP, or SS)	3
	Life, Physical or Social Science (BLS, BPS or BSS)	3	Minor	3
	Minor	3	Minor	3
	Total	15	Total	15
YEAR 4	PHIL 490 – Philosophy Seminar	3	PHIL 480 – Senior Assignment	3
	Life, Physical or Social Science (BL, BP, BSS)	3	Elective	3
	Minor	3	Elective	3
	Minor/Elective	3	Elective	3
	Minor/Elective	3	Elective	3
	Total	15	Total	15

**TRANSFER STUDENTS** Maximize your transfer experience - complete the **bolded** courses/requirements pre-transfer **AND** satisfy either the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) General Ed Core or receive an AA, AS, or AAT (early childhood, special ed or math) degree from an IAI community college. If 'Minor' requirements are shown, discuss careful course selection with the academic advising contact listed. Transfer Credit Equivalency Guides are located at [siue.edu/transfer](http://siue.edu/transfer).

